



**News Release
23 March 2011**

Important Day for Healthcare in Omagh

The Western Health and Social Care Trust (Western Trust) welcomes the Health Minister's announcement that construction can start on the Enhanced Local Hospital in Omagh.

Chairman of the Western Trust, Gerard Guckian commenting on today's news said: "We are delighted with the Minister's announcement that the construction of this major scheme can commence. The Enhanced Local Hospital when completed will improve the delivery of health and social care in the Western area. For many years the staff in the Tyrone County Hospital have provided high quality care in less than ideal accommodation. We now look forward to that same standard of care being delivered in modern facilities built and equipped for the 21st Century. "

The development will be located on a 100 acre site on grounds of the Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital approximately 1.5 miles from the town centre.

Western Trust Chief Executive, Elaine Way, commenting on the news said: "This progress is very much welcomed. This scheme will help to deliver a wide range of health and social care services on one site enabling integrated working among health professionals with linkages to regional and national healthcare networks."

The business case for the new Omagh Hospital Complex includes a 90 bedded facility and a wide range of services such as urgent care and treatment services, intermediate care, cardiac assessment, renal services and day case surgery, palliative care, imaging and diagnostics, general outpatients, clinical investigations, children's centre, women's health unit, allied health services, GP out of hours, pharmacy, social services, medical records and mental health services..

The proposals also incorporate a new health and social care centre and will have a wide range of services including primary and community care services, GP surgeries and supported accommodation practice accommodation, community mental health, elderly services, and other support and community facilities.

The Omagh Hospital Complex is expected to be completed within 48 months of full business case and funding approval. The additional enabling works on the new hospital site are expected to commence within the next four to six months.

The Western Trust awaits the full details from the DHSSPS and the HSCB to confirm the timetabling and financial profiling for the scheme.

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