

# Our Case for Change

Explaining what the New Hospitals Programme is about and why the people of Lancashire and South Cumbria need new hospital facilities.

## Easy Read

August 2021



# What this is about



This document explains what the New Hospitals Programme is about and why the people of Lancashire and South Cumbria need new hospital facilities.



Some of our hospital buildings and facilities are out of date. They need a lot of repairs and changes so that we can keep using them. We need to do something about this so that we can provide the services you need now and in the future.

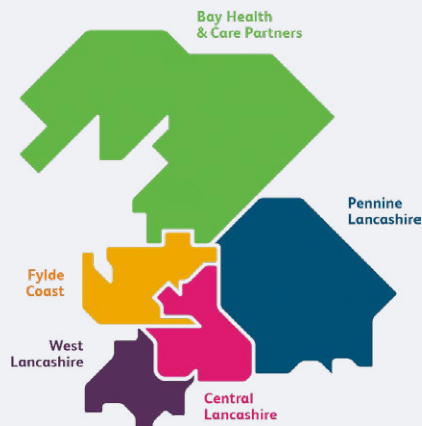


Lots of our staff and local people have already told us what they think about our hospitals and the services we provide. Your feedback helps us to understand the problems and make plans for making services better in the future.



We will keep working on our plans and we want to keep hearing what you think. We want to make sure we are doing the right thing for Lancashire and South Cumbria.

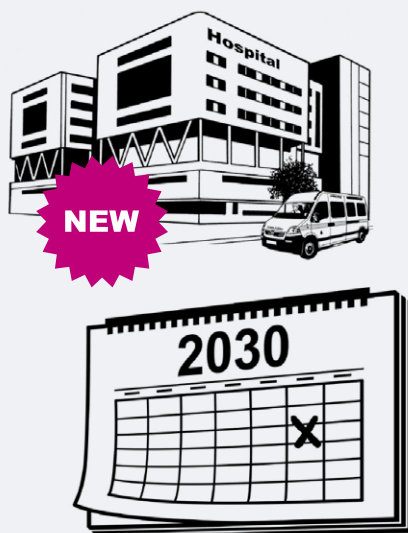
# What the New Hospitals Programme is doing



NHS organisations, councils and community groups in Lancashire and South Cumbria are working together to make hospitals and services the best they can be. This work is called the **New Hospitals Programme**.



We have the same goal – to build on what we are already great at and provide the very best healthcare services for local people.



The Government is granting us money to spend on making our hospital facilities better by 2030.

This is a chance to do something amazing. We want to replace these buildings with new facilities that will provide the services you need now and in the future.

# Our ambition: helping local people live longer, healthier lives



We want to work with our partners to make the best use of our staff, buildings and equipment.



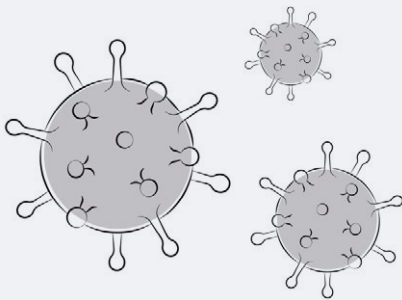
Sometimes people have to travel a long way to get special types of care and treatment. We want to provide more services closer to where you live.



We will also look at the experience that patients, families and carers have when they visit our hospitals. We want to offer more private rooms and give our staff the space they need to provide the best care for you.



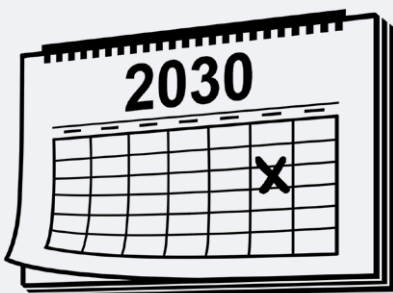
We want to create jobs for people in Lancashire and South Cumbria and make it a great place to live and work.



We want to provide the best care for local people, as we all recover from the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.



We do not yet know what our new hospital facilities will look like or where they will be. We will use feedback from staff and local people and look at what works well in other places to decide what would be best.



We know it could take up to the year 2030 to plan and build these new hospital facilities.

# Our challenges and how we want to overcome them



## The people who live here

There are 1.8 million people living in Lancashire and South Cumbria. Not everybody has the same access to health services and the same chance of living a long and healthy life.



Local people will need more health services both in and out of hospitals in the future:

- The average age of people who live here is getting older.
- More people in our area need care for physical and mental health than in other parts of England.

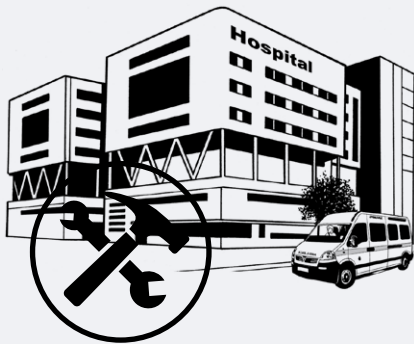


We want to give everyone the same access to health services. We want to make sure our hospital facilities are the best they can be.



If we do nothing:

- We will not be able to look after everyone who needs us.
- We will not be up-to-date with the technology we need to provide specialist treatments.



## Our hospital buildings

Some of our hospital buildings and facilities are out of date. We urgently need to spend money to update or rebuild our hospitals. They are not suitable for us to provide the services we need to. They also cost a lot more to run each year (for things like heating, power and repairs) than it would cost to run a new building.



The buildings and facilities at **Royal Preston Hospital** and **Royal Lancaster Infirmary** need a lot of repairs and improvements so that we can keep using them.

**Furness General Hospital** is quite far away from our other hospitals and is an important place for local people. The building needs work to make sure we can keep providing the services that people need. Changes are also needed so we can use technology to help staff stay connected to our other hospitals.





Our patients and staff are not happy with the space and facilities at our hospitals:

- There is not enough room to provide the services we want to.
- There are not enough private rooms to give our staff and patients the space they want.
- At some of the hospitals, it can take a long time to move from one area to another.
- Our patients wait longer for operations, tests and cancer treatment than they should.



If we do nothing:

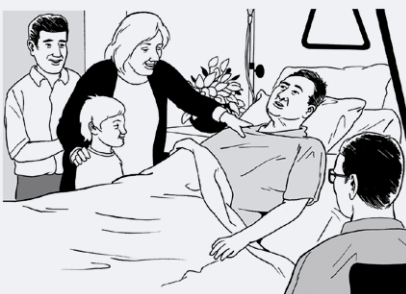
- The buildings or facilities could fail.
- We will spend a lot more money running our hospitals and keeping them open compared to building new ones.





## Providing the best facilities

We want to provide the best care and treatment. We also want to provide more specialist services in our hospitals. We want to deliver more care closer to where people live.

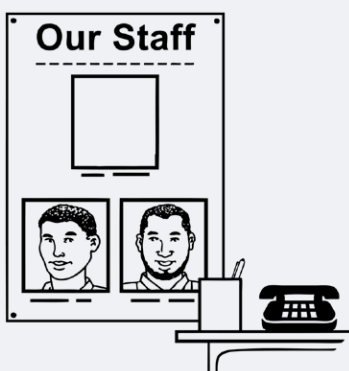


We know that having better facilities, including private rooms with a view, can help patients to get better quicker.



## Helping our economy and local people

Lots of local people work in our health and care services. Like other areas, many of our staff are close to retirement age and it can be hard to find the staff we need.



We sometimes find it hard to attract staff to work for us. This is because our buildings are out of date and can be difficult to work in. We need to make our hospitals a great place to work.



We have to use a lot of agency staff. This costs a lot of money and is not the best experience for our patients or other staff in the teams.



We want Lancashire and South Cumbria to be known for providing the best care and services. We want to work with local universities to support the training of medical students, who we hope will then come to work for us.



The New Hospitals Programme can help:

- New buildings will give our staff the space and facilities to deliver the services local people need.
- A nicer place to work with better facilities will attract people to work for us.



## We want to make the most of digital technology

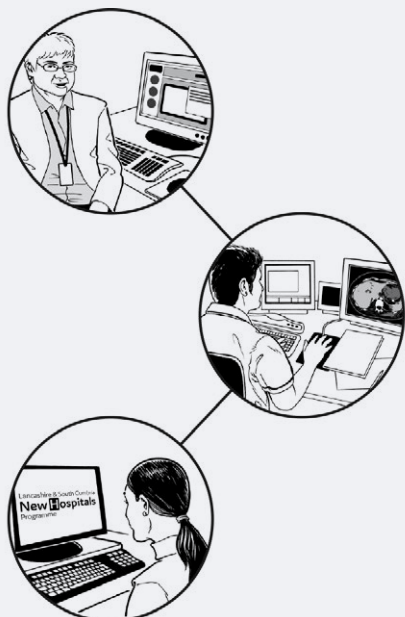
Digital technology will help us to provide high quality care to everyone. We want to use the latest technology to make our services better.



To keep staff and patients safe from COVID-19, we had phone or video appointments whenever we could. We want to keep working in this way where it is right for you.



A lot of our support staff and managers worked from home during COVID-19. We want to keep working in this way where it is right for them. This can give us more space in hospitals to use for patient care.



The New Hospitals Programme will help to make the most of digital technology:

- When you check-in at a hospital and find your way around.
- When we need to keep checking your blood pressure or temperature.
- When staff from different teams or different organisations need to share information.
- When new types of treatment are available.

# What happens next?

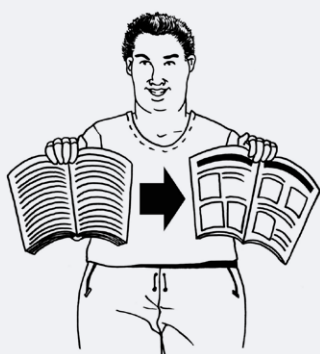


We want you to tell us what you think about the New Hospitals Programme:

- Do you agree or disagree with what we have said?
- What do you think is right? What do you think is wrong? Is there anything missing?
- Do you have any ideas you would like to add?



We do not yet know what our new hospital facilities will look like or where they will be. We will look at all the feedback to make a **longlist** of different proposals.



We will then ask our staff, patients and representatives of local people to help us to choose a few of the ideas to make a **shortlist** of proposals.



We may need a **public consultation** when we ask people about our final list of proposals. This will make sure everyone has a chance to tell us what they think.



Visit our website to find out more about how to have your say:

[www.newhospitals.info](http://www.newhospitals.info)

