

Bolton Community Practice – Patient Bulletin

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BOLTON COMMUNITY PRACTICE PATIENT ADVISORY GROUP (PAG)



Horwich Health Centre Proposal

Public to shape Health Centre plans in Horwich

Horwich residents are being urged to have their say on proposed plans to bring forward the development of a new Health and Wellbeing Hub, with an approximately 170-space car park, next to the New Leisure Centre, on Victoria Road, Horwich.

NHS Bolton, Bolton CCG and Bolton Council are seeking the views of the Horwich community on the proposal to relocate GP services to a new Hub. The plans would see the relocation of two Horwich GP practices: Pikes View Medical Centre and Bolton Community Practice, which would join up Community Services from the Royal Bolton Hospital Foundation Trust to create a huge opportunity to merge health, wellness, and leisure services to the benefit of Horwich residents.

The new Health Centre would provide a range of high-quality clinical services and treatment in a fully dementia friendly and accessible Centre. The joining of teams and integrated services would give patients seamless care with in-hub referrals to local voluntary and third sector organisations and services including mental health support, health visiting, occupational therapy, midwifery, podiatry and much more. The Hub would be home to a primary care team of pharmacists, physicians, nurses and mental health practitioners offering a seven-day extended service in the heart of the community. The plans could also allow for some services such as MR scanning to be provided at the Hub rather than at the hospital meaning patients could be treated locally.

This proposal takes into account changes to the original proposal suggested by public consultation in early 2020. To move forward there is to be a

further consultation on this revised proposal. The community engagement will form the basis for the next steps in the process which will involve further detailed analysis of the costs and implications of the development alongside planning approval for the scheme and the securing of NHS funding.

Community engagement will start on **Monday, March 15** and ends, **Sunday March 28**. Please fill in the short questionnaire online at: www.investinbolton.com/Horwichhealthhub

The authority will also be consulting specific groups including patients from the GP practices, businesses, members, and Councillors as well as the Town Centre Steering Group. Following this consultation, and subject to necessary approval, the work would not be expected to start until 2022 at the earliest

Deputy Leader, Cllr Martyn Cox, said: "This is a great opportunity for residents in Horwich to have their say on the proposed plans for a Health Hub. It is very important that the vision for the Hub is shaped by the people and communities who would use the facilities and services it could deliver."

Dr Anne Talbot, Clinical Director, Bolton Community Practice, commented "This is an enormously exciting 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunity to develop a facility for the Horwich community which is fit for the future needs of the population and ultimately aims to provide the bedrock for an improvement in the health and wellbeing outcomes of the people of Horwich."

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