

Update - keeping you up to date on the creation of the West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre



11 JULY 2006

A meeting was held on 26 June 2006 to update you on the West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre. For those who attended, this is a brief summary of what was discussed. If you could not attend, it will update you on our progress so far.

Background

In 2004 NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Lanarkshire undertook a public consultation on establishing a West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital. Health Minister Andy Kerr approved this proposal on 12 January 2006, ensuring that the centre would open here in 2007 – five years ahead of schedule. The Full Business Case was approved on 16 May 2006 and building work commenced on 26 June.

This will be completed by the end of May 2007 with the new regional centre open for business in Summer 2007.



Empty shell space on level 4 of Golden Jubilee National Hospital

Why will the new centre be based at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital in Clydebank?

The Golden Jubilee National Hospital is a purpose-built facility designed to provide high quality complex surgery and has the appropriate infrastructure and capacity that can be built on to support this development.

We anticipate that the new centre will undertake the following:

- 1900 heart operations
- 1700 lung operations
- 7500 cardiology procedures
- up to 15 heart transplants
- 250 advanced heart failure procedures.

What is transferring?

- All adult heart surgery currently carried out at Glasgow Royal and Western infirmaries - including all bypasses, heart valve surgery and other complex procedures.
- All adult lung surgery currently carried out at Hairmyres hospital, including all upper chest operations.
- The heart transplant unit will transfer from Glasgow, including all Scottish transplants. A working group is scoping out what aspects of the advanced heart failure service will also transfer.
- The grown-up congenital heart service, which treats adults who have had a childhood heart problem, will also be based at the West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre.
- Most interventional cardiology services, including angioplasty, angiography, electrophysiology and complex pacemakers, will be carried out at the new centre.
 - Angioplasty is when a balloon and/or a small metal coil (stent) is used to open narrowed areas in the arteries of your heart.
 - Angiography involves passing a fine tube via the artery, (large blood vessel) in your leg or wrist, directly to your heart.
 - Electrophysiology uses electrical currents to check for, and diagnose, heart disease.

Accommodation and facilities

The West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre will be spread across levels three and four of the Golden Jubilee National Hospital. Facilities will include eight theatres and four catheterisation (cath) labs - special x-ray rooms for diagnosis and treatment of blood vessel blockages around the heart. There will be capacity for:

- 22 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds
- 24 High Dependency Unit (HDU) beds
- 24 cardiology day beds
- Eight cardiology HDU beds
- 98 heart and lung ward beds.

Staffing

The majority of staff will be existing employees of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lanarkshire and the NHS National Waiting Times Centre. The service will see around 300 nursing staff, as well as medical and support staff, moving here.

Travel and transport

The West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre will be based at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital, which is just 15 minutes from Glasgow city centre and within easy travelling distance from Glasgow International Airport. Dalmuir train station is just a 10 minute walk away and numerous buses stop along Dumbarton Road, a mere five minute walk from the hospital. We also plan to operate a minibus service from local train stations 'on demand' for patients attending the new centre. The hospital also has free car parking for 352 spaces, and we hope to add another 130 in the near future.

We are currently in discussions with our ambulance service colleagues and public transport providers to ensure the hospital has the best accessibility possible. Discussions are also ongoing about whether the proposed Fastlink service along the Clyde waterfront can be extended to the hospital.

Artists impression of new Intensive Care Unit (ICU) on level 3 of Golden Jubilee National Hospital





General questions and answers from our event

What is being done to ensure cleanliness? Is there a danger it will be more difficult to control when the hospital gets bigger?

We have a programme of training staff to be Cleanliness Champions and having single rooms is a huge bonus. Whenever you have to enter a clinical area you will have to use our special hand gel, and will be challenged if you try and enter any patient area without using it. Every member of staff has accountability for making sure that happens. Infection control is a challenge for the NHS but one that all staff rise to.

Consultants have opposed this move. Has this satisfactorily been overcome? We have problems bringing consultants to Scotland, so is there going to be a problem bringing them to the Golden Jubilee?

Everyone involved in this project wants to see the best outcome for patients. Consultants, nurses, managers and various other members of the NHS team are meeting weekly to ensure that we create the best service possible.

During this process there has been debate among health professionals, but at the end of the day what we provide will be the best possible service for patients.

Our number one priority is to see patients treated as quickly as possible in an improved environment.

It is well documented that concentrating expertise and resources for the most complex cases produces the best results. This regional approach is going to be the norm and consultants will find themselves travelling around hospitals a lot more. We will attract staff here because this important national service will be better than the sum of its parts.

How much is it going to cost to put my carer and me up in the Beardmore Hotel?

Nothing. Hotel accommodation is free for both patients and carers who have to travel some distance to be treated here.

Where will the transplant unit be? Will it be close to the theatres?

Our theatre suite is on level three – the same area as our ICU, cardiac ward and the transplant unit. We currently have two theatres within that area which are used for heart operations. There will be an additional six theatres in use for the Heart and Lung service.

Will the service expand to do lung transplants, so that people do not have to travel to Newcastle?

The regional centre is the first step in redeveloping heart and lung services. Lung transplants are not part of the service offered in Scotland at the moment, but it could be discussed in the future.

What is an extended day?

Theatres normally operate from 9am till 5pm but there's no reason they can't be working from 8am to 8pm across shifts. If we are going to open the cath lab for three shifts then we will have three teams of staff. We wouldn't expect staff who have already done a day's work to stay on.

Will there be equity across all the West of Scotland health boards in getting patients treated? Will it be fully funded?

As part of the Full Business Case, which has already been approved, all of the West of Scotland NHS Boards had to agree to their patients coming here. Funding is in place for that.

What are the supporting services available for the move?

It was always envisaged that the present infrastructure at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital would need to be augmented to meet the demands placed upon it by the proposed transfer of heart and lung surgery. We are committed to ensuring that all the necessary support services will be in place to sustain one of the UK's largest heart and lung surgery units.

The Golden Jubilee National Hospital has a wide range of essential clinical services already on site including Pharmacy, Dietetics and Laboratory services. We are also developing arrangements for medical staff input for these services.

Feedback form

If you would like to be involved in future events please fill out the form below and return it to Communications Dept, Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Beardmore Street, Clydebank G81 4HX. Alternatively, email comms@gjnh.scot.nhs.uk.



Please tick the relevant boxes:

	Yes	No
Would you be willing to attend further events for the West of Scotland Regional Heart and Lung Centre?		
Would you be willing to attend further events for the Golden Jubilee National Hospital?		
Would you like to be added to the focus group for the Golden Jubilee National Hospital?		

Name: _____

Organisation (if applicable) _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____