

Kirkham and Wesham relocation proposals – public meeting 17 July 2017

Noon-2pm

Lower Lane Community Centre, Freckleton

Attendees:

Two members of the public

Pharmacist from Wesham Pharmacy

Fylde and Wyre CCG staff:

Andrew Harrison – Chief Finance Officer

Phil Hargreaves – Head of Estates

Kate Hurry – Head of Communications

Dan Clough – Communications and Engagement Officer (notetaker)

The meeting was opened by Andrew Harrison who, along with Phil Hargreaves and Kate Hurry, delivered the presentation. The following comments/questions were raised throughout:

1.	Who owns the buildings? <i>The GPs own the two practices and NHS Property Services owns Kirkham Clinic.</i>
2.	Have you spoken to community nurses – are they part of this proposal as they work so closely with GPs and pharmacists? <i>Yes – we have spoken to their employer, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals, who are in favour of this proposal which would see the services at Kirkham Clinic move into the facility.</i>
3.	Derby Road is very narrow – it would be better to have a bus stop within the grounds of the new facility than on the road <i>The bus companies are happy to consider a bus stop outside the door of the proposed facility, should it go ahead. This is encouraging, but we can't promise – we will have further discussions with the bus companies when we know the outcome of the engagement exercise.</i>
4.	Are you looking at any other options as a result of feedback so far? <i>Our job is to consider NHS estate as the first option. People have asked us to look at other locations too, and we are considering these alternative locations now.</i>
5.	Will patients retain their named doctor? <i>Yes – the practices would remain separate, and the doctors, nurses and staff would not change as a result of this proposed move.</i> Will there be one reception? <i>There would be one reception counter, but different receptionists for each practice.</i>
	Is there space to allow expansion for the future?

	<p><i>Yes – the top floor is expansion space. Immediate growth has also been factored in – there would be more consulting rooms in the first phase that exist in the current buildings.</i></p>
	<p>Wouldn't it be better to keep the whole site and use it for services and/or parking? Won't you need the space for future expansion?</p> <p><i>The proposal is to develop half the site for a new health facility, which gives adequate space for parking and for all services with additional room to expand if necessary. Furthermore, some of the money for NHS Property Services to develop the facility would come from the sale of part of the site. But we'll feedback to NHS Property Services to suggest they should make sure there is enough expansion space for the future.</i></p>
	<p>What are you going to give back to people nearby to make up for putting this building on their doorstep? You could spend some of the money on putting in community facilities, such as a library, community centre or a nursery?</p> <p><i>The facility being proposed would be more visibly appealing than what is currently on the site. Also it would be sited slightly further away from neighbouring properties. We would also look to ensure there are jobs for local people during the construction phase and through healthcare services once it opens.</i></p> <p>What about creating a health hub with a fitness centre, or an elderly day centre?</p> <p><i>We can certainly look at all of these suggestions.</i></p>
	<p>Local residents in Derby Road would benefit from a parking permit system to prevent people parking in the road when visiting the health centre.</p> <p><i>We would plan for 140 parking spaces for the public – which more than doubles the existing number across the three current healthcare facilities.</i></p> <p><i>There are currently around 170 people who work at the Derby Road site, many of whom arrive first thing in the morning, as well as visitors with regular deliveries, training courses and meetings taking place on the site. All this existing traffic will be removed once the development begins as the people who work at the building now would move to alternative premises. We would anticipate that traffic would flow evenly through the day to the new facility, and so believe the 140 spaces would be ample.</i></p>
	<p>Where does the funding for this come from?</p> <p><i>NHS Property Services are given a sum of investment money every year to use to make them more efficient. This is one of their top priorities because the building at Derby Road – which they own – is so expensive to maintain. This building currently doesn't house clinical services. Because of this, NHS Property Services is looking to dispose of the buildings. If we do not use it, they will probably sell it anyway because it costs so much to run.</i></p>
	<p>There was a suggestion that the CCG should speak to local podiatrists, dentists, etc about going into the new facility to have all services under one roof.</p> <p><i>Discussions have not been held with any private providers, but we will consider all options and listen to what local patients want to be included. Some people have already raised the</i></p>

	<p><i>issue of wanting NHS dentistry in the facility, and we will have a discussion with NHS England – the organisation with responsibility for NHS dentistry – about that. However there have been concerns about services moving out of Kirkham town centre, and we need to be mindful of that too.</i></p>
	<p>People want more than a GP practice. They want other services too.</p> <p><i>The idea is that we will bring some services which are currently only available at the hospital to the facility. We are asking people what sort of services they would like to see there as part of the engagement process.</i></p>
	<p>What happens after the 12 weeks of public engagement have ended?</p> <p><i>At this stage we don't know. This all depends on what the public tells us during this first 12-week exercise. If we are told that this is what the public wants, we can start developing a business case to get things moving. If not, we will look again at the options and possibly have a whole new round of public engagement about a newly developed option.</i></p> <p>What other options are you looking at?</p> <p><i>We've had a number of suggestions. We've looked at the social services building near to Pear Tree School in Kirkham, but this is too small. We also considered Kirkham Community Centre, but this is currently used by other organisations. We are now looking at the playing fields behind Morrisons, which came from a suggestion at a public meeting last week.</i></p> <p>Is this land that you'd have to buy?</p> <p><i>Yes. NHS Property Services would need to do a land swap. But they would still need to sell the Derby Road site.</i></p> <p>I think it's better to use brown field, than green field.</p>
	<p>Could the NHS have a shuttle bus to the site?</p> <p><i>That could undermine the local bus companies. We are talking to the bus companies to see what is possible – we are encouraged, but can't promise anything at this stage.</i></p>
	<p>If it all goes ahead, how soon will the new building be ready?</p> <p><i>If the public say they want it and we press ahead, the earliest it would open is Autumn 2019.</i></p>
	<p>Andrew Harrison thanked the attendees for making the time to come to the meeting, and for their valuable contributions.</p> <p>All three attendees noted their support for the proposal, and were 'very happy' when asked the following question: 'Considering the need to change to meet the needs of future healthcare in this area, how do you feel about relocating the GP practices in</p>

Kirkham and services provided at Kirkham Clinic to a new purpose-built healthcare facility in Derby Road, Wesham?’

Kate Hurry said that the notes from the meeting would be put on the CCG’s website within 48 hours, and that the team would keep in touch with them as the engagement exercise progressed.