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## Project News

### PROJECT UPDATE

By Jackie Bremner, Project Director

The project team have been very busy during the last few months preparing for and obtaining Outline Business Case (OBC) approval in March 2018 for this £163 million project. This important milestone has been the result of three years' work involving hundreds of stakeholders, including staff from many professions, other NHS Boards in the North of Scotland, patients, Third Sector and patient groups but also the design team, construction colleagues, Health Facilities Scotland colleagues, Architecture and Design Scotland colleagues and Aberdeen City

Council planning colleagues, to name a few. The approval process takes about three months and involves consideration and approval of the OBC by six formal committees: locally in Grampian, regionally in the North of Scotland and nationally by the Scottish Government.

With this OBC approval now in place, the detailed design phase of the contract got underway in April 2018. The next phase is the Full Business Case which will be presented for approval early in 2019, prior to construction of the new facilities.

During the coming months the detailed design, pricing and tendering work will be progressed. In addition, work to obtain a formal planning consent which will hopefully be completed in late summer 2018. The programme also includes plans to undertake a series of preparatory works including the demolition of the Breast Screening Centre, Foresterhill Health Centre and the Eye Clinic, and works such as road realignment and service diversions works, scheduled to start in the autumn of 2018 prior to the main construction contract commencing in the spring of 2019.

The services in the buildings being demolished are all moving to new accommodation during the first half of 2018 to allow the sites to be cleared in advance of construction commencement. The Breast Screening Service relocated to temporary

accommodation in ARI in January 2018 in advance of moving into The Baird Family Hospital in 2021. The GP Practices in the existing Foresterhill Health Centre (FHC) moved in to the new FHC on 14 May 2018. The services delivered from the Eye Clinic are scheduled to relocate to refurbished accommodation in ARI in early July 2018.

Work to make sure that we keep the public and staff up to date with progress continues. A series of about 90 staff and public awareness sessions were undertaken during the first three months of 2018. Another round of communication sessions will be scheduled for later in 2018. In the meantime, if you want to find out more about the project watch out for notices on social media, global emails and local team briefs. Also visit our web page on the NHS Grampian website.

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



[@bairdANCHOR](https://twitter.com/bairdANCHOR)



[www.facebook.com/bairdANCHOR](https://www.facebook.com/bairdANCHOR)

Dedicated project website also available at [www.bairdanchor.org](http://www.bairdanchor.org)

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

By Anna Rist, Public Involvement Officer

In November 2017, we held a workshop on the future direction of our involvement and communication strategy. One of the suggestions for 2018 was around more public engagement in Aberdeenshire. In February 2018, we attended a coffee morning at CLAN Inverurie with a presentation and a Q&A session to the service users and support volunteers present. If you have a group in Aberdeenshire and would like us to come and tell you about our project, please get in touch – we would be delighted to come along.

Another suggestion was to hold coffee mornings at the Aberdeen Neonatal Unit to reach staff and families. We hosted our first, well-attended session on 9 May 2018.



Neonatal Unit Senior Charge Nurse Susan Swinton and colleagues



From right: Abi Clarke and Clare Fulton with Myra Kinnaird and Anna Rist

In March 2018, we met with Clare Fulton from Fertility Network Scotland and with Abi Clarke who has started a new local charity, MISS (Miscarriage Information and Support Service) with the support of Myra Kinnaird, Specialist Midwife for Bereavement and Pregnancy Loss at Rubislaw Ward. Both Abi and Clare were happy with the planned facilities for early pregnancy loss and reproductive medicine services and pleased that the sensitivities around patient experience have clearly been considered in the planning so far. We look forward to working with them in the next stages of the project.

Thank you to everyone who attended one of our staff awareness sessions this winter! Numerous new staff groups, such as the Learning and Development Team and the Healthcare Support Worker Forum were added to this cycle, taking the number of updates we gave from roughly 60 in early 2017 to around 90. An update was also provided to NHS colleagues, Third Sector representatives and members of the public in Shetland via video link in March. On the whole, staff feedback on the project has been very positive. We look forward to starting a new round of sessions towards the end of 2018 – if we have not been to speak to your team, but you would like us to do so, please let Anna know via [anna.rist@nhs.net](mailto:anna.rist@nhs.net).

We have also started a large piece of work around current patient experience to inform our Full Business Case. We need to establish a 'baseline' so that we can show, once the project is completed, that we have made a difference. Patient surveys, interviews and focus groups to gather information from all affected services will be conducted between March and October 2018. We are especially grateful to

Maggie's Aberdeen for their support and hosting some of our focus groups in May. Finally, we attended the Midwifery Student Conference to mark the International Day of the Midwife on 2 May 2018 at the Robert Gordon University. Retaining graduates and nurturing future clinicians to come to work in the Baird and ANCHOR once they are up and running is a key aspiration for NHS Grampian. The team were excited to meet so many students who came to see the Baird plans and expressed enthusiasm to stay in Grampian because of the new facility and the new ways of working that are currently being implemented as part of the project's comprehensive service redesign programme.



RGU Midwifery students viewing the Baird Plans

[#70forNHS70 – '70 Days in a NHS Project' countdown is now on in our Facebook and Twitter pages to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NHS on 5 July 2018!](#)

## Spotlight on the Service Redesign Programme

By Gail Thomson, Senior Service Project Manager

The Baird and ANCHOR project is not just about buildings. The new accommodation that will be provided in 2021 will enable NHS Grampian to provide care in purpose-built facilities, with all of the associated and obvious benefits this will bring to patients and their families. However, just as important to the project team as ensuring the buildings are specified appropriately, is ensuring that there is parallel clinical service redesign in order to maximise these opportunities to provide care in a new way.

A service redesign structure has been in place since 2015, with speciality-focused groups meeting on a regular basis in order to lead the service redesign agenda. These groups are led by colleagues from the clinical service in order to ensure staff engagement.

Future editions of this project newsletter will include articles from service colleagues on their strand of redesign work. This inaugural article is from Dr Premila Ashok, Consultant Gynaecologist, who chairs the Gynaecology Service Redesign Group. Premila has been instrumental in progressing the ambitious gynaecology redesign programme, leading a multi-disciplinary team of colleagues, and there is widespread recognition for the work achieved to date in gynaecology.

Please let us know if you would like to be on our Newsletter Distribution List by emailing the Project Team at [anna.rist@nhs.net](mailto:anna.rist@nhs.net)



## Baird News

### Gynaecology Service Redesign

By Dr Premila Ashok, Consultant Gynaecologist



From left: Rona McIvor (Gynaecology Ward Senior Charge Nurse), Dr Premila Ashok, Margaret Meredith (Baird Project Nurse) and Alison Kemp (Gynaecology Outpatient Department Coordinator)

The gynaecology service has been extremely proactive in terms of service redesign in preparation for The Baird Family Hospital. This work has been led by Dr Premila Ashok, Consultant Gynaecologist, who chairs the Baird Gynaecology Group and leads a multi-disciplinary team of colleagues seeking to improve gynaecology services to women in the current setting and looking ahead to new ways of working in the Baird.

From the inception of the Baird project, the gynaecology team were forward-thinking in their approach as to how to improve ways of working. The aim across all of these initiatives is to provide high quality, evidence-based and cost-effective services. The areas of service redesign required were identified in 2015 during the workshop process and aided the required calculation of beds and accommodation needed in the new hospital. These workshops also included patient representatives who contributed to shaping the Gynaecology Clinical Strategy for the project.

The successes so far of this particular workstream are numerous and credit goes to all colleagues involved. The highlights of the redesign agenda so far include:

#### **Reorganisation of Emergency Gynaecology Services**

In the past, women attended both Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Aberdeen Maternity Hospital to receive emergency care for early pregnancy needs. The service have now created a unified Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit in AMH which operates on a similar model to that planned for the

Baird. This work has been further supported by the introduction of daily emergency clinics, contributing to the aim of these clinics being held in an ambulatory setting in the future. This has reduced emergency admissions to the gynaecology in-patient service by approximately 40%.

### **Integrated Out-Patient Services**

Until April 2018, out-patient services were provided from the Women's Day Clinic and Clinic B, located at opposite ends of ARI. The service has now moved to integrated accommodation in Ward 504 and this move is already demonstrating early gains for patients as well as creating a cohesive clinical team. The co-location of all gynaecology ambulatory services will allow the team to do even more service redesign to embed new practices in advance of the Baird.

The out-patient integration has also supported the consolidation of the nurse-led pessary service, thereby reducing lengthy waiting times.

### **Hysteroscopy Service**

A significant early success for gynaecology was the commendable achievement of securing Endowment funding to establish an out-patient hysteroscopy service. These procedures have traditionally been carried out in theatre settings under general anaesthetic however, as part of the Baird

deliberations, it was demonstrated that approximately 80% of hysteroscopy activity can be done in ambulatory care under local anaesthetic. This service is now established and running efficiently with the support of the nursing and administration teams as well as key support services such as Central Decontamination Unit, Medical Physics and portering. In just the first six weeks of establishment of this new service, 30 patients have received this procedure in an ambulatory setting without the need for admission or general anaesthesia.

There are many future aspirations the gynaecology team wish to pursue including: moving other procedures from theatres to ambulatory care (e.g. endometrial ablations), nurse-led post-menopausal bleeding clinics, pre-assessment, expansion of the Enhanced Recovery programme, increasing the admission on day of surgery rates and continuing to progress the community based pregnancy advisory service.

A lot has been achieved to date and a lot more is planned! Thanks to all in the gynaecology service who have contributed so far to the considerable service redesign that has already taken place and for the clear patient benefits this hard work has afforded. We will continue to keep you updated on progress in future editions of this newsletter.

## Small details making a huge difference: working with Sands, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity

By Anna Rist, Public Involvement Officer



The Baird Family Hospital will have a dedicated department for families experiencing the loss of a baby in late pregnancy. The NHS Grampian project team planning the hospital is committed to providing the best possible environment of care for bereaved parents and siblings and this facility has been developed in close consultation with Sands, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity. The Aberdeen Sands group have been part of the project from the start and provided invaluable insight into the needs and priorities of this patient group.

As Sands have explained in their mission statement on bereavement care rooms, the memories following a baby's death may stay with parents for the rest of their lives, so the smallest details can mean a great deal. Separation from other maternity services, decor, lighting, facilities for keeping your baby with you, access to refreshments, outside access and furniture that allows your partner and/or older children to stay are just some of the areas requiring sensitive attention. The local Sands volunteers continue to advise the NHS team on these aspects, as well as fundraising for the space.

Fiona Donald from Aberdeen Sands said 'We love being involved and creating a great space for future parents to spend what little time they have with their precious babies'.



## ANCHOR News

### Our partnership with Friends of ANCHOR

By Anna Rist, Public Involvement Officer

The local charity Friends of ANCHOR support the delivery of cancer and haematology care in North East Scotland and beyond. With over 20 years of helping the ANCHOR Unit in Aberdeen to be the best it can be, they have made a huge difference to patients and staff by funding not only wellbeing services and medical equipment but also research. Even though the new ANCHOR Centre building will be funded and operated by the NHS, our project team has been keen to work in partnership with Friends of ANCHOR from the earliest stages. They have recently helped us with the development of the complementary therapy room in 'the ANCHOR', and will also be the lead fundraiser for the building when our fundraising campaign is launched in the autumn.

In previous years, the Friends have invited us to hold focus groups at the April rehearsals for their two high profile fashion shows. 'Courage on the Catwalk' has annually selected a cohort of 24 female models who all have experience of either cancer or a haematological condition. 'Brave' has a yearly cohort of 24 male

models with similar backgrounds. Through the focus groups, they provide a patient voice to guide our project team in the planning of the ANCHOR.



At Brave rehearsals – photo by Richard Frew Photography

This year, the models were asked for their views regarding the external spaces in the ANCHOR, such as patient terraces and the entrance; entertainment technology in the waiting and treatment areas; and how we could make the information lounge as user friendly as possible. The responses were compiled into a report that will be circulated to project colleagues, Project Board, Friends of ANCHOR colleagues and the models themselves.

Some of our team also joined the 'Red Army' – the Friends of ANCHOR volunteers – to help out at the Brave and Courage shows during the weekend of 11 – 13 May 2018, while others watched the event from the audience. We had an absolute blast at these inspirational and memorable events!



From left: Anna Rist (Public Involvement), Jackie Bremner (Project Director), Louise Budge (Service Project Manager) and Gail Thomson (Senior Service Project Manager)

## Other News

### Coming up

#### Visit to Orkney – 4-6 June 2018

Gail Thomson, Senior Service Project Manager and Louise Budge, Service Project Manager are visiting Orkney in June. They will meet with NHS Orkney staff, Third Sector organisations and also hold an open drop-in session for members of the public on:

***Tuesday 5 June, 2-4pm at Volunteer Action Orkney,  
Anchor Buildings, 6 Bridge Street, Kirkwall, KW15 1HR***

Visits to other neighbouring NHS Boards are also planned for this summer and beyond:

**Visit to Tayside – 9 July 2018, details to be confirmed**

**Visit to Shetland - August 2018, dates to be confirmed**

**Visit to Highland – Dates to be confirmed**