

Press Release

9th May 2022

Final phase of reconfiguration of Breast Services proposed

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals is progressing with plans to expand its breast screening service at Bath St Healthcare Resource Centre in Warrington town centre in the final phase of its reconfiguration of breast services across Halton, Knowsley, St Helens and Warrington.

In the first phase, which was subject to public consultation in the Spring of 2021, a £1.3m breast centre was created at the Captain Sir Tom Moore building at Halton Hospital.

The new centre enabled the relocation of the assessment and symptomatic clinics to a 'one stop shop' offering comprehensive diagnostics and support to patients that have anomalies on routine breast screening or those who have noticed breast changes or found lumps that are referred in via their GP. Women can now also select this location for their routine screening appointments.

The public widely supported the relocation of the breast screening assessment and symptomatic clinics from Kendrick Wing to the new Breast Centre and breast screening from Halton Hospital's Delamere Centre across site to the new Breast Centre.

Lucy Gardner, Director of Strategy and Partnerships said:

"At the time of that consultation the availability of space and the necessary funding to develop the existing screening service at the Healthcare Resource Centre at Bath St Warrington was uncertain.

"The Trust is now able to move forward with the expansion of screening services at Bath Street - hence this second and final public consultation.

"The benefits for service users include: a more central location, plentiful free car parking and better public transport links, easier access to the clinic once on site and new equipment in purpose-built clinical facilities.

"Current staff will relocate with their service and there will be no change to staffing levels and no member of staff will be disadvantaged by this relocation. The remaining space at Kendrick Wing would be occupied by non-patient facing services.

"It is really important that local people have their say on these proposals and share any suggestions they may have to help us improve the service."

The proposal which is being consulted upon is that **the remaining screening service at Warrington Hospital's Kendrick Wing cease and all Warrington screening now be consolidated at Bath Street augmented, as normal, with mobile units.**

Details of the proposal and some Frequently Asked Questions are available on the Trust's website along with a questionnaire for people to complete and give their views.

Paper copies are available via the Screening service or by contacting whh.engagement@nhs.net or calling 01925 662114/01925 665981.

The Trust will be hosting **Virtual Engagement Session** during the Consultation on Thursday 19th May at 2pm. Please visit <https://whh.nhs.uk/about-us/membership-and-engagement/breast-service-consultation> for details on how to join. All are welcome.



The consultation period will run until 20th June and the team is also happy to attend other local community forums to present details of these proposals during this period, on request.

The consultation materials can be made available in alternative languages and formats on request and are available by emailing whh.engagement@nhs.net.

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