

The
Baird Family Hospital
and **The ANCHOR Centre**
Project

GRAHAM

NHS
Grampian

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

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PROJECT UPDATE

By Jackie Bremner, Project Director



Welcome to the December 2021 newsletter. As you will see from the photos included in this issue construction works on both developments are progressing well. The steel frame for The ANCHOR Centre was completed in October and the concrete foundations for The Baird Family Hospital are now nearing completion.

Year one of construction is nearly complete and the programme is currently progressing well despite the challenges presented by COVID restrictions and the well-rehearsed impact of global market issues. These issues are affecting project materials and staff availability, lead times and cost. Nevertheless, during the months to come the concrete frame for the upper floors of The Baird Family Hospital will begin to emerge.

These issues remain under constant review with our Construction Partner, GRAHAM as we work to minimise their impact on the programme.

In parallel with construction, the team continue to work hard to complete the internal designs for both facilities - a

considerable undertaking that will continue well into 2022.

During 2022 and 2023 the team will be engaging with operational teams to develop detailed plans for commissioning both buildings. This is a substantial undertaking and will involve project team members, clinical and operational staff from services discussing a wide range of themes. These will include preparing for occupation and relocation to the new facilities, equipping, policy development, IT systems and communication. In due course it will also include plans to decommission the current maternity hospital, prior to its demolition in 2024.

2022 is shaping up to be a very busy year for the project with three key streams of work progressing in parallel:

- Construction
- Design completion and sign off
- Technical and functional commissioning planning

The team are currently developing a communication plan for the year ahead to keep stakeholders up to date with progress. Look out for more updates, in future editions of this newsletter, on our social media accounts and staff/patient group awareness sessions that are planned (as COVID demands and restrictions allow).

Please follow our project on Social Media for our latest news and opportunities to get involved – and invite your friends to like our pages too!



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Dedicated project website available at www.bairdanchor.org or email the team at gram.bairdandanchor@nhs.scot

BAIRD AND ANCHOR SITE PROGRESS

By Graham Davidson, Technical Supervisor



Here comes the technical bit..... We caught up with Graham Davidson, our Technical Supervisor, for an update on site progress. Graham is due to retire in March 2022 and this may be his last appearance in our newsletter. Thanks to Graham for all his contributions and for keeping us right with the technical information. Recruitment for Graham's successor will begin in January.

The Baird Family Hospital site



It seems hard to believe that on the 7th December this year it was one year since we started work on the main construction phase of the Baird and ANCHOR project. Since then we have witnessed a real transformation on both sites.

On the Baird Family Hospital works over the last four months have mainly consisted of concrete pours to the superstructure. The lower ground concrete floor slab and vertical concrete walls are nearing completion. The lower ground floor slab has over one hundred concrete columns which rise up through the building. These columns are used to support the suspended upper floors of the building. The concrete floor slab and columns contain steel reinforcing bars. These steel bars (rebars) are required in order to provide compressive strength to the concrete.

The concrete on this project is delivered to site by road. Once the concrete arrives on the lorry it is then transferred to areas of the site using a concrete boom pump. This machine allows large volumes of concrete to be poured in one operation. Another major feature of a concrete frame construction is the requirement to carry out tests on the concrete. These tests are commonly known as a “slump test” and a “cube test”. The slump test checks the consistency of the concrete batch prior to

pouring to see how easily it will flow. The cube test takes a sample from the batch before being sent to a lab where it undergoes tests to check for its strength and consistency. Over the coming month’s concrete will be the dominant feature on the Baird site as the building starts to rise from the lower ground floor level to the upper roof level.



The ANCHOR Centre site



The ANCHOR Centre steel frame is complete and is looking very impressive. If you get the chance to enter the campus at the Maggie’s barrier you will see the curvature of the building which gives it a very modern look. The steelwork installation has allowed follow on trades to start on site. We now have teams building the plant room walls, which consist of internal blockwork and external facing brickwork. The Steel Framing System (SFS) contractor has also started erecting the external wall framing

system at a welcome pace. Once the SFS has been installed, it is clad with cement particle boards. These boards offer the internal elements of the building a degree of sound insulation, frost and water resistance.

Following on from the SFS installation will be the “curtain walling contractor”. This will see the installation of a system comprising a lightweight aluminium frame, onto which glazed and opaque infill panels are fixed. This work is due to commence in January and will also include installation of the window frames in an effort to get the building wind and watertight.

The roofing contractor will also start work in January on the “hot melt roofing system” with the aim being to have the roof level watertight once work has been completed.

Getting the building wind and watertight is a key stage in the project as it will allow the internal fit of the building to commence.

So, here’s hoping that the weather over the winter period is not too disruptive and we can keep up the good progress that we have seen to date.



Image taken from the first floor of The ANCHOR Centre

Migration Planning

By Nicola Robertson-Brechin, Commissioning Manager



Migration Planning

What is this?



Definition of Migration Planning online states:

Noun

1. seasonal movement of animals from one region to another.

Similar:

2. movement from one part of something to another.

In the case of The Baird Family Hospital and The ANCHOR Centre we are **moving services and people** out of Aberdeen Maternity Hospital (AMH), and Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (ARI) into their new buildings.

Who does it affect?



As you can imagine, this will affect a huge amount of not only patients but staff as well.

Services affected for ANCHOR include: Oncology and Haematology outpatients and day patients, Aseptic Pharmacy, Research and Teaching and not forgetting the existing Radiotherapy services.

Services affected for The Baird Family Hospital:

All of the current services in the Aberdeen Maternity Hospital including Maternity, Neonatal, and Reproductive Medicine. We are also moving the Gynaecology and Breast services from their current locations within ARI.

Why are we doing it?



The purpose of the migration meetings being currently scheduled is to start planning the actual, physical move of services. This will include what day the service moves, what order services and patients move in and how they will move. Other factors will include if they have specialist equipment which will require a specialist removal company to be involved, where emergencies will attend, what resources we need and can we source within NHS Grampian. This is far from an exhaustive list but demonstrates just some of the logistics the Commissioning Managers are considering.

When does it affect us?



From January 2022 we shall be meeting with all the clinical teams to start planning this stage of the Commissioning Programme for 2023.

DELIVERING THE DIFFERENCE

By Sarah-Jane Hogg, Charity Director Friends of ANCHOR



Friends of ANCHOR has hit the halfway point in its ANCHORED Together appeal, with £1m now raised towards its £2m target to 'deliver the difference' within The ANCHOR Centre with upgraded furnishings and an enhanced atmosphere.

The news that the charity had reached the halfway milestone in its ANCHORED Together appeal came on the day it also unveiled its first ever billboard campaign, at the site where the new NHS Grampian facility will stand.

Three large billboards, showing ANCHOR staff, patients and Friends of ANCHOR volunteers, celebrate the charity's partnership with NHS Grampian, in pursuit of the shared ambition to ensure the best care is available for the 65,000 patients who will be treated in the Centre each year.



With next year marking Friends of ANCHOR's 25th anniversary, there are plenty of ways to help make the charity's £2m goal a reality and play a part in the lasting legacy for this generation and generations to come.

- **Run** at one of the charity's partner events with distances from 8km to a full marathon
- **Walk** at the Kiltwalk on May 29th
- **Cycle** as part of Ride the North
- Take part in our virtual **Going the Distance** challenge throughout March
- **Skydive** in April or at a date of your choosing

To find out more about Friends of ANCHOR's ANCHORED Together appeal or to get involved in fundraising for the campaign, please visit www.anchoredtogether.co.uk or email the team at info@friendsofanchor.org.

"Reaching the halfway point wouldn't be possible without our donors and fundraisers who have come alongside with their generosity, time and fundraising commitment to support this campaign. To them, we say a huge thank you for getting us this far. When we launched our campaign back in 2019, we coined it 'ANCHORED Together' which encapsulates what has been at the centre of this campaign throughout – everyone working together to make this long-hoped-for dream a reality, and to deliver the difference for the people who will walk through the doors of the Centre for treatment. We are so fortunate to have the NHS in this country and to know this facility will soon be in place to match the excellence of clinical care delivered by the staff day in, day out, is tremendous news for the North-east of Scotland."

Jim Milne, Friends of ANCHOR Chairman

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

By Fiona Donald, Chairperson, SANDS Aberdeen



Aberdeen SANDS (Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society) have worked with The Baird Family Hospital project team over the last six years, attending meetings discussing what the new hospital should look like and what is important and essential for bereaved parents of the future. This has led to the creation of a Bereavement Suite - dedicated accommodation in The Baird Family Hospital continuing on from Rubislaw Ward at AMH.

As a committee we decided that we would like this area to be more homely and less clinical. Softer lighting and furnishings, a peaceful environment for parents to make memories in the few days they have and to stay with their precious babies and have their families visiting.

We then started fundraising. We are grateful to those who ran, cycled, climbed, held coffee mornings, quizzes, donations from birthday parties, school groups, bereaved parents and businesses in Grampian. We organised Beetle Drives, a Ladies Night, and a Quiz which the project team attended.

We were raising money for the Bereavement Suite and raising awareness of SANDS and the support it offers bereaved parents.

We continue to work with the project team and have recently been involved in selecting names for the Bereavement Suite and two rooms. The project team and Aberdeen SANDS selected suitable names such as, flowers and trees. A survey was created and Aberdeen SANDS parents were emailed to select their favourites.

This enjoyable collaboration which continues with updates from the team, was recognised with a Celebrate Award in 2019 and we look forward to continuing this looking into the finer detail of the interior of the Bereavement Suite in 2022.



Left to right: Sandra Stephen and Fiona Donald from SANDS with our Deputy Project Director Gail Thomson

COMMUNITY BENEFITS ACTIVITIES

By Debbie Rutherford, Social Impact Manager, GRAHAM

Our construction partner, GRAHAM, who are currently building The Baird Family Hospital and The ANCHOR Centre, have created some fantastic opportunities, over the last 12 months, both directly and indirectly, through their supply chain partners.

- **3 new apprenticeships**
- **4 new graduate starts**
- **7 new jobs start**
- **10 existing apprentices have had the chance to work onsite**

Work experience opportunities are available for secondary school pupils, students, and unemployed residents. This is a great way to gain an insight into the industry, learning more about the different job roles available and what they entail.

Local schools, colleges, and employability agencies, will have the opportunity to come to site and hear more about the project, get to speak with the project team, and understand what it takes to successfully work within the industry.

If you are interested in the opportunities above, please contact suzanne.stevenson@graham.co.uk

jobcentreplus

GRAHAM have partnered with Job Centre Plus (JCP) to help promote job opportunities to

unemployed residents. The programme that has been developed is open to anyone who is currently claiming benefits and looking to get back into construction. JCP will assist with training costs such as CSCS, telehandler, hoist, slinging and traffic

marshalling, and GRAHAM have committed to providing over 15 jobs to people who successfully complete the programme. If you are interested in hearing more about the programme, please contact debbie.rutherford@graham.co.uk

Building confidence for the future

First undergraduate apprentice to ever be made redundant finds his feet in new role with GRAHAM



Originally from Elgin, Michael worked with his previous construction employer for four years as a joist designer, working predominantly in timber frame flooring, whilst being enrolled in a graduate apprenticeship in civil engineering with The University of Aberdeen.

When the pandemic struck last March, like many others, Michael moved to homeworking for six months before being placed on furlough. Following a company restructure, he unfortunately became the first ever undergraduate apprentice to be made redundant at Aberdeen University -

and at risk of losing his prized position on the graduate course.

Michael said: "I was devastated to hear I had lost my job. The whole thing didn't feel real at first, and I know many others in construction and elsewhere were being hit with the same news.

As soon as I saw the opportunity with GRAHAM online through their partnership

with Skills Development Scotland, I jumped at it and following an interview I got the job. I couldn't believe it! Within weeks I made the move from Elgin to Aberdeen, secured a flat, and prepared myself to start on site at The Baird Family Hospital and ANCHOR Centre in March. It feels great to be back in the field and especially to be working on such a major project."



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