

THE NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

TRANSFORMING THE NEWCASTLE HOSPITALS – CURRENT ISSUES

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper summarises the current position on both the Freeman and RVI parts of the project.

2. FREEMAN HOSPITAL

- Renal services

The Renal Outpatient department became operational on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2008.

Efforts are now being concentrated on resolving the technical issues associated with the Renal Water in order to expedite the transfer of Renal Dialysis and Renal inpatient services.

- Cancer Services Centre

Linear Accelerators have been successfully installed in 4 bunkers and 3 are now operational. The new TomoTherapy machine has also been successfully installed and will become operational in February 2009.

This facilitated the opening of the Cancer Services Centre for treatment and the first patient was treated on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

The first two Linear Accelerators to be transferred from the Newcastle General Hospital are now being installed within the new Centre and are being commissioned in readiness for the transfer of inpatient services early in the new year.

- Specialist Haematology and Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre

Alteration works are ongoing to two areas in the Centre to develop the accommodation for the integration of Specialist Haematology and the Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre. These works are due for completion in early February 2009.

The completion of the above works will allow the full occupation programme for Cancer Services and Specialist Haematology. It is anticipated the building will be fully operational by Spring 2009.

- “Best Hospital Design”

The design quality of the new development has already been recognised at the 10<sup>th</sup> national ‘Building Better Healthcare Awards’ on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008. Chosen from a large field and from a shortlist of four the Centre was presented with the most prestigious award – that of Best Hospital Design.

The scheme was commended for the close working relationship between the Trust, architects and contractor. There was praise not just for the quality of the architecture and patient environment, but also the great lengths the team had gone to on the fine detailing throughout the building.

### 3. ROYAL VICTORIA INFIRMARY

Agreement has been reached on the handover dates for the early phases of the RVI. All of the levels 1 to 6 in the ‘adult ‘ and ‘hi tech’ blocks are programmed to be handed over on March 16<sup>th</sup> 2009. The round children’s block will complete in August 2009.

Based on the above schedule services will move off the NGH site over the spring / summer of 2010.

### 4. LOW TEMPERATURE HOT WATER

Dalkia have completed their works to create the plate heat exchanger separation between Dalkia plant installation and the new building.