

Kirsty Jamieson
A Better Hospital for Berwick

Via email

18 October 2018

Dear Kirsty

Thank you for your email dated 8 October 2018 in which you outline the work of the 'A Better Hospital for Berwick' group. NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) echoes your welcoming of the recent announcement about the hospital and looks forward, alongside Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust), to working with the whole community to develop the look and feel of the new hospital.

You will be aware that the CCG presented the Berwick hospital proposal to Northumberland County Council's Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) in September 2018. While of course the integrated site option is no longer being taken forward, the position concerning the services delivered from the new hospital remains unchanged. The proposed services are the same as those currently delivered from Berwick Infirmary; although it is hoped that Primary Care will also operate from the new site. OSC considered that the proposals did not constitute a significant variation in current services, and therefore formal consultation was not required. It also agreed that the development met the current and future healthcare needs of local people.

As we move forward the CCG and the Trust would wish to maintain open lines of communication with all those interested in engaging in the development phase. Given that the focus will now change to the design of the hospital, although the CCG will remain involved, the Trust will take the lead for the forthcoming engagement programme; which will seek to encompass the full range of local comment.

I am sure that the Trust will soon be publishing further details of engagement events over the coming months; all of which the 'A Better Hospital for Berwick' group are welcome to attend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V Bainbridge', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Vanessa Bainbridge
Accountable Officer
NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group