

## Publish figures on community bed use: MPs' challenge over cuts

AN MP has challenged NHS bosses over controversial hospital bed cuts - saying she wants answers on how many people use them. Harrett Baldwin is calling for the publication of figures on the number of patients going into Worcestershire's small community hospitals before the axe falls. The Conservative has also revealed how health trust officials have considered "mothballing" beds during private meetings with her, which led to the MP fiercely resisting it. Beds across five mini hospitals in Malvern, Pershore, Evesham, Tenbury and Bromsgrove face a shock 44 per cent reduction. [Read more](#)

## Hospitals in £1.2m cash boost for controversial shake-up of health services

HOSPITALS in Dorset will receive £1.2million to help them work closer together in the controversial shake-up of health services across the county. NHS England has announced the funding to support and spread the work of the 'One NHS in Dorset' a new care model vanguard. Dorset CCG has outlined its preferred proposals which include cutting the number of community hospitals from 13 to create more 'community hubs' in a bid to provide care 'closer to home.' [Read more](#)

## MP backs move to extend medical services at Spalding's hospital

South Holland and the Deepings MP John Hayes is backing a move to extend medical services at Spalding's Johnson Community Hospital. The county's four Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and three NHS trusts recently unveiled plans for the town's hospital to become a "clinical hub" for round-the-clock, non-life threatening health services 365 days a year. "*Bringing the services to the people is what we should be doing,*" said Mr Hayes. "*Doing much more locally would be a very positive step because accessibility is particularly important in an area like ours.*" [Read more](#)

## Bosses defend plans to NHS changes in Hinckley

Plans to cut in-patient beds at Hinckley's community hospital on Ashby Road have been defended by health chiefs. The move, which would see the loss of one of the two wards at the centre, is linked to service changes across the borough, the closure of the ageing Mount Road facility and a £7.7 million investment in modern facilities. While one ward would shut at Hinckley and Bosworth Community Hospital the space would be remodelled to provide a new endoscopy suite, new theatre and day case beds. Caroline Trevithick, chief nurse and quality lead for West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) said: "*I understand how people are concerned about the loss of community hospital beds and I know it is going to be a big*

*change.*" Any plans will have to go out to public consultation before they can be implemented. NHS England have yet to approve the £7.7 million funding. [Read more](#)

## Banbury's Horton General Hospital could face more changes

Also under review are "new roles" for the county's nine community hospitals. Previously Oxfordshire's Green Party claimed the community hospitals could be replaced by four hubs, including one at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. But the county's clinical commissioning group said it was too soon to give any more details because "*the options for these services are still being worked on*". In a statement it said a formal consultation on some of the proposals is expected to begin in January. [Read more](#)

## Rothbury Community Hospital consultation planned for January

A public consultation on the future of the inpatient ward at Rothbury Community Hospital should start in late January, healthcare commissioners in the county have confirmed. The temporary closure of the beds led to a petition, the formation of a campaign group and protests. Rothbury-born TV star Alexander Armstrong also hit out against the closure and backed the objectors, who said it would be a major blow to the community if the ward were to shut for good. [Read more](#).

## Street Protests Could Halt Hospital Closures

Chris Hopson, leader of England's hospitals sector, said public unrest and opposition by local MPs could scupper so-called Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs), which are billed as crucial to the long-term viability of the health service. Yesterday Mr Hopson, Chief Executive of NHS Providers, said architects of the schemes were so far failing to engage local communities, which "have the ability to sink plans they don't support". "It's very difficult for the NHS to proceed with wholesale change if you've got people out on the streets marching with placards and banners and saying 'don't do this,'" he said. [Read more](#)

## NHS aims for £530m savings in Sussex and East Surrey

Immediate actions include Royal Sussex County Hospital establishing 20 beds at a community site, 20 beds through 'hospital at home' extension, and 30 beds through internal movement of services and better use of the existing estate. At Eastbourne and Hastings 39 community beds could be opened through the 'discharge to assess' programme, 22 beds in existing community hospitals, and ten beds through better use of the existing estate.

[Read more](#)

## Worcestershire MPs voice concern over shock proposals to cut community hospital beds

The 324 beds at small sites in Malvern, Pershore, Tenbury, Evesham and Bromsgrove face being cut to 182 by 2020/21. [Read more](#)

## Ross on Wye Community Hospital could be in the firing line for cuts

The future of the Minor Injury Unit at Ross Community Hospital is once more in doubt. [Read more](#)

## Leicestershire hospital closures: Hundreds of job losses possible

Three community hospitals in Leicestershire could be shut with the loss of hundreds of jobs as part of major cost-saving measures. Closures are proposed for Hinckley and District Community Hospital and Peidling Palmer Community hospital. Also beds are proposed for closure at Rutland Community Hospital. [Read more](#)

## Controversial Cumbria health plans under further fire

Adrian Rush, from the Alston Moor Hospital Campaign, presented the submission, claiming that it cannot be a proper consultation without an option to retain beds in Alston, Wigton and Maryport.

His submission claims that the consultation does not meet statutory requirements as set out by NHS England.

"The current consultation document appears to provide both inadequate information and potentially misleading statements and as such can be demonstrated to have failed the fairness test," it states.

It sets out this argument in detail, with claims that by not including an option to retain the beds it implies a decision has already been made, and claims that there the consultation documents lack key details needed to allow members of the public to make informed opinions. [Read more](#)

## South Devon hospital closures plan 'halt the consultation' say campaigners

CONSULTATION on proposals to close four community hospitals across South Devon should be halted, a campaign group has said.

A series of town councils, hospital leagues of friends and Torbay MP, Kevin Foster are calling for the South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group to suspend its consultation.

They have written to NHS England claiming that the consultation is not being conducted according to the Government's consultation principles and fails the test on four of the 11 principles that it should meet.

The groups are asking NHS England to suspend the consultation until the group can produce one that is fit for purpose. [Read more](#)

## North Devon campaigners say community hospital bed consultation 'about money not care'

But SOHS Campaigner John Wardman said: "This is not a proper consultation process, it is a tick box exercise."

Mr Wardman said communities were being "told they are going to lose vital community hospital beds" and then "pitted against each other in a fight to save their respective community hospitals".

He added: "People in East Devon are being told of 'proposals to improve your future care in Northern, Eastern and Western Devon by providing more care'. This consultation is not about care, it is about saving money."

[Read more](#)

## Will more NHS beds be axed at Burslem's Haywood Hospital?

Fears are growing over the future of dozens of NHS beds at another community hospital.

The concerns of union leaders and campaigners are this time focusing on the Sneyd, Grange and Chatterley wards at Burslem's Haywood Hospital.

It comes just months after 20 beds at the hospital's Jackfield ward were shut down by the two clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) covering Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire.

The uncertainty comes just six years after Haywood underwent a £30 million refurbishment paid for through a private finance initiative (PFI) deal. [Read more](#)

## Dorset NHS management pushes health cuts amid growing opposition

Thirteen community hospitals, which mainly operate as rehabilitation units and significantly lessen the pressure on acute hospitals, are going to be replaced with a handful of "Community Hubs," many without beds. According to the CSR, three community hospitals—St. Leonards, Alderney and Westhaven—will shut and the sites will be used for "other purposes."

[Read more](#)

## Derbyshire health chiefs apologise after consultation figures blunder

Health chiefs have apologised after figures used in the Better Care Closer to Home consultation in North Derbyshire - which could see some mental health and community wards close - were incorrect.

It was revealed today that following the 14-week consultation the figures they used to show how much the hospitals cost to run and projected five-year costs were too high. [Read more](#)

## Hundreds turn out for Success Regime meeting

The community was unanimous in its opposition to the Success Regime's favoured option for future care in the north of the county which would see all beds removed from Maryport's cottage hospital. Dr John Haworth, deputy chief executive of the Cumbria Partnership NHS Trust, is helping the Maryport Alliance develop a strategy. Read [more](#).

## Fundraising campaign for £4.5m cancer and renal unit in West Berkshire officially launched

It began as a vision; a modern, highly-equipped facility delivering advanced care to renal and cancer patients, right in the heart of West Berkshire. Last Thursday, the £4.5m project to fund The Rosemary Centre – due to open next summer – was officially launched. The event, at the West Berkshire Community Hospital where the new unit will be sited, was attended by NHS directors and consultants, Newbury mayor Julian Swift-Hook, local MP Richard Benyon plus cancer and renal patients who will benefit from early diagnosis, better treatment and shortened journeys. The Rosemary Appeal launch aims to engage the public in helping to fund the building. Building can begin within days because huge amounts have already been raised in donations, pledges and interest-free loans which will need to be repaid through fundraising. Local GP and chairman of the Newbury and District Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Abid Irfan, said: "There's been a lot of hard work by the NHS organisations and charities leading to this project to get to this stage. "West Berkshire Community Hospital is already the most convenient healthcare facility for people in the Newbury area and this new development will cement its role as a vibrant healthcare facility at the heart of our community."

Read [more](#)

## Fears over Ludlow Hospital future after maternity unit shut

The abrupt closure of a Ludlow Hospital's maternity unit due to building safety concerns has reignited fears over the future of the site. Residents, health service campaigners and area councillors have all expressed worries about Ludlow Hospital. Read [more](#)

## Minor injury units in Hornsea, Withernsea and Driffield set to close

Bosses at the East Riding of Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) say the current minor injury units are not efficient. The CCG is due to start consulting on a range of options from October 25, subject to board approval next week. The consultation will run until January 17 before a final decision is made in late March. It will feature four options for the provision of new urgent care centres. The consultation will also include proposals to change the way care is delivered for people leaving hospital. The preferred CCG option is to create a new 30-bed rehabilitation unit at the East Riding Community Hospital in Beverley and closing the current community bed units in Bridlington and Withernsea.

Read [more](#)

## Rothbury Ward Closure: Protest planned at hospital on Wednesday

Residents are being encouraged to turn out in force at Rothbury's community hospital on Wednesday to show their opposition to the recent closure of the inpatient ward. Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and the Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group are holding a series of drop-in sessions at the hospital to engage with local people about the ward's future. But the coordinator of the Save Rothbury Cottage Hospital campaign group, Katie Scott, says that this 'help to home' approach is not all that's needed. "In a remote community like ours, with a predominantly ageing population, we need these beds for palliative care, rehab and respite care," she said. The new purpose-built hospital was only opened nine years ago, but its Minor Injuries Unit was suddenly closed in September 2014.

Read [more](#)

## What would you ask health boss leading hospital bed closure consultation?

"Today marks the launch of a controversial public consultation to help decide where community hospital beds will close in Exeter and East Devon.

The four options being proposed in the consultation are:

- A) 32 beds in Tiverton, 24 beds in Seaton and 16 beds in Exmouth.

- B) 32 beds in Tiverton, 24 beds in Sidmouth and 16 beds in Exmouth.
- C) 32 beds in Tiverton, 24 beds in Seaton and 16 beds in Whipton.
- D) 32 beds in Tiverton, 24 in Sidmouth and 16 beds in Whipton.

In the options Tiverton hospital will definitely remain open. Honiton and Okehampton have not been included in the options so will close."

[Read more](#)

## Clevedon hospital works to start this month

"Clevedon Community Hospital will have fewer beds when it reopens next year following a £417,000 refurbishment project – but hospital chiefs say patient care is their 'top priority' and that will not be hindered by the change. The project is likely to be completed in early 2017 when the number of beds will drop from 17 to 11 to comply with Government safety regulations."

[Read more](#)

## Former nurse Betty Jones has written to the Prime Minister over closure of beds at Cheadle Hospital

"Retired nurse Betty Jones has written to the Prime Minister in protest at plans to shut dozens of beds at a community hospital. Two 24-bed wards are shutting at Cheadle as part of sweeping changes to community care in North Staffordshire. Bradwell Hospital is also set to lose all its 64 beds by the end of October. It follows the mothballing of 37 community beds at Longton Cottage Hospital, and the closure of a ward at Burslem's Haywood Hospital. Leek Moorlands Hospital is also facing a review. Betty added: "They shouldn't be closing down our hospital beds. I fear for the future."

[Read more](#)

## Petition to register hospital as a community asset

"CAMPAIGNERS opposed to the closure of a community hospital are hoping to block any plans to sell it off for housing. The inpatient ward at Shotley Bridge Hospital, near **Consett**, County Durham, was closed by health chiefs at the weekend. It has sparked fears services are being eroded until the building is no longer viable and can be closed. A petition to prevent its sale has already been signed by 500 people. Pat Glass, MP for North-West Durham, said campaigners wanted Durham County Council to register the hospital as a community asset."

[Read more](#)

## Revealed: Success Regime's plans for health services in Cumbria

"As feared, its recommendations include removing community hospital beds from several sites - most likely Wigton, Maryport and Alston, though others remain at risk. All options are for 104 beds, which is less than now." Read [more](#) in news coverage and in the published [Report](#).

## Revealed: Where will 72 community hospital beds be lost in Devon?

"Plans have been announced to close 72 community hospital beds in East Devon, and possibly Exeter, to deliver a new model of health care. Where the cuts are to be made will be the subject of a public consultation which begins next month. The four options being proposed will reduce the number of community bed units to three in the eastern locality of NHS Northern, Eastern and Western (NEW) Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) who will ultimately decide which beds to close." Read [more](#) in news coverage. The [Report](#) is contained in the agenda papers for Governing Body meeting 28<sup>th</sup> September

## £140m NHS cuts could mean closure of Cornwall hospitals, warns Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust boss

"The Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust's chief executive Kathy Byrne said the plan considered a wide range of potential savings, including the closure of acute hospital beds, community hospital beds and possibly entire community hospitals. Minor injury units are also under scrutiny." Read [more](#) in news coverage