



top 10 facts about the Orsett Hospital closure

- 1** Our services will move to four new modern integrated medical centres across Thurrock in Corringham, Tillbury, Purfleet and Grays.
- 2** These centres will bring health, social and community care together
- 3** For patients in Basildon and Brentwood, services will be provided in new and existing health centres such as Brentwood Community Hospital
- 4** We will make sure all four centres are up and running fully before finally closing Orsett Hospital.
- 5** We are not stopping any of the services we provide.
- 6** Our staff will continue to work for the NHS and we do not expect any job losses.
- 7** These centres will mean more investment in your local services, not less
- 8** A 'People's Panel' of local patients and residents will help to plan how the changes happen. Your local independent Healthwatch group will organise this.
- 9** Services will move from Orsett Hospital into these centres over the next two to three years.
- 10** We will then sell Orsett Hospital, and the money will come back into your local NHS.

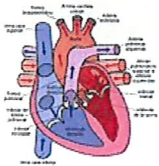
- For more information visit: www.nhsmidandsouthessex.co.uk
- If you would like to register your interest in the 'People's Panel', please email: orsettpeoplespanel@btuh.nhs.uk

Produced by Thurrock CCG and Basildon Hospital August 2018

Departments and Services Offered at Orsett Hospital as advertised on-line in August 2015

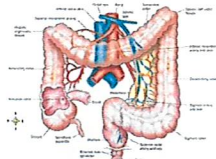
Cardiology

A branch of medicine dealing with disorders of the heart as well as parts of the circulatory system. Also includes medical diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart defects, coronary artery disease, heart failure, valvular heart disease and electrophysiology.



Children's and Adolescent Services

Ear, nose and throat, gastroenterology (disorders of the stomach/intestines), nephrology (physiology and diseases of the kidney), neurology (structure/functions and organic disorders of nerves and nervous system), respiratory (affecting respiration organs).



Dermatology

Medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of skin disorders such as acne, eczema, hair, nails, psoriasis, connective tissue diseases.



Diabetic Medicine

Services and treatments include general diabetic management, podiatry and foot, pregnancy and maternal, renal diabetes.



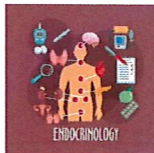
Ear, Nose and Throat

Services and treatments offered include ear, nose and nose, snoring, throat, tinnitus.



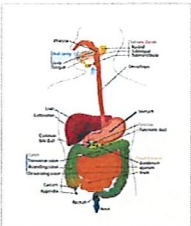
Endocrinology and Metabolic Medicine

Endocrinology and Metabolic Medicine include gland disorders, thyroid and bone disorders, Hypothalamic dysfunction caused by malnutrition (anorexia and bulimia).



Gastrointestinal and Liver Services

Services offered Colorectal Surgery (rectum/colon), Gallstones, Hepatology (diseases that affect liver, gallbladder and pancreas), Lower and Upper GI (X-Rays used to diagnose tumours and ulcers).



General Medicine

Medical speciality dealing with the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of adult diseases.



General Surgery

Surgery focusing on abdominal contents.



Geriatric Medicine

Medicine that focuses on health care of elderly people.



Gynaecology

Medicine that deals with the functions and diseases specific to women and girls.



Haematology

Is the study of blood and blood forming tissues.



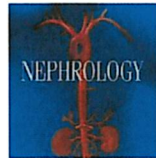
Head & Neck Cancer

Medicine and Services dealing with affected organs or tissue of the head or neck.



Nephrology

Specialty of medicine and paediatrics (involves the care of infants, children, adolescents), concerns with the study of kidney function, kidney problems & treatment.



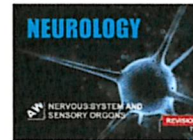
Minor Injuries Unit

Injuries treated include fractures, insect bites, minor cuts/burns/bruises/scalds, firework injuries, minor head and eye injuries, strains and emergency contraception.



Neurology

Medicine dealing with disorders of the nervous system.



Pain Management

Services provide pain management, provide pain medicine and pain control.



Respiratory Medicine

Provide a wide variety of medicines to relieve, treat or prevent respiratory diseases.



Rheumatology

Medicine devoted to the diagnosis and therapy of rheumatic diseases such as arthritis.



Vascular Surgery






Service provided for diseases of the vascular system (vessels), arteries, veins and circulation.



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HOW HOSPITAL CLOSURE PLAN CAME ABOUT...



■ Spreading the word: Thurrock CCG's Mandy Ansell.

THE woman at the helm of Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which has found itself at the heart of controversy over the proposed closure of Orsett Hospital, has spoken frankly about the situation.

The first detailed commentary on the decision by the Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) - a 'think-tank' put in place by the government in 2015 to create a planning framework for NHS services across regional areas - has come from Mandy Ansell, the account officer for Thurrock CCG.

She says closing Orsett Hospital was not

in its thoughts when it began a project in 2016 to improve health care in the borough.

However, as time progressed, proposals to close Orsett and replace it with integrated medical centres - a baton picked up by the ruling Conservative group on Thurrock Council and supported by other clinical commissioning groups across mid and south Essex - began to run parallel to Thurrock CCG's thinking.

Despite that, when it came to a vote on the closure, Thurrock was the only regional CCG not to vote for it, instead abstaining.

But with closure confirmed - although a vigorous campaign is underway to change

the decision - Ms Ansell is now planning ahead.

She told the Thurrock Independent: "There has been much news and debate around the recent decision to close Orsett Hospital, speaking about the decision and what this means for people in Thurrock.

"What we are looking at in Thurrock is really improving what we have now. "Residents will be offered the services they currently access, but in newer, purpose-built buildings that will provide not just healthcare, but social, mental health and community services all under one roof and closer to home."

■ More on page 11.

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Week 32

THURROCK'S FASTEST GROWING newspaper and digital platforms. More than **15,750** copies will be distributed across Thurrock THIS WEEK through more than 140 retail outlets and direct-delivered to targeted homes in Grays, Stanford-le-Hope, Corringham, Chafford Hundred, Chadwell St Mary, South Ockendon, Aveley, Purfleet and Tilbury and villages including Bulphan, Horndon on the Hill, North Stifford and Orsett. Available in community hubs and libraries across the borough. With thousands following and reading online too - The paper that delivers for Thurrock! Ave weekly distribution in June: **15,002**.



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“We are investing in our vision, we want to get this right

THERE has been much conversation and debate around the recent decision to close Orsett Hospital and what it means for people in Thurrock.

The Thurrock Independent has steadfastly opposed the decision and editor Neil Speight has criticised the lack of detail in the alternative proposals.

However, no-one is closer to the heart of the debate than Mandy Ansell (right), accountable officer for Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group, and she has opened up the paper about how she sees the past - and the future!

We invited her to have her say and she has spoken at length about how she sees the situation.

She told us: “What we are looking at in Thurrock is really improving what we have now. You will be offered the services you currently access, but in newer, purpose-built buildings that will provide not just healthcare, but social, mental health and community services all under one roof and closer to home.

“Back in 2016, we first spoke about our vision for Thurrock, under the banner ‘For Thurrock in Thurrock’. Healthcare services then were not providing what people wanted. At that time there was no suggestion or plans to close existing estates, like Orsett Hospital. We genuinely wanted to transform health and care. We asked you how you wanted healthcare to change. What we heard during our conversations with people were; people wanted facilities closer to home, including the provision of local beds, blood tests and x-ray and better access to GPs and primary care.

Group gets a ‘Good’ rating in review

THURROCK CCG has been rated as ‘Good’ in an annual assessment conducted by NHS England.

NHS England’s Improvement and Assessment Framework (IAF) is conducted annually to assess the overall performance of CCGs including in leadership and financial management.

In addition, the CCG has achieved a ‘Green’ rating for its public participation and involvement work.



“We are already on the way to meeting these aims; there are 24 new beds in Thurrock Community Hospital for people who need some extra support, who need to stay in hospital for recovery or to regain strength. We’ve already begun to improve GP facilities. There are extended teams now working in many GP practices that can help you, including paramedics, pharmacists and Physiotherapists (who provide a prescribing service for every day health problems).

“We are investing in Thurrock and our vision, we are doing this in partnership with all our providers. Bringing the vision of the Integrated Medical Centres to life is now our priority. We have a strong base from which to start having taken the time to plan out what would be needed for each locality area.

“We want to get this right and the integrated centres will be fit for now and for the future growth expected in Thurrock as well as being flexible enough to cope with changes in technology and practice.

“Our vision for the Integrated Medical Centres is where, if you have a health or social care problem, you only need to tell your

story once. You can visit a local centre, see a healthcare professional or outpatient service, have a blood test under the same roof. If you need emotional support, we are looking at providing mental health therapists. If you have a muscle problem, there may be an opportunity to visit a physiotherapist onsite. With a mobile x-ray machine available in at least two sites, you won’t have to travel far to have an x-ray.

“For urgent health problems, there will be an urgent care centre, we are testing this idea with a GP and minor injuries all in one place, so if you need help urgently you can get this within Thurrock. It’s likely that this will be offered on the Thurrock Community Hospital site.

“To help us ensure we meet the needs of people who use the services, Healthwatch Thurrock is supporting this by pulling together an independent ‘People’s Panel’. This was recommended by them as check and balance to the plans. The panel will analyse plans already in place and help to shape plans which are less well developed.

“Finally to reassure you, none of this will happen overnight. Buildings that will replace

Orsett Hospital will take time to build and the services that will go in them will not all move at once. In the autumn, we hope to share the plans for the first of the new centres in Tilbury.

“We will update residents as often as we can on developments, but we expect everything to be on offer by 2021.

“Let’s see this decision as the middle of the journey we are already on to transform health and care in Thurrock. By working together with our council, community and other health partners our ambition is that Thurrock will have a better and much improved health and care offer that will be envy of other areas.”

Ms Ansell’s viewpoint was supported by Tom Abell, deputy chief executive of Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, who said said: “This decision is good news. Local residents will soon have more modern health and care services closer to where they live.

“This means more investment in the services people use the most. We are also absolutely clear that services will not stop at Orsett Hospital until all the new services are up and running.”

Port of plenty

LOGISTICS specialist NFT has signed its largest fresh produce contract since opening its flagship temperature controlled facility at the Port of Tilbury. Vessels containing more than 700,000 bunches of bananas a week are now arriving at the 230,000 sq ft cold storage facility before being distributed to major retailers.

The contract will see 5,000 pallets of produce arriving each week, with a 50-50 split between bananas and pineapples.

More than 250 containers with similar volumes of the two fruits will make the voyage every week until Christmas.



Residents on Lodge Lane received tickets even though they were legally parked.

Ticket blunderers

BLUNDERING Thurrock Council enforcement officers put tickets on the cars of residents in Grays - forcing the lead councillor for environment to make a red-faced apology after the Thurrock Independent challenged the council over the validity of the fine notices.

The incident happened last month when residents on Lodge Lane, who were parked legally outside their homes, found enforcement officers had mounted a purge on the road and put tickets on vehicles legitimately parked off road on approaches to homes.

Lodge Lane is a wide road with a grass verge and access point for vehicles and as long as cars don’t park on the adjacent grass areas or block the pedestrian pathway they are allowed to park on the hard surfaces.

When residents alerted the Thurrock Independent we asked

the council what had happened and were informed by a council spokesperson: “These tickets were issued in error and have now been withdrawn.

“The people living there are allowed to park on the hard-standing areas as they have always done and tickets issued to them have been cancelled.”

In addition Cllr Aaron Watkins, portfolio holder for environment, said: “Unfortunately parking notices were issued in error to people parking legitimately outside their homes.

“We apologise for this error and have withdrawn all the tickets incorrectly issued. We have been in touch with the residents concerned to offer them our apologies and make sure they know that the notices have been withdrawn and that they are allowed to park on these hard-standing areas.”

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Orsett Hospital replacements "expected to be running" by 2021

By Staff Reporter on September 5, 2018 · No Comment

By Local Democracy Reporter
Steve Shaw

ALL medical centres replacing Orsett Hospital are expected to be operational by the end 2021, according to a report released ahead of a Thurrock Council meeting.

Details of the new Integrated Medical Centres (IMCs) have been outlined in a report which has been prepared for the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The first centre to open will cover Stanford and Corringham and be located in Stanford Le Hope. Planning consent was secured for this facility in 2016 and it is expected to be funded by the North East London NHS Foundation Trust.

With a construction period of 15 months, the Stanford IMC could be operational as early as 2020.

The Tilbury IMC will serve the local area along with Chadwell. The council is expected to agree to fund the construction of this centre at a meeting on September 12 at a cost of £20million and the building work will be completed by the end of 2021.

A Purfleet and South Ockendon IMC will be built as part of the wider Purfleet Centre regeneration scheme. Outline planning permission was submitted in December 2017 and is likely to go before the planning committee in the third quarter of the year.

A funding strategy is still not finalised but it is hoped that the centre will open sometime in 2021.

The Thurrock Community Hospital will be transformed into the fourth IMC and serve Grays. The report states: "As the only site already built, Thurrock Community Hospital offers the opportunity to renovate and redesign facilities to accommodate services, with the potential to bring services on line in a shorter time frame."

The Grays IMC could also see the introduction of a new GP service.

Further healthcare improvements will take place in a second phase of the project with plans to improve the South Ockendon Health Centre, which is currently occupied by a GP practice and several clinical services, are due to be presented to the council in December.

The report adds: "Health partners have confirmed the building is no longer fit for purpose, and they see potential benefits in redeveloping the site to create a new health centre which could bring together other surgeries from the local area, and to equip it with a fuller range of primary care facilities."

The closure of Orsett is part of a much larger healthcare shakeup taking place across the whole of mid and south Essex. The Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) responsible for the implementation have been facing criticism from councillors, residents and campaigners over their decisions.

At a recent STP scrutiny committee held in Thurrock, chief transformation officer Tom Abell said none of the services will leave Orsett Hospital until all the medical centres are open but then admitted some services may move early.

When he was questioned further by councillors he said he didn't want "principal to get in the way of what is best for patients."

The STP was also slammed for their consultation process which was labelled as the "worst consultation ever" by Independent Southend Councillor Martin Terry.



Orsett Hospital replacements "expected to be running" by 2021 added by Staff Reporter on September 5, 2018

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NHS boss insists medical centre plan will cope with growing population

'New centres will cope with hospital's demand'

A LEADING NHS boss has said he is confident the proposed medical centres replacing Orsett Hospital will cope with Thurrock's increasing population.

The chief transformation officer at the Basildon and Thurrock Hospital Trust, Tom Abell, told a health and scrutiny committee last week the modern facilities available at the new medical centres will allow the NHS to adjust to the borough's population growth.

To replace the facilities lost by the closure of Orsett Hospital, integrated medical centres will be opened in Stanford-le-Hope, Tilbury, Purfleet and the site of the former Thurrock Community Hospital in Grays.

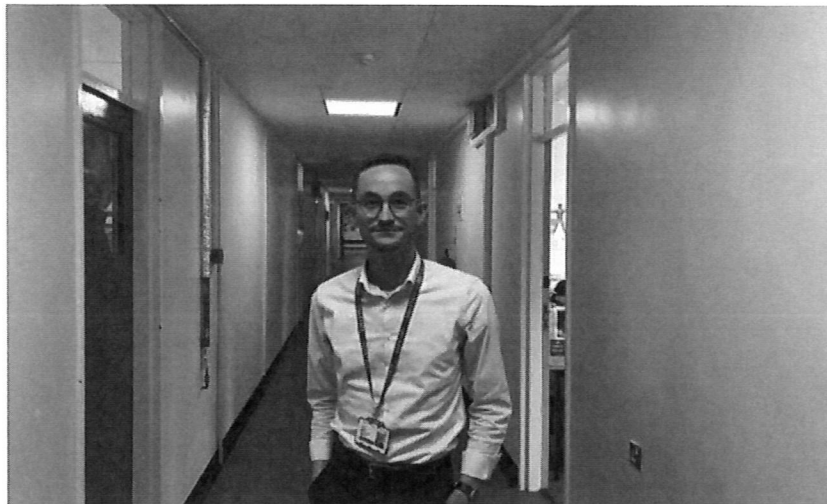
All of the new integrated medical centres will be open by the end of 2021, it has been claimed.

Yet concerns have been raised among residents and councillors over the medical centres' ability to replace Orsett Hospital.

But Mr Abell insisted the services will be an improvement on the hospital.

He said: "These new developments, particularly ones that are bringing young families, call for different types of services than what we currently provide at Orsett."

"If you take the Purfleet development as an example, we know there will be



■ **Confident - Tom Abell is confident the new centres will effectively replace Orsett Hospital**

a number of young families so one of the things we are actively looking at is whether there is an opportunity to move paediatric care into that area because we know there will be a greater need. That is something we do not currently provide in Orsett and it is only provided in Basildon."

When he was pressed by the committee on whether he has confidence in the new facilities he answered, "In short, yes", explaining the modern facilities can be used "more effectively" and

provide expansion space.

He also elaborated on his guarantee that all the services available in Thurrock will remain in Thurrock.

"The vast majority of the services we provide are outpatients and diagnostics," he said.

"The intention is that those outpatient services will be provided equally across the integrated medical centres and in Basildon and Brentwood.

"The way that could work is, for example orthopaedic outpatients, could be provided on dif-

ferent days at different centres and there will be a choice then of where people are referred to, they could be referred to the centre of their choice."

However, he added not all the services will be able to operate on a rotating basis and some are "fixed".

These are for minor injuries and renal dialysis.

As it is not viable to replicate them across all of the centres these are likely to be located only at the Grays centre, which is considered the most

central location.

Members of the committee stressed to Mr Abell that the majority of residents are unhappy about the decision to close the hospital and agreed to establish a council-led task force that focuses on the issue and a People's Panel which will meet regularly until the new centres are up and running. Committee chair Victoria Holloway said: "As a council we need the opportunity to scrutinise this very closely."

*GP crisis looms in Thurrock - see page 10

People's panel for hospital

THE organisation supporting an Orsett Hospital community panel has revealed new details on how it will operate.

Kim James, of Healthwatch Thurrock, told the council's health and wellbeing scrutiny committee that the People's Panel will be completely community-led and will examine all aspects of the plans to close Orsett.

She also stressed that the panel will meet regularly until all of the replacement medical centres are open at the end of 2021.

"They have their first meeting on September 17, which is a core group to start with - people who have concerns and have interests in what's going on," she said.

"It includes representatives such as patients and carers who have used the renal dialysis service, other patient groups that will continue to use the services and representatives of community groups.

"Other invites will be going out as time goes on but we didn't want to start with a great big group, we are starting with a small group to see how this is going to work."

Healthwatch Thurrock will be acting in a support role to the panel, with their staff helping to establish a website and social media presence which will allow the panel to engage with the public directly.

Members of the panel will also have seats on board meetings and will be present for key decision making.

The People's Panel was a key part of the plan outlined in June when the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) announced Orsett Hospital would close.



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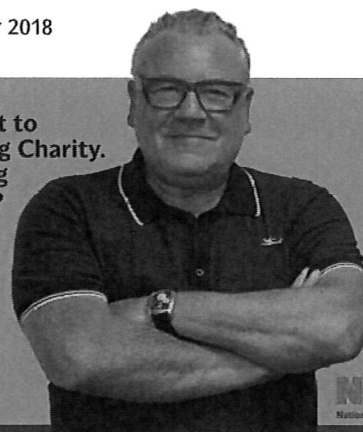
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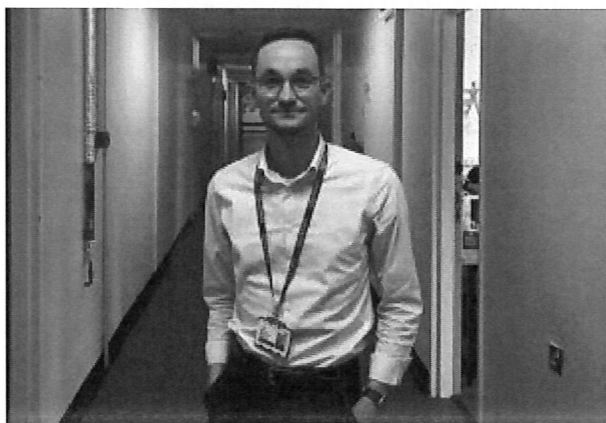


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NHS boss claims replacements for Orsett Hospital will cope with population growth

By Staff Reporter on September 13, 2018 · No Comment



AN NHS manager has said he is confident the proposed medical centres replacing Orsett Hospital will cope with Thurrock's increasing population.

The chief transformation officer at the Basildon and Thurrock Hospital Trust, Tom Abell, told a health and scrutiny committee on Thursday that the modern facilities available at the new medical centres will allow then NHS to adjust to the borough's population growth.

He said: "These new developments, particularly ones that are bringing young families, call for different types of services than what we currently provide at Orsett.

"If you take the Purfleet development as an example, we know there will be a number of young families so one of the things we are actively looking at is whether there is an opportunity to move paediatric care into that area because we know there will be a greater need.

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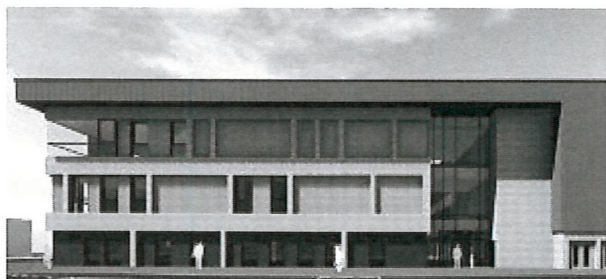
NHS boss claims replacements for Orsett Hospital will cope with population growth
added by **Staff Reporter** on September 13, 2018

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Thurrock bus service could be re-routed to serve new medical centres

By Staff Reporter on September 4, 2018 · No Comment



By Local Democracy Reporter
Steve Shaw

A THURROCK bus service could be rerouted to stop at two of the four new medical centres that will replace Orsett Hospital.

The council will be looking for bus providers to take on the delivery of bus services 11, 374 and 265 when the current contract expires on March 31, 2019.

Council documents propose that the number 11 service could be rerouted to stop at the planned Integrated Medical Centres in Grays and Corringham and no longer operate along the A13, where it often faces delays due to roadworks.

The service is currently operated by First Essex and serves passengers travelling between Basildon and Purfleet. Stops include Basildon Hospital and Orsett Hospital.

The decision to close Orsett Hospital has been extremely unpopular in Thurrock where many residents question why the NHS is not replacing it with a new hospital and fear the medical centres will mean losing services.

It is anticipated that the medical centres will be open by the end of 2021. The changes to the bus services will be discussed on September 11 at Thurrock Council's Planning, Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee.



Thurrock bus service could be re-routed to serve new medical centres added by **Staff Reporter** on September 4, 2018

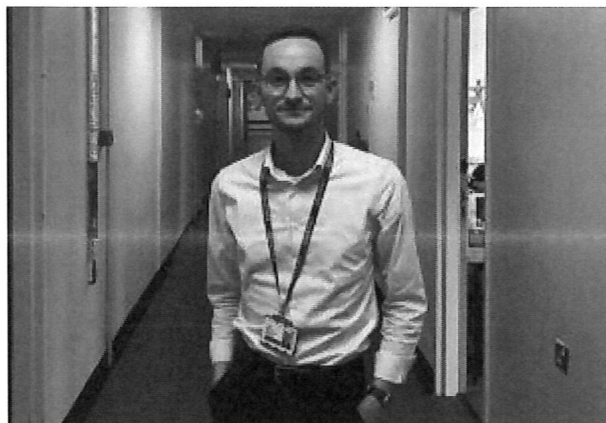
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Health boss “frustrated” at Orsett Hospital being used as political football

By Staff Reporter on August 27, 2018 · No Comment

By Local Democracy Reporter, Steve Shaw



THE deputy chief executive of the Basildon and Thurrock Hospital Trust has spoken of his frustration over the way political parties have distorted the closure of Orsett Hospital by using it for political means.

Tom Abell, deputy chief executive and chief transformation officer at the trust set the record straight on several major concerns about the closure and stressed that services will not be cut.

“We did the consultations and then the local elections came along and it was seized as kind of this symbol of opposition to public sector cuts when actually we’re not proposing to cut any services as part of this change and we’re not proposing to downgrade anything,” he said.

"I find that can be frustrating at times because we keep on saying that and yet we get this wall of opposition."

The closure of Orsett Hospital was announced at the beginning of July as part of a massive health care shakeup across mid and south Essex. Medical staff at the site currently struggle to deliver effective medical care due to outdated facilities, narrow corridors and limited resources.

Closing it will allow four modern medical facilities to be opened in Corringham, Tilbury, Grays and Purfleet and patients based outside of the borough will have services moved closer to their homes at facilities in Basildon and Brentwood.

However, a public consultation on closing the hospital was criticised by local councillors and HealthWatch Thurrock who said it "fails" residents because it was difficult for them to access online.

There were also only 2,000 hard copies printed for the whole mid and south Essex area of 1.4million people. Thurrock received just 97 copies.

Those that did take part in the consultation expressed serious concerns that losing Orsett would mean less healthcare services.

The controversy made it a heated topic in local politics especially for Labour and the Independents, who have been calling for the hospital to remain open while arguing over who has given it more support.

The Conservatives have defended the decision but stressed that they are not responsible for making it.

"The ultimate decision was made by the CCG, our commissioner, and we support it from the hospital trust perspective and have helped develop the proposals," Mr Abell continued.

"We are not proposing these services get outsourced – all the services will continue to be run by the hospital trust, the staff who currently provide the services here will be the staff who provide the services in the new locations but it has got mixed up in this privatisation agenda when that has never even come up.

"I guess any sort of change like this does end up becoming political wherever you are, so we just have to keep reiterating we are not cutting anything and the services will only move when the new facilities are open and we'll keep Orsett operating until that time."

He went on to outline how the CCG intends to retain all services within the borough while also making better use of public money by rotating services across the sites on different days, rather than running them every day as they do now at Orsett.

“We will organise services that way round because there clearly is a benefit in terms of getting greater reach and accessibility in those locations. It also means that we can make much better use of the buildings and ensure they are full, vibrant and has got people going through them, rather than a space like Orsett that is empty for certain parts of the week. It is not good use of public money for us to continue to do that every day.”

The GP surgery on Rowley Road will also remain open and plans are in place to expand it in the future. A new GP surgery is also being planned for the Grays medical centre when it opens.

Mr Abell offered reassurance to patients who use the renal dialysis services at the hospital, guaranteeing that they will remain in Thurrock.

Speaking on whether the closure is set in stone, he said: “It’s not my decision, it’s the commissioner’s decision. Obviously he made a pretty clear decision in July for the closure of Orsett and the relocation of services and we are planning on that basis at the moment.”

What do the political parties think?

Conservative councillor James Halden, who chairs the council’s Health and Wellbeing Board, has previously slammed the opposition for playing “party politics” over Orsett.

He said: “The Conservatives will not indulge in gesture politics, we will keep focusing on delivering 21st century medical centres to ensure we move more out of hospital services closer to the people they serve.”

Labour leader councillor Oliver Gerrish said concerns over Orsett Hospital are “real” and not about causing political trouble.

He said: “The process so far has provided very few answers on how and where crucial services will be delivered. Residents have seen this before – for example the promises given over the closure of the Grays walk-in centre. Nobody wants to see the same thing happen again, so it’s no surprise that the campaign has been so vociferous.”

Councillor Luke Spillman, leader of Thurrock Independents said Thurrock needs

more medical facilities.

"We are here to serve the residents and their voice on this matter couldn't be clearer," he said.

"They feel there is a desperate need to increase medical services in Thurrock. Unlike the Tories, we won't roll over and facilitate clear cost cutting exercises to the detriment of Thurrock."

The People's Panel

The NHS is keen to encourage the public to get involved in the future of Orsett Hospital and a key part of this is the formation of the People's Panel.

Mr Abell described the panel as being independent of the NHS and designed to help get the "right answers" for Thurrock.

He said: "It is really important this thing is independent of us, so we asked Healthwatch Thurrock to help us in terms of organising it, so it is not an NHS scheme. The proposal is that anybody who lives in Thurrock can sign up to be on the panel and we will see how it comes together as it will be quite different if 150 people sign up or 10.



Health boss "frustrated" at Orsett Hospital being used as political football added by Staff Reporter on August 27, 2018

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Health bosses sets out its vision for Thurrock's health and care system

By Staff Reporter on August 9, 2018 · No Comment

CCG sets out its vision for Thurrock's health and care system.

THERE has been much news and debate around the recent decision to close Orsett Hospital, speaking about the decision and what this means for people in Thurrock, Mandy Ansell, Accountable Officer for Thurrock CCG said:

top 10 facts about the Orsett Hospital closure

NHS

- 1 Our services will move to four new modern integrated medical centres across Thurrock in Canningham, Tilbury, Purfleet and Grays.
- 2 These centres will bring health, social and community care together.
- 3 For patients in Basildon and Burnham, services will be provided in new and existing health centres such as Burnwood Community Hospital.
- 4 We will make sure all face centres are up and running fully before finally closing Orsett Hospital.
- 5 We are not stopping any of the services we provide.
- 6 Our staff will continue to work for the NHS and we do not regret any job losses.
- 7 These centres will maintain investment in your local services, not less.
- 8 A People's Panel of local patients and residents will help to plan how the change happens. Your local Independent Healthwatch group will organise this.
- 9 Services will move from Orsett Hospital into these centres over the next two to three years.
- 10 We will then sell Orsett Hospital, and the money will come back into your local NHS.

For more information visit: www.nhs.uk/southessex
 If you would like to register your interest in the People's Panel, please email: ourpeoplepanel@thnhs.uk

Produced by Thurrock CCG (initially by Health) August 2018

“What we are looking at in Thurrock is really improving what we have now. You will be offered the services you currently access, but in newer, purpose built buildings that will provide not just healthcare, but social, mental health and community services all under one roof and closer to home.

“Back in 2016, we first spoke about our vision for Thurrock, under the banner ‘For Thurrock in Thurrock’. Healthcare services then were not providing what people wanted. At that time there was no suggestion or plans to close existing estates, like Orsett Hospital. We genuinely wanted to transform health and care. We asked you how you wanted healthcare to change. What we heard during our conversations with people were; people wanted facilities closer to home, including the provision of local beds, blood test and x-ray and better access to GPs and primary care.

“We are already on the way to meeting these aims; there are 24 new beds in Thurrock Community Hospital for people who need some extra support, who need to stay in hospital for recovery or to regain strength. We’ve already begun to improve GP facilities. There are extended teams now working in many GP practices that can help you, including paramedics, pharmacists and Physician Associates (who provide a prescribing service for every day health problems).

“We are investing in Thurrock and our vision, we are doing this in partnership with all our providers. Bringing the vision of the Integrated Medical Centres to life is now our priority. We have a strong base from which to start having taken the time to plan out what would be needed for each locality area. We want to get this right and make sure the integrated centres will be fit for now and for the future growth expected in Thurrock as wellbeing flexible enough to cope with changes in technology and practice.

“Our vision for the Integrated Medical Centres is where if you have a health or social care problem, you only need to tell your story once. You can visit a local centre, see a healthcare professional or outpatient service, have a blood test under the same roof. If you need emotional support, we are looking at providing mental health therapists. If you have a muscle problem, there may be an opportunity to visit a physiotherapist onsite. With a mobile X-ray machine available in at least two sites, you won’t have to travel far to have an x-ray.

“For urgent health problems, there will be an urgent care centre, we are testing this idea with a GP and minor injuries all in one place, so if you need help urgently you can get this within Thurrock. It’s likely that this will be offered on the Thurrock Community Hospital site.

“To help us ensure we meet the needs of people use the services, Healthwatch Thurrock is supporting this by pulling together an independent ‘People’s Panel’. This was recommended by them as check and balance to the plans. The panel will analyse plans already in place and help to shape plans which are less well developed.

“Finally to reassure you, none of this will happen overnight. Buildings that will replace Orsett Hospital will take time to build and the services that will go in them will not all move at once. In the Autumn, we hope to share the plans for the first of the new Centres in Tilbury. We will update you as often as we can on developments, but we expect everything to be on offer by 2021.”

“Let’s see this decision as the middle of the journey we are already on to transform health and care in Thurrock. By working together with our Council, Community and other health partners our ambition is that Thurrock will have a better and much improved health and care offer that will be envy of other areas.”



*Health bosses sets out its vision for Thurrock’s health and care system added by **Staff Reporter** on August 9, 2018*

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News

Survey step towards Tilbury Integrated Medical Centre

2 February 2018

Work on Thurrock's first Integrated Medical Centre will take a significant first step as site surveys get underway.

Beginning on 5 February, surveys in Civic Square, Tilbury will start to help inform the design and planning of the centre.

The work will include topographical surveys and assessments ranging from flood risk, utilities, ecology and transport studies over the next few months. Full public access will be maintained throughout.

Portfolio Holder for Education and Health, Cllr James Halden, said: "Our Integrated Medical Centres will provide excellent health services in modern buildings closer to where people live, and these surveys are an important first step. We are pleased that we have been able to work alongside Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in this important work."

Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Cllr Mark Coxshall, added: "The Integrated Medical Centre and regeneration of Civic Square are key parts of our master plan for Tilbury. These surveys show our commitment to focusing on delivery and ensuring the local community benefit from these projects."

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