

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the fourth edition of the National Treatment Centre – Grampian (NTC-G) newsletter. In this issue we have an update from the Project Senior Responsible Officer, more details about the regional working plans and service storyboards, and a further update about the MRI at Dr Gray's Hospital.

PROJECT UPDATE

Message from Gary Mortimer, NTC-G Senior Responsible Officer

As we progress towards the next steps, and as with other public sector construction projects at this time, we continue to have challenges around funding and affordability, primarily due to construction market uncertainties and construction inflation.

As with the other National Treatment Centres across Scotland, we are working very closely with the Scottish Government to ensure we deliver the additional NTC-G capacity as soon as we can. As we await funding certainty, we are continuing to progress a number of service development and redesign elements, some of which are described in this update.

As always, if you have any questions relating to the project get in touch – see 'keep in touch' section at the end of the newsletter.

DR GRAY'S MRI UPDATE

Plans for the new MRI at Dr Gray's Hospital are continuing with detailed planning work to make construction possible.

As we updated in issue three of the newsletter, in order to allow construction work for the MRI to take place, there is a requirement for Ward 4 (Mental Health inpatients) and Pluscarden Clinical and non-clinical services at Dr Gray's Hospital to be vacated.

While the ward area is empty, there are plans being developed to align a programme of works to fully refurbish the space for mental health services that ensures a ligature safe environment. An Integrated Programme Board, bringing together both the MRI construction and Ward 4 developments, has been established.

Work is continuing with services to identify a suitable temporary solution for the delivery of mental health services while the construction work takes place. Progress has been made, but there are still a number of details to be agreed. Once there is a clearer plan more details will be shared, including a timeline for the works.

A detailed communication plan is being developed to support the integrated project which will ensure that staff, service users, partners and the wider public are kept informed and involved throughout. If you have any questions relating to the MRI Construction and Ward 4 Ligature Reduction project, please send them to gram.dghMRIw4@nhs.scot.

REGIONAL WORKING LINKING WITH NATIONAL TREATMENT CENTRE – HIGHLAND

The new National Treatment Centres across Scotland will provide a network of centres which will increase capacity and efficiency of elective services. While the NTC in Grampian is still in the planning stage, National Treatment Centre-Highland (NTC-H) will open to patients in April 2023.

As part of the NTC network approach, suitable patients will be identified by the Grampian Orthopaedic Consultants; patients will then be contacted to be given the option to be treated in the new NTC-H as early as May 2023, with over 400 hip and knee operations planned within the first year. Initial contact will be made with the first patients from Grampian in early April.

NHS Highland and NHS Grampian are working together to ensure that the journey for patients is as smooth as possible. Consultant clinics will be held at Dr Gray's Hospital in Elgin to allow the consenting process to take place as locally as possible. This is an opportunity for patients to meet the surgeon who will operate on them and to ask any questions they might have. Patients will also be invited to join NHS Highland's Joint School, a digital treatment app, in advance of their surgery.

For more information about waiting times and the NHS Grampian Access Policy, please visit the NHS Grampian website – <https://www.nhsgrampian.org/about-us/waiting-times-information/>

SERVICE REDESIGN – A STORYBOARD APPROACH

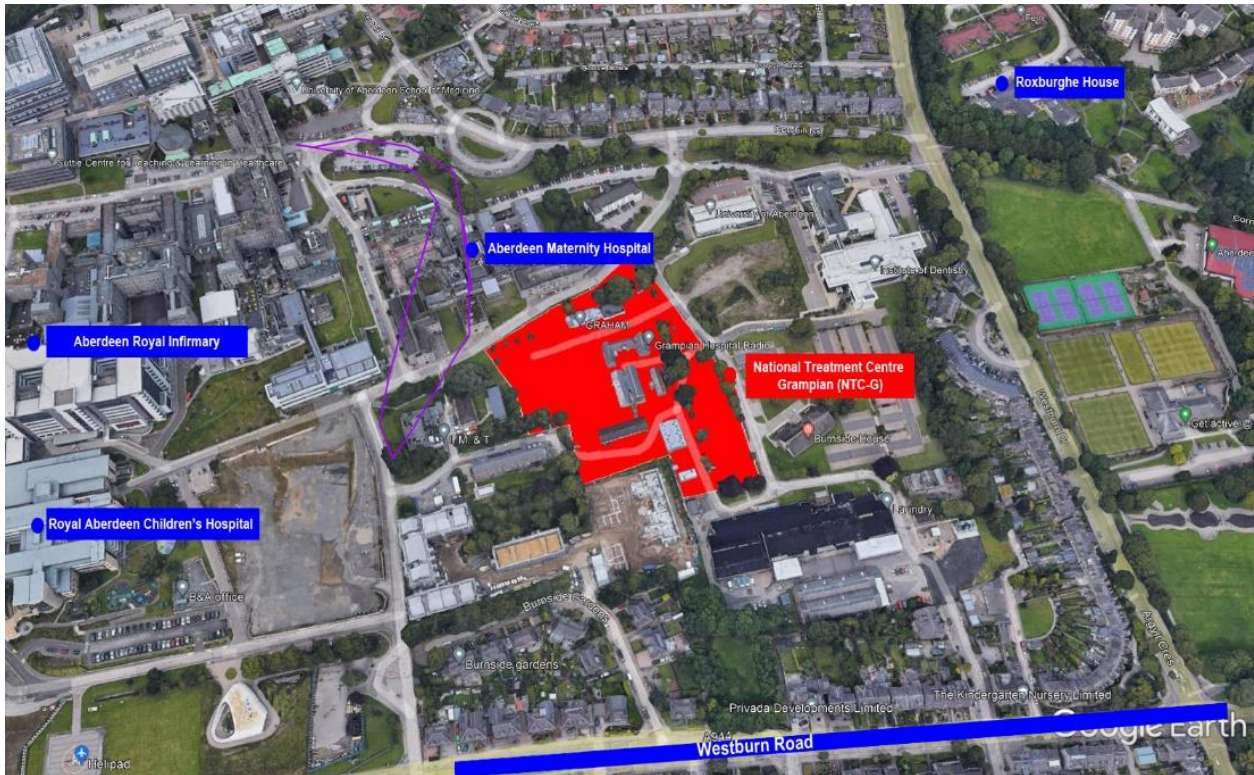
Building on the lessons learnt from the NTC Highland, NHS Grampian are working on developing storyboards for each of the six specialties identified for the NTC - Grampian.

The storyboards will demonstrate the strategic vision for each one of the specialties. In order to develop the storyboard, each service will consider:

- opportunities – identifying opportunities to improve collaboration across systems, focusing on delivering efficient patient pathways, regional working and ensuring links with transformation and realistic medicine.
- building an understanding – delivering a data pack that demonstrates current and future demand capacity activity and waiting times, identifying short, medium and long term priorities, and exploring digital and innovation opportunities.
- what is required to improve and implement – developing a clear plan including workforce requirements. This will include timescales, deliverables and details about how it will be measured, reported and evaluated.

Members of the Project Team are working with each of the services individually in a phased approach, starting with Urology and Imaging. Each of the storyboards will help to ensure that we have a fit for purpose design going forward into the NTC-G.

A reminder of the agreed location for NTC-G on the Foresterhill site.



The area highlighted in red shows the current Estates site at the east end of the Foresterhill Campus where the stand-alone new build NTC-G will be located.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Further newsletters will be issued to keep you up-to-date with the progress of all aspects of the project. You can also visit the NHS Grampian website - [National Treatment Centre – Grampian \(nhsgrampian.org\)](http://nhsgrampian.org)

If you have any questions about the NTC-G project or you'd like to be added to our distribution list, please email gram.ntc@nhs.scot.