



**Gloucestershire Health and Care**  
NHS Foundation Trust



**Gloucestershire**  
Clinical Commissioning Group

# A new Community Hospital for the Forest of Dean

## Output of Consultation

**Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**12 January 2021**



[www.fodhealth.nhs.uk](http://www.fodhealth.nhs.uk)

## Consultation Key Facts

- 3,400 Consultation booklets distributed, 495 requests for information following door-to-door leaflet distribution.
- 20 consultation events.
- More than 250 socially distanced contacts with members of the public & community partners and over 100 with staff.
- 10 Facebook posts with a reach of over 56,000 and 200 'engagements'.
- 8 tweets generated over 7,000 impressions and 100 engagements.
- 554 consultation surveys completed.
- Support for the proposals variable, depending on geographical location



## Background to Consultation

- January 2018: Following earlier engagement and Consultation, GCCG Governing Body and GHC (formerly GCS) Board approved the proposal to develop a new CH in the Forest of Dean.
- August 2018: Approval of Citizens' Jury recommendation to build the new hospital in, or near, Cinderford.
- August 2019: Engagement to help develop ideas about the range of services in the new hospital.
- December 2019: Site for the new hospital announced.
- October – December 2020: Consultation about the range of services to be provided in the new hospital



## What the consultation is about

Range of services provided at the new hospital

- Inpatient unit: 24 beds
- Urgent care – 8am – 8pm, seven days a week
- Outpatient services: a range of consultation rooms, treatment rooms, group room
- Diagnostic services – X-ray, ultrasound, endoscopy unit, access for mobile units

## What the Consultation is not about:

- The decision to move to a single community hospital for the Forest of Dean.
- The location of the new hospital, which was approved following a Citizens' Jury in August 2018.



## Communications

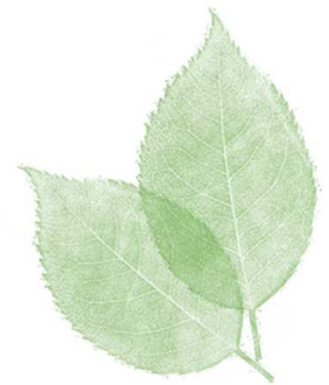
- Door to Door awareness raising leaflet
- Media releases, Media advertising and stakeholder briefings
- Printed engagement booklets and Easy Read
- 'Your Say' area on the FODhealth website and Get Involved in Gloucestershire online participation platform
- Social media: Facebook and Twitter
- Staff communication and engagement
- Stakeholder briefings: Primary Care Network, Forest of Dean Locality Reference Group, Community Partners, County/District Council Members, Forest of Dean MP



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# Covid 19: A socially distanced consultation

- NHS Information Bus Tour
- A new hospital for the Forest of Dean Surveys
- Cuppa and Chats
- Targeted activities; e.g. FODDC Members Seminar, Primary Care Network meeting, Gloucestershire Patient Participation Group Network
- Working with community partners to reach those identified in Equality Impact Assessment
- Other campaigns and correspondence



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## Responses to the Consultation






- Feedback to the consultation was received in two main ways:
  - Survey responses – 554, including 57 Easy Read surveys
  - Other correspondence/written responses (33)
- Qualitative feedback, both positive and negative, reflects on capacity of the new hospital and access to services.
- Strength of support across all services dependent upon respondent's geographical partiality. Respondents from the south of the district (195) are less supportive than those in the central (127) and northern (8) parts of the Forest.



# Inpatient care

***Providing 24 beds – proposal is for single bedrooms, all with en-suite bathrooms***

We think that the range of services proposed in this Consultation will meet the needs of local people. Please tell us whether you agree with this statement, for:

1. Inpatient care:			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		21.9%	105
2	Agree		21.9%	105
3	Disagree		19.8%	95
4	Strongly disagree		32.6%	156
5	No opinion		3.8%	18
			answered	479



## Inpatient care – Qualitative feedback

A local hospital which we can get access to inpatient and outpatient services will be good and the travelling will be less than having to go out to Gloucester or Cheltenham

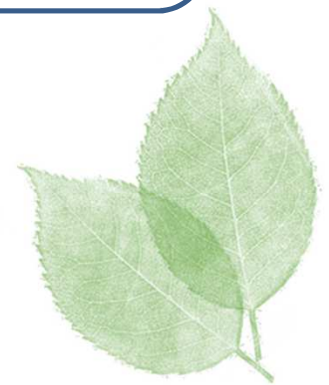
As a staff nurse who currently works at the Dilke the resources we are having to work with, or lack of inhibits our ability to care for our inpatients to the standard at which everyone should expect from a modern NHS.

Better facilities in the single rooms would be more beneficial

Need to be able to provide end of life care in a hospital - not all patients wish to die at home and no hospice inpatient facility in forest Concerned about reduction in beds. Beds currently occupied by many Glos and Chelt patients as they do not have a community hospital. This will not change.

There are numerous patients from the forest area in hospitals outside the area atm, with all these new houses being built throughout the forest there is no way 24 beds will cover the 'locals' needs.






I think individual rooms whilst helpful to a degree with infection control do not overall aid care or recovery.

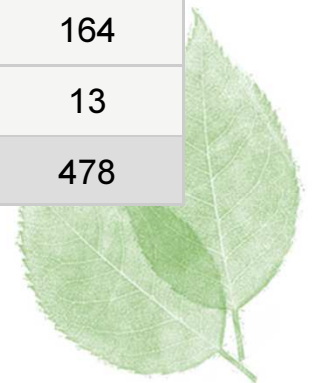


# Urgent Care

***8am – 8pm, 7 days a week urgent care service.***

We think that the range of services proposed in this Consultation will meet the needs of local people. Please tell us whether you agree with this statement, for:

2. Urgent care:			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		23.4%	112
2	Agree		19.2%	92
3	Disagree		20.3%	97
4	Strongly disagree		34.3%	164
5	No opinion		2.7%	13
			answered	478



## Urgent care – Qualitative feedback

Over 100 people interested in participating in the discussions about urgent care in the south of the Forest.

The distance to travel to the new hospital from Lydney and its surrounding villages is too great for "Urgent" care

With hours being 8 am to 8 pm it means for urgent care (A&E) you will have to go to Glos which can cause delay to treatment.

Urgent care - locating all MIU services in one area, namely Cinderford, severely disadvantages people who live in the south of the Forest. Access to local GPs is becoming increasingly difficult and being able to call in at a local 'urgent care centre for reassurance is most important.








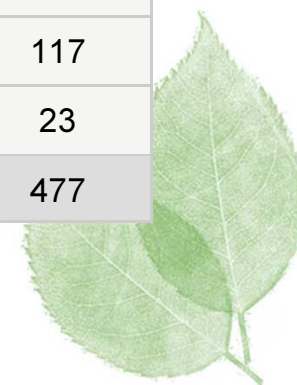
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# Diagnostic Services

***Supporting inpatient, urgent care and outpatient services: X-ray, ultrasound, endoscopy unit, access for mobile units.***

We think that the range of services proposed in this Consultation will meet the needs of local people. Please tell us whether you agree with this statement, for:

3. Diagnostic services:			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		24.1%	115
2	Agree		31.4%	150
3	Disagree		15.1%	72
4	Strongly disagree		24.5%	117
5	No opinion		4.8%	23
			answered	477



## Diagnostic Services – Qualitative feedback

More diagnostics and minor surgical procedures would be welcome to save the trips to Gloucester or Cheltenham.

Diagnostic services in one place should not preclude x ray in Lydney which needs ready access and already has a state of the art facility funded by local people.






I welcome the additional diagnostic services over the weekend, but you need to ensure that staff are sufficiently competent to provide the right level of care

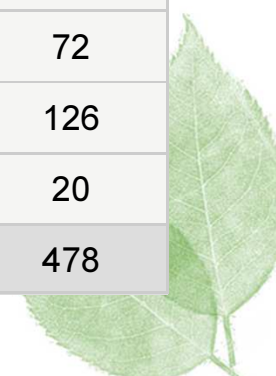
Lydney hospital is super important for people like me, I can't drive and I have 4 children. The buses to anywhere are practically impossible and I can't afford a taxi to Cinderford or Gloucester for a hospital visit. It would be detrimental to the health of myself and my children.

## Outpatient services

***A range of consultation and treatment rooms offering a similar range of services to that provided at the two current hospitals.***

We think that the range of services proposed in this Consultation will meet the needs of local people. Please tell us whether you agree with this statement, for:

4. Outpatient services:			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		25.9%	124
2	Agree		28.5%	136
3	Disagree		15.1%	72
4	Strongly disagree		26.4%	126
5	No opinion		4.2%	20
			answered	478



## Outpatient services – Qualitative feedback

I think it would be great to also consider outpatient services with the availability to connect with consultants digitally/ remotely rather than driving to Gloucester /Cheltenham.

We need as many outpatient clinics as possible because getting to Gloucester/Cheltenham by car is bad enough, (time, traffic, parking) but without a car can mean several buses and a whole day taken. Recently I have had to visit orthopaedics several times for follow up consultations. I was told neither of these clinics were available at the Dilke or Lydney.

This once in a life time opportunity to get it right – don't combine services assuming they will work it out. Space is a necessity when providing rehabilitation for complex people with multiple disabilities. Having all community services within the hospital space will enhance the holistic management of patients and the patients journey. That is why investing in multidisciplinary teams is the gold standard approach.



## Impact of proposals – Positive and negative

Having access to better, more up-to-date services has to be a good thing.

I think that having a new hospital with more facilities would be more beneficial for myself and my parents as it would reduce the amount of time it would take to get to the local hospital rather than have the stress of having to get to Gloucester or Cheltenham.

I think having single rooms will be nicer for people, I think people want to die at home and not in hospital if they can so I agree with this.

We feel our needs in the south of the Forest are being ignored and that proposals to base all services in Cinderford will make them inaccessible to us as we get older.

We will be deprived of having services locally and MIU will be hugely missed. I would go to Gloucester rather than Cinderford not knowing if it was open or not or being referred on to there anyway.

I believe it would have a negative impact on my family and the general populace due to lack of access to care. Cinderford is closer to Gloucester and should not have investment where as Lydney is more accessible and further to any other hospital.



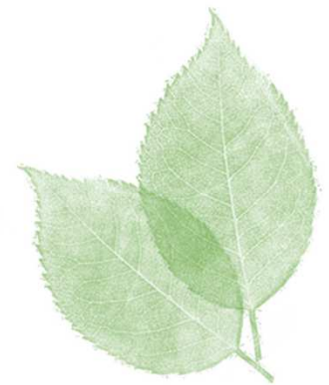
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**If you think any of our proposals could have a negative impact on you and/or your family, how should we try to limit this?**

Three main themes:

- Improvements in public transport and infrastructure;
- Retention of existing facilities, or the provision of a new facility in the south of the Forest;
- Extension of the services proposed, i.e. additional inpatient care, extended hours for urgent care

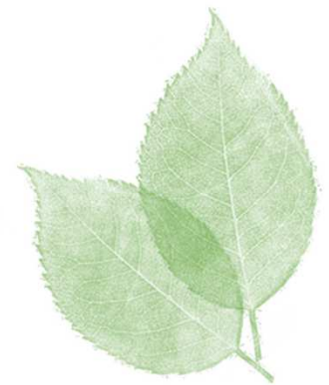


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## Other correspondence

Themes and feedback received via the survey were reflected in other correspondence about the Consultation:

- 33 emails and letters from members of the public, including 20 adapted versions of HOLD letter
- Response from Primary Care Network
- 5 responses from town/parish councils and Green Party
- Motion from Forest of Dean District Council



## Next steps

- Consultation review period – January 2021.
- Approval of Commissioning Plan - CCG Governing Body meeting – 28 January 2021.
- Approval of Full Business Case for new Community Hospital – Gloucestershire Health and Care NHSFT Board – March 2021 (date to be confirmed).

Feedback from the consultation and response made by the CCG Governing Body/GHC Board will be published at:

[www.fodhealth.nhs.uk](http://www.fodhealth.nhs.uk)

and shared on the online participation platform Get Involved in Gloucestershire at: <https://getinvolved.glos.nhs.uk>



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