

# DBS STAFF BULLETIN

DEVELOPING BETTER SERVICES

## Health Minister launches £450 million Programme Of Work For New Hospitals



Chairman, Gerard Guckian and Chief Executive, Elaine Way welcomed Minister Michael McGimpsey MLA as he launched the programme of works for Omagh Hospital Complex and the New Acute Hospital.

Thursday 14th June marked a significant day in the calendar for the New Hospitals for the South West (NI). Health Minister, Michael McGimpsey was welcomed by the Western Health and Social Care Trust on a one day visit to the South West to launch the programme of works for the areas two new hospitals that will result in a total investment of over £450million.

The visit began in Omagh where the Minister re-iterated his commitment to the new £190 million Omagh Hospital Complex. A sign was unveiled confirming the Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital as the site of the new Complex that will provide the new Omagh Hospital, Centre for Mental Health and Health and Care Centre.

The Minister then travelled to the Erne Hospital where he met with Trust staff as well as local political and community representatives before cutting the first sod at site of the new £267 million Acute Hospital at Wolf Lough. The new hospital, planned to open in 2011, will be situated at Wolf Lough, about a mile north of Enniskillen off the main A32 Enniskillen to Irvinestown Road.

**See centre pages for more details on the Minister's Visit.**

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# NEW ACUTE HOSPITAL

## Selecting the Contractor

The project to provide the New Acute Hospital for the South West (NI) has reached a crucial stage in the process of selecting a contractor as preparations are underway to close competitive dialogue with the three short listed bidders.

The bidders, who have been working on the project since early 2006, are consortiums of leading construction and investment firms that include partnerships of both global and local companies. Competitive dialogue involves each bidder submitting proposals for evaluation and formal feedback from the project team, trust staff and external expert advisers. Proposals cover all the main elements of the project including Design and Construction, Facilities Management, Human Resources, Project Management, Finance, Legal,

Equipment and ICT. During the process, the content of the proposals becomes increasingly detailed, with final proposals close to the detail of the final tenders. The final 'Fully Costed Proposals' were received on 3rd August.

The Trust has now begun a two month evaluation period of bidders 'Fully Costed Proposals'. During this time, any outstanding key issues must be addressed as terms cannot be re-negotiated after dialogue is closed. This means that the Trust must be content that each bidder can deliver an acceptable, affordable solution. When this is achieved, Trust Board formally closes Competitive Dialogue and will ask bidders to submit their final tenders. After evaluation, one single preferred bidder should then be appointed in February '08.

### Project Timetable: New Acute Hospital for the South West (NI)

| KEY EVENTS   | TARGET DATE               |
|--|---------------------------|
| Receive Fully Costed Proposals (Stage 2D) from 3 Shortlisted Bidders | 3 <sup>rd</sup> August    |
| Staff Design Forum: Evaluation Training Session                      | 16 <sup>th</sup> August   |
| Evaluation of Fully Costed Proposals                                 | August/September          |
| Meet the Bidder Event & Staff Design Forum                           | 6 <sup>th</sup> September |
| Formal Feedback to Bidders   | End September             |
| Trust Board approve the Close of Competitive Dialogue                | Early October             |
| Dialogue with Bidders is formally Closed                             | Mid October               |
| Bidders Submit Final Tenders   | 30 <sup>th</sup> November |
| Tender Evaluation Period   | December - Feb            |
| Preferred Bidder   | March 2008                |
| Obtain Full Planning Permission                                      | Summer 2008               |
| Approval of Full Business Case                                       | Summer 2008               |
| Award of Contract  | Autumn 2008               |
| Construction Begins  | Winter 2008               |

## Staff involvement in Selecting a Contractor

Both clinical and facilities staff will be heavily involved in the process to select the Contractor to provide the New Acute Hospital. The comprehensive evaluation process that has been designed includes input from a wide range of Trust staff, Health Estates and external advisers for all aspects of the project. Senior staff are also participating in Quality Assurance Groups that have been established.

A Staff Design Forum has been formed to scrutinise and evaluate bidder design proposals using a recognised healthcare design evaluation tool. The Project Team, supported by the Clinical Reference Group will also bring design proposals to a wide range of hospital staff to gather and report your views and comments.

# Update: New Acute Hospital Site Preparations Continue.....

Enabling works contractor, P.T. McWilliams Ltd, has made significant progress with the site preparation works at Wolf Lough. Much of this work is visible from the roadside and includes site leveling, re-shaping the ground, road works, diverting electricity pylons underground and conservation measures. Work to widen the road at the entrance to the new hospital site has just begun. This will include reinforcing the banks at the roadside and providing a bus lane. An archeological survey of the site has been completed and there have been no significant finds. Conservation measures including tree and plant preservation and the placement of bat boxes have also taken place. All in all, the site preparations are well on track for completion next April, well in advance of the construction phase beginning at the end of 2008.



Progress on the site of the New Acute Hospital. The enabling works are scheduled to be completed by April 2008, ready for handover to the preferred bidder who will build and maintain the new acute hospital.

## Site of the New Acute Hospital

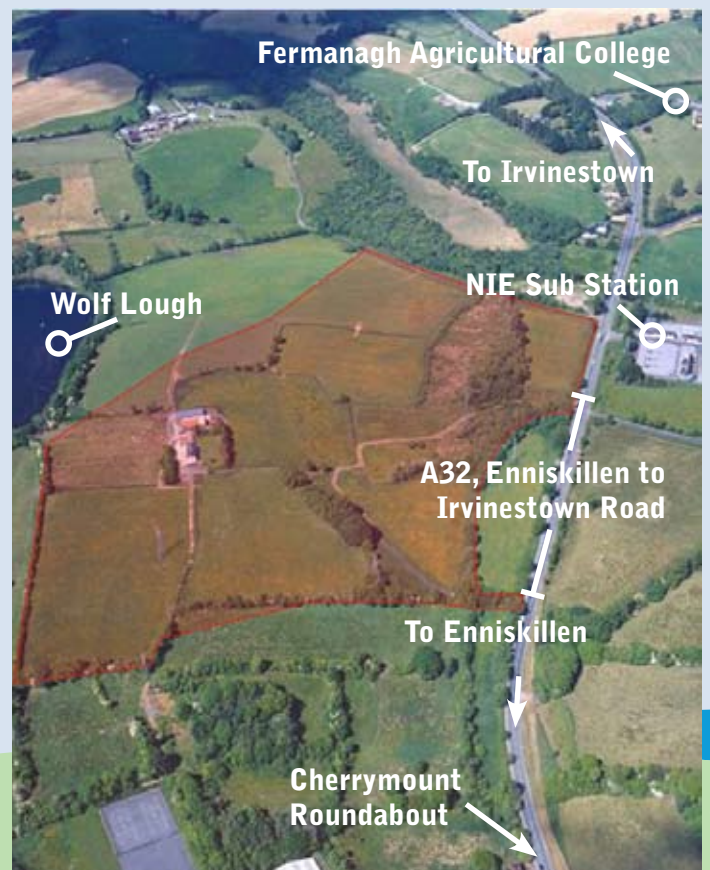
You have asked us to show the precise location for the new Acute Hospital. The site will be marked by a large sign to highlight its location in the coming weeks.



Exemplar design of how the New Acute Hospital could look on the Wolf Lough site.

Bidders are currently presenting their design proposals which will be evaluated against the quality standards and specifications outlined in the exemplar design.

The New Acute Hospital will be built on a green field site at Wolf Lough, about a mile to the Irvinestown side of Enniskillen. The site is located just off the A32, Enniskillen to Irvinestown Road and is visible from the roadside. Look out for the NIE Electricity Substation which is opposite the entrance to the new hospital. The Agricultural College is also located near the site.



# HEALTH MINISTER, MICHAEL MCGIMPSEY



Health Minister Michael McGimpsey pledged his commitment to both the new Acute and Omagh Hospitals at a reception at the Erne Hospital on 14th June. During a keynote speech on the project, the Minister (pictured left) said,

“Together the two hospitals represent a massive investment in hospital services for the South West. It reflects the commitment my Department has to providing the very best health services for people in this area.”

He continued by stating that “Now is about action. We must work together to ensure the hospitals are built on time and within budget.”

## The Visit to Omagh

Health Minister, Michael McGimpsey began his one day visit to the South West in Omagh where he met Trust Directors to discuss the details of the New Hospital projects. During the visit, he unveiled a sign to confirm the Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital as the site for the new Hospital Complex. In his speech, the Minister underlined that the facilities would include a £150 million Hospital, £25 million Centre for Mental Health and £10 million Health & Care Centre.



Trust Chairman, Gerard Guckian and Chief Executive, Elaine Way welcomed the Health Minister to Omagh for what the Minister described as “the biggest day of my career.”

Chairman of the Western Health and Social Care Trust, Gerard McGuckian, explained the Trust’s core objective. He stated,

“While the Trust is committed to providing top class facilities for patients that we can be proud of for years to come, our primary aim is to provide an improved model of patient care, offer new improved services and invest in developing our staff”

He continued,

“The Acute Hospital and Omagh Hospital Complex, together with Altnagelvin and our regional hospitals are complementary parts of that new model of patient care.”



Harry Thompson (Health Estates) and John Templeton (Head of Operations, Southern Sector) talk the Minister through the design of the New Omagh Hospital Complex.

# MLA, VISITS OMAGH AND ENNISKILLEN

Trust Chairman, Mr Gerard Guckian (pictured right) thanked the Minister for the Department's commitment to an investment of over £450 million pounds in the South West and outlined the significance of this by stating that;

"In 5 years time, we will be walking through the doors of a new state-of-the-art acute hospital where patients can access high quality safe and effective care, and where our staff can provide services in a quality environment that is fit for purpose".

## Chairman Thanks Staff for Their Commitment

The Chairman continued by paying tribute to staff throughout the Trust for their contribution to the project and outlined the challenges that lie ahead. He said,

"The input of staff from all disciplines is instrumental in designing the new hospitals. We thank our colleagues and the doctors and nurses who are working to implement the new care model. We thank our staff who are taking time out from their clinical duties, facilities management and administration to help us make sure that the new buildings enable staff, in every way possible, to deliver the best in modern healthcare."



Minister McGimpsey speaks with staff about the plans for the New Hospitals.



Dr Kelly, Lead Clinician for the New Acute Hospital discusses the New Model of Care with the Minister.



Minister cuts the first sod at the site of the New Acute Hospital.



Chief Executive, Elaine Way welcomes Alex Baird, Chairman of Fermanagh District Council and Community Liaison Forum member to the event.

# Opportunities for Staff Involvement

## Staff Design Forum: New Acute Hospital

A Staff Design Forum has been formed for the New Acute Hospital. This Forum will play an important role in the selection of the contractor for the New Acute Hospital. The job of this Forum is to apply a recognised healthcare design evaluation tool to score bidders design proposals on a range of criteria.

Membership of the Forum includes representatives from 16 hospital departments, covering many roles. The Forum will provide a multi-disciplinary staff view of the overall designs and their report will form part of the feedback to bidders on their final design proposals. The group will also review and score the final tenders and contribute to the formal evaluation and selection process.



Feedback from the Staff Design Forum will feature in our Autumn bulletin.

The Staff Design Forum is just one way in which we are gathering the views of staff and including these in the evaluation process. The project's Clinical Reference Group, which is made up of senior clinicians, has been involved in the design process from the early stages. This group will be leading the review of the key clinical areas of our new hospital. Our senior clinicians will be consulting with staff in each Department to discuss any key issues arising from the evaluation process. The New Hospitals Project Team will also continue our programme of visits. If you would like to arrange a visit to your Department, please contact Anita on 5891/0.

## Seeking Staff for Arts Committee

Providing arts in hospital can play a vital role in providing a healing environment. Arts can make us feel welcome, comforted and reassured and can contribute to the emotional well-being of staff, patients and visitors. For example, the areas within the hospital where we are most likely to feel anxious can be identified (such as A&E waiting areas) and art can be provided to help ease some of this stress.

For best value, 'Arts' should be incorporated during the planning stages, similar to those projects successfully completed at Altnagelvin recently. Modest features built into the fabric of the building – such as colour, glass, furniture – can make a big difference. In planning our new hospitals, and to create the therapeutic environment that we are aiming for, we need to plan our 'Arts'. To help guide this process, an Arts Committee is currently being formed.



- This committee will advise on the co-ordination and development of arts activities in the New Hospitals.
- Do you have an interest in the Arts?
- Could you provide advice and identify opportunities for Arts in the new Hospital?
- Could you offer guidance on themes for the Arts in the Hospital?
- Can you help us create a unique identity for the new Hospital; which will engender a sense of civic pride and encourage links with the local community?

If you or someone you know would like to be part of this valuable committee, please contact Anita McConnell for a nomination form on 028 8283 5890/1 or [Anita.McConnell@westerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Anita.McConnell@westerntrust.hscni.net). The closing date for final nominations is 31st August 2007. It is important to state that this is just one of many opportunities for staff to become involved in arts projects. A core part of the Arts Programme for the New Hospitals will be to include staff, as well as patients in a continuous arts programme.

# Omagh Hospital Complex

## Bidders Submit Expressions of Interest

Following an advertisement in the Official Journal of the European Union for a contractor to provide the Omagh Hospital Complex, expressions of interest have been received from 4 high calibre bidders. The Omagh DBS Team is currently working through the pre-qualification process to select those bidders that will be invited to proceed to the next stage. Bidders will be pre-qualified on the basis of their capabilities, track record and financial status. It is expected that the Trust will announce details of the pre-qualifying bidders in September.

Following outline planning approval for the new Hospital Complex at the Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital site, it is hoped that site preparations works can begin later this year. All staff, and particularly those based at the Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital, will be kept up to date with developments. As the T & F is a working site, key to the planning process is to ensure minimum disruption. Work is underway to maintain services to all occupied buildings during the upgrading of the water and electricity services.

## Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital Graveyard

As we reported in our Spring Bulletin, the area of the Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital site identified for the new Hospital Complex includes 'Moore's Hill'. This area contains the hospital graveyard where patients from the old hospital were buried from 1853 up to 1946. To ensure that the graveyard is treated appropriately during the planning stages, a number of options were considered. These options included;

**Re-interment:** Respectfully remove those buried on the hospital grounds to a cemetery in Omagh and in consultation with the Hospital Chaplains to hold a multi-denominational service and erect a memorial as a mark of respect

**As well as; Develop around the Graveyard:** Respectfully retain the graveyard on the site whilst ensuring that it receives sensitive design treatment and contributes to the therapeutic healing environment.

Due to the sensitive nature of this issue, a public consultation began in May to encourage contact from relatives, staff and the local community, and allow those interested to comment on the appropriateness of plans. In response to a range of representations from local community and political spokespersons, the Trust is currently re-examining the option to retain the graveyard within the Hospital Complex. The project's design team is working with Health Estates to review the design and the position of the hospital buildings on the site. Options will then be presented to the Trust and the DHSSPS for consideration.

We are aware that many members of staff, and particularly those working in mental health, are interested in plans for the graveyard area and we will keep you informed of developments. The Omagh DBS Team will continue with the programme to share architects plans with you for your feedback.

**Our Autumn DBS staff bulletin will feature more detailed information on the Omagh Hospital Complex including the profile of services for 2011/12.**



The red shaded area on the photograph above is the site area identified for the new Hospital Complex. The location of the hospital graveyard is marked with a white X.

# Meet The Bidders – Event 6th September

The New Hospitals Project team will provide another opportunity for staff to meet with the Bidders competing to provide our New Acute Hospital. This follows the success of the Meet the Bidder event that took place on 4th April in the Clinton Centre, which was attended by almost 100 people.

Our next event is planned to take place on Thursday 6th September in the Clinton Centre. At the event, bidders will provide a presentation on their design proposals and provide staff with an opportunity to ask questions and share their aspirations. Invitations will be issued to all hospital departments closer to the date. If you would like more information on the event, or to request a place, please contact Anita on ext. 5890/1.



**Consort Healthcare** comprises the Shareholding Companies of John Graham (Dromore) Ltd and Balfour Beatty Capital Ltd.

**The Construction Contractors for Consort are:** Graham Martin, Balfour Beatty Construction Northern Ltd. and Haden Young Ltd.

**Northern Ireland Health Group** includes the Shareholding Companies of FCC Construction S.A., Interserve Investments Plc and Allied Irish Bank.

**Construction Contractors are:** FCC Construction S.A., P Elliott & Co., Heron Brothers Ltd., Tracey Brothers Ltd., Mercury Engineering, Harvey Group, Sharpe Mechanical Services and Dowds Electrical.

**DirectHealth** consists of the Shareholding Companies of Skanska Infrastructure Investment UK Limited, Innisfree Limited, Lagan Holdings Limited and John Sisk & Son.

**Construction Contractors are:** Skanska Construction UK, John Sisk & Son and Lagan Construction.

## New Hospitals teams raise money for charity



Two teams from the New Hospitals Project took on the challenge of the Belfast City marathon for very worthy causes. They trained hard and despite the rain, they all completed their stints in good time completing the marathon in approximately three hours forty minutes.

Altogether they raised £750 for Faith and Light (Omagh), Downes Syndrome and Soft Ireland. Well done to all those who participated.

**From L-R- Siobhan, Sean, Miranda, Louise, Eilis, Rosie, Brian and Claire.**



**Western Health  
and Social Care Trust**

**Contact Us:** If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, we would be glad to hear from you. Please contact Anita at the New Hospitals Information Desk, on 028 8283 5891. Email: [anita.mcconnell@westerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:anita.mcconnell@westerntrust.hscni.net)  
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