

Tomorrow's healthcare one step closer with hospital funding pledge

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The re-building of Addenbrooke's Hospital as a state-of-the-art environment, under-pinned by the world-leading research of Cambridge, has been endorsed by the Government as part of funding announcements made by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the Secretary of State for Health, Matt Hancock.

As part of the new healthcare infrastructure plan, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (CUH) will receive a share of national seed funding of £100 million that means the Trust can draw up plans for a new hospital in preparation to secure full funding and start building work from as early as 2025.

The new Addenbrooke's Hospital will be at the heart of a highly innovative system. It will model entirely new approaches to healthcare as part of ongoing work to integrate services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Located at the centre of the UK and Europe's leading life-sciences cluster on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, it will also make a unique contribution to the country's excellence in the life sciences.

CUH chief executive Roland Sinker said: "This is not only great news for patients in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough but also a huge opportunity for UK life sciences which are such an important driver of economic growth.

“We’ve been working closely over a long period of time with government, our patients and our healthcare system partners to work out how we respond to rapidly growing demand for hospital and other services. A transformation of the workforce, digital technology and relationships with research and industry will be central in meeting the challenge.

“With this announcement we are uniquely poised to revolutionise healthcare in hospitals, GP surgeries, the community and in homes. This is going to be a game-changer.”

Mr Sinker added: “We also need to advance our role in pushing forward the boundaries of what medicine can achieve and how it can be delivered more efficiently. Included in this is a huge challenge laid out on the Government’s long term plan for health and social care around wellness, prevention, early diagnosis and precision medicine and this has the power to truly change lives for the better. If anywhere can find the answers that create the future of healthcare, I’m confident that Cambridge can.”

What does visionary healthcare of the future look like?

CUH and partners are already delivering innovative and agile models of healthcare underpinned by research, demonstrating how we can think differently about the future. Examples include:

- Integrated neighbourhoods – CUH is jointly leading a new alliance to improve the health and care of local people who typically use Addenbrooke’s hospital. We are working closely with GPs, community nursing, therapy teams, social workers and charities to transform the workforce and co-ordinate services more effectively, ensuring patients get quick and easy access to the care they need closer to home.
- Cambridge Children’s – more than a hospital. Cambridge Children’s is a visionary approach to child health that integrates mental and physical health services, alongside ground-breaking research in genomics and psychiatry. www.cambridgechildrens.org.uk
- Cambridge Cancer – rewriting the story of cancer. Bringing together the clinical expertise of Addenbrooke’s with scientists from Cancer Research UK Cambridge Centre and the University of Cambridge, we will accelerate the detection of the disease and lead the way in precision medicine. We’ll use real time data from patients actively receiving treatment, not only to deliver personalised precision medicine tailored to their DNA, but also to inform future care for generations globally.

- Digital Innovation Hub - working with private and public sector organisations we will integrate health records, imaging data and genomic records for a cohort of over 27,000 patients with inflammatory bowel disease, and translate this data into improved patient care and reduced ill-health.

Why Cambridge?

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough working as a system

- Health and social care organisations are working closely together to strengthen system working for a population of one million and CUH is highly engaged in this programme with a chief executive who also holds the accountable officer role for the system.
- Highly innovative developments in primary care are leading the way in integrated neighbourhood models supported by workforce transformations and digital systems that cross organisational boundaries.

Cambridge is the capital of UK life sciences

- Cambridge accounts for some £5bn of the £8.4bn contribution of life sciences to the UK economy
- Cambridge has produced 20 Nobel Prize winners in life sciences since 2000
- Over 20,000 people currently work on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC) covering 157 acres – and this is growing
- NHS clinicians – including from the world-renowned Addenbrooke's and Royal Papworth Hospitals – work alongside researchers and industry on the CBC
- Other organisations on the CBC include the University of Cambridge, Cancer Research UK, Wellcome Trust, Medical Research Council and GlaxoSmithKline
- AstraZeneca will begin the move into their new global headquarters and R&D centre from 2020
- The Cambridge cluster includes over 30 science and technology parks
- 440 life sciences companies are located within a 15 mile radius of Cambridge, from start up to blue chip