

Health and Wellbeing Board Meeting

6 October 2020

Public Questions and Responses

Q1 - Staff PPE - It's obvious that not all staff are wearing full protective clothing, e.g. those at the entrance of the hospital wearing only surgical masks when assisting people entering the hospital with sanitiser and masks. Please ensure that ALL staff are wearing FTT tested masks including those in outpatient settings and 'non' covid wards. Please provide additional assistance to those who are in greater risk groups. What further assistance will be made?

Response - All staff are provided with the appropriate PPE for the role and task that they are doing. Support is provided to all staff and through our risk assessment process, any additional measures are put in place for those who are at greater at risk.

Q2 - If there are no plans to turn Amersham hospital into accommodation - what has the Board done to ensure any reference to the hospital is removed from the local plan and its appendices?

Response - Every 5-8 years, local councils seek input into the local development plan to take a long-term view on how land in the county might be developed in the future. Unless sites are part of the local plan, any form of redevelopment, such as opening a new building or redesigning a current building, becomes much more difficult. As standard practice, planning applications normally include an option to convert land to housing as well as options for improving existing sites.

Whilst there are no current plans to redevelop Amersham Hospital, and certainly no plans to sell it off for housing, if it is not included in the local development plan it makes it more difficult to make improvements to the site in the future. By submitting a long term planning application, even though it may not be taken up, it means that options can be kept open to improve or redesign Amersham Hospital in the future in line with the needs of the local community.

Q3 - If the current survey is to be used to decide future estates - isn't it unfair to be sending this survey out during a pandemic? Surely any responses on how things are going should be for the immediate short term i.e. to see us through the 'second wave' and medium/long term plans shouldn't be based on these responses?

Response - This is the start of a conversation and further engagement, including focus groups, will be taking place. The Health and Wellbeing Board is supportive of the survey taking place at this time.