

The  
**Baird Family Hospital**  
and **The ANCHOR Centre**  
Project

**GRAHAM**

**NHS**  
Grampian

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 19 – March 2022

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## Thank you and Farewell

By Alan Gray, Senior Responsible Officer, Baird and ANCHOR and Director of Finance, NHS Grampian



Just over 12 months ago at the height of the second significant COVID wave we commenced the construction phase of The Baird Family Hospital and ANCHOR Centre project.

As you look at both sites today, you will see the fantastic progress that has been made despite the challenges that have had to be overcome in relation to labour, supply chain and cost inflation which have made this one of the most difficult projects we have had to deliver.

This would not have been possible without your support and the collective work that has

been undertaken by our contractors, our staff and our project team. All that are involved show each day through their passion and care for their part of the project just how much these new facilities will mean for patients, their families and our clinical teams. Within our fundraising teams and the wider public there is real enthusiasm to be involved and be part of a positive new development given the challenges that the last 24 months have brought.

It has been a privilege to be the Senior Responsible Officer for this project and being in post to enable the construction of the facilities to progress as first set out in the maternity services strategy approved over 10 years ago when I joined NHS Grampian. As I move into a new challenge in my career, I would wish you all the very best and am looking forward to seeing the buildings opening in the near future. It has been great to be part of what will be a wonderful legacy for the next generation.

## PROJECT UPDATE

By Jackie Bremner, Project Director



Welcome to the March 2022 newsletter. As you will see from the photos later on in the newsletter, construction work on both developments is progressing well, with the blockwork and roof works at The ANCHOR Centre well underway as well as internal partitioning and preparation for window installation. The concrete works at The Baird continue with the upper floors now emerging from the ground. In addition, work to prepare the foundations for installation, in the coming months, of the link bridge connecting The Baird Family Hospital to ARI and RACH is now underway. Information about access and traffic management changes around the Emergency Department, to accommodate this work, has been distributed widely over recent weeks to make sure patients, staff and emergency services are aware of the changing arrangements.

Foresterhill Health Campus  
The Baird Family Hospital  
Notice of Essential Construction Work  
Emergency Area Car Park,  
Foresterhill Health Campus  
January - June 2022

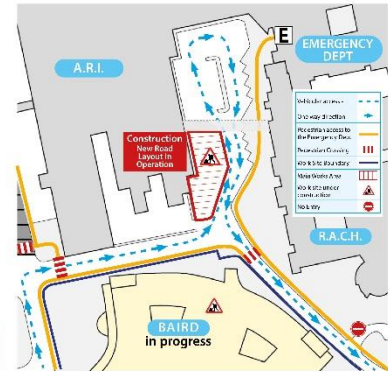
Due to essential construction work for The Baird Family Hospital, we are preparing for the installation of a new link bridge connecting to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (ARI) and Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital (RACH).

Work commences from **Friday 21 January 2022** until later in the summer. As a result, a number of car parking spaces in the Emergency Area Car Park will be taken out of use and new road layouts will be in operation.

Alternative parking is available in the Lady Helen Parking Centre (see overview for details).

This work will **not** affect Emergency Department drop off spaces or access to the Foresterhill Health Campus however we do apologise for any inconvenience caused.

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email: gms.bairdanchor@nhs.uk



The construction programme continues to make good progress despite the challenges presented by the COVID restrictions and the well-rehearsed impact of global and UK specific market force issues which are affecting materials availability, lead times, cost and staff availability. These issues continue to be kept under constant review with our construction partner, GRAHAM Construction and will continue to put pressure on the project in terms of potential cost and programme impact.

In parallel with construction, the team continue to work hard to complete the internal design details ready for construction. This considerable exercise and will continue well into 2022.

The functional commissioning team are now actively engaging with operational teams to begin to develop detailed plans for both buildings. This is a substantial undertaking and will need to involve both project team members and clinical and operational staff from services across a wide range of themes throughout 2022 and 2023. This work will include preparing for

occupation and relocation to the new facilities, equipping, policy development, IT systems and infrastructure, communication and also plans to decommission the maternity hospital, prior to demolition in 2024.

This year we have three important and demanding work streams working in parallel:

- Construction
- Design completion and sign off
- Technical and functional commissioning planning



Jackie and Alan with Gary Holmes Regional Managing Director, Graham Construction on what will be the top floor of The Baird Family Hospital

During March 2022 we will be saying farewell to two key members of the project team. Graham (Hammy) Davidson, Technical Supervisor, and Nicola Robertson-Brechin, Commissioning Manager are both retiring after many years working with NHS Grampian. The whole project team would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their hard work and commitment to the project and to wish them health and happiness for their well-earned retirement.

**Please follow our project on Social Media for our latest news and opportunities to get involved – and invite your friends to like our pages too!**



@bairdanchor



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Dedicated project website available at [www.bairdanchor.org](http://www.bairdanchor.org) or email the team at [gram.bairdandanchor@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.bairdandanchor@nhs.scot)

## BAIRD AND ANCHOR SITE PROGRESS

By Graham Davidson, Technical Supervisor



Here comes the technical bit..... We caught up with Graham Davidson, our Technical Supervisor, for an update on site progress. Graham is due to retire this month and this will be his last appearance in our newsletter. Thanks to Graham for all his contributions and for keeping us right with the technical information.

Despite changeable weather conditions such as frost, rain and high winds, the last quarter period has seen steady progress made to both the Baird and ANCHOR buildings.



On **The Baird Family Hospital** the main theme continues to be pouring of in-situ concrete. The lower ground floor is almost complete with respect to concrete works and several areas have been offered up to NHS Grampian to undertake an inspection

of walls, columns, floors and ceilings to ensure the “fair faced” concrete finished product is to the quality that we expect. I am pleased to say that what we have witnessed to date is of a good standard.

Like Jackie mentioned, work on the Baird link bridge has started. This is a significant piece of work and will see a bridge linking The Baird Family Hospital into the existing RACH and ARI link bridge. The bridge will have four concrete support columns along its length. Before the columns can be built a number of ground piles have to be bored and filled with concrete. These will provide the foundations that the column structures will be built on.



Work on **The ANCHOR Centre** is moving at pace and the building itself is now 90% watertight. A temporary “crash deck” is in the process of being built over the open atrium area and, once complete, this will see the building fully wind and watertight. Other exterior works have seen the installation of the window frames to the East and West sides of the building. These are temporarily boarded up prior to the glass being fitted a few weeks later. Once all of the windows are installed and the weatherboarding completed, work will commence on the curtain walling systems.

This typically consists of a lightweight aluminum frame onto which glazed and coloured infill panels are fixed.

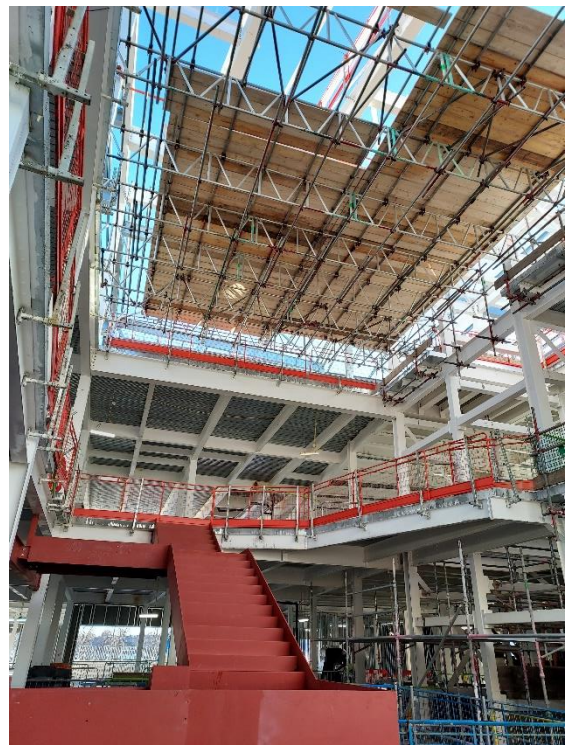


The bricklayers have now completed work to the plantrooms at the South of the site and are currently working on the lift shaft areas within the building as well as continuing building work to the East and West elevations.

The roofing contractor has completed the hot melt system which covers and seals the concrete roof areas.

A very important part of the construction works is the fire protection of any structural steel columns or beams. These are delivered to site pre-painted with intumescent fire paint, however damages can occur and these have to be repainted before it gets covered by external cladding or internal plasterboard.

Internally dry lining walls and partitions are being built, plasterboard has been fitted to one side of the walls and you can now see the different rooms taking shape. The main stairs within the atrium have been installed and once completed, this will be seen as one of the main features of the building.



Towards the end of March, the Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) contractor is due to start work. This will see electrical cables, hot and cold pipework as well as ventilation ductwork to name but a few being fitted above ceilings and in behind plasterboard walls. Having the M&E contractor on site is another milestone in the project as this is seen as a major step forward to getting rooms finished.

Discussions are at an early stage looking at how the “breakthrough” linking the ANCHOR building into the existing Radiotherapy Centre will be undertaken. This is an element of the work that will be carefully coordinated to ensure there is no disruption to the delivery of patient care within the Radiotherapy building itself.

## Delivering the Difference

By Paula Cormack, Chief Executive, The Archie Foundation



The team at Archie are excited to see how quickly the build of the new Baird Family Hospital is progressing. We are also excited by the rapid progress towards Archie's £2million fundraising target! Our incredible supporters have fundraised just shy of £800,000 already which will help enormously in "delivering the difference" at the Baird.

Archie's Baird Appeal will fund the "extras" over and above core NHS provision, helping transform what will be a clinically state-of-the-art hospital into a world class facility. Our appeal will fund specialist medical equipment and services as well as enhancing the hospital environment to enrich the patient, visitor and staff experience. The areas where Archie's fundraising will truly make the difference are now really starting to take shape, providing our prospective donors with opportunities to get involved in making an enormous contribution to future generations and to our community.

At the turn of the year we had new advertising hoardings installed on the perimeter fence of the Baird site, proudly displaying Archie's new branding and ensuring that all visitors to and from Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital are aware of

our fundraising appeal and how they can support it.

On 11<sup>th</sup> March we held our first fundraising event for the Baird – Archie's (belated) Burns Supper 2022. We have a host of exciting fundraising activities planned throughout the year including our eagerly anticipated Battle of the Badges in June. This charity football match between the Police and Fire Service provides a fabulous opportunity for children who have been supported by Archie to act as match mascots. Many of these young mascots and their families will be part of Archie's "neonatal family".


It is incredibly fitting and emotional to see families who themselves have benefitted from Archie's support at Aberdeen Neonatal Unit fundraising for the new Baird Family Hospital, helping to ensure that Archie can be here for future families when they need it most. There are many opportunities to get involved in supporting The Archie Foundation and our Baird Appeal – visit [www.archie.org/get-involved](http://www.archie.org/get-involved) to find out more or drop us a line to [hello@archie.org](mailto:hello@archie.org).



Exciting to see the Archie advertising now up on the Baird site hoardings

## All in it together – Involving Stakeholders before Architects

By Lauren Tweedley, Communication and Engagement Lead for Baird and ANCHOR



All in it together – involving stakeholders before architects

Date: Wednesday 9 March 2022  
Time: 2pm – 3pm

hisengage.scot  
Watch on YouTube

NHS Grampian is building 2 new state-of-the-art facilities on the Foresterhill Health Campus in Aberdeen - The Baird Family Hospital and The ANCHOR Centre. Join us to find out more about these exciting new buildings that are due to open in 2023, the journey we have taken, how active patient and staff participation has strengthened the design, and the things we have learned along the way.

Led by Lauren Tweedley (Consultation & Engagement Advisor, NHS Grampian), Gail Thomson (Deputy Project Director) and Louise-Anne Budge (Service and Commissioning Project Manager)

Members of the Project Team attended a Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) Webinar this month. We presented to the audience from across Scotland about the importance of communication and engagement in a capital project and our activities to involve stakeholders throughout the life of the Baird and ANCHOR project. Our presentation was well received and it was a great opportunity to share our experiences. Thank you to HIS for inviting us to participate. You can watch the webinar back at <https://www.hisengage.scot/events-list/9-mar-2022-webinar/>. If you get the chance to watch it back we hope you enjoy it, even though our presenters are cringing at the sound of their own voices. 😊

## Meeting with Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director

By Gail Thomson, Deputy Project Director

Jason will be very well known to all of us as “the covid doctor mannie off the telly”; an important role in addition to his position as National Clinical Director. NHS Grampian hosted Jason for a visit on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and his full programme included visits to facilities services, covid vaccination locations and a very interesting and participative session with the Integrated Family Portfolio team. As well as a useful discussion about clinical services, we were able to brief Jason about progress with the Baird and the huge positive impact this new facility will have. Thanks to Jenny for asking us to take part!



Jason Leitch photographed with Gail Thomson, Jenny McNicol, Jane Raitt and Preston Gan