

Meeting title:	Joint Scrutiny Committee
Date of the meeting:	27 th November 2024
Title:	Programme Director Update - OFH Update and SOC Development
Report presented by:	Ben Teasdale, Associate Medical Director and ACCIO
Report written by:	Debra Green, Interim Programme Director
Acronyms used:	
<p>CSR - Comprehensive Spending Review H2.0 – Hospital 2.0 (NHP’s standardisation of the new hospital) NHP – New Hospitals Programme Ofh – Our Future Hospitals RAAC – Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete SCR – Comprehensive Spending Review SOC – Strategic Outline Case</p>	

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Joint Scrutiny Committee of the current status of the Our future hospitals (Ofh) Programme with specific focus on:

‘UHL Future Hospitals programme to include funding situation and any news since the new government took over including any update on the comments Wes Streeting made in July 2024 indicating that the programme might be put on hold’.

And to also provide an update on the Live projects underway at the Leicester General Hospital.

New Hospitals Programme & Our future hospitals update

2. Rachael Reeves, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced in parliament on the 29th July that the NHP would continue to progress but was going to be subject to a review and that a realistic timescale for delivery and funding position would be announced as a result. This was a better outcome than expected as other national capital infrastructure projects previously committed to, were stopped.
3. As part of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) on 30, October the Chancellor announced that an increase of £22.6bn in the NHS budget for 23/24 – 25/26 to fund both care initiatives and infrastructure improvements has been committed. Specifically it is intended to improve clinical capacity, reduce waiting lists, and make good on Labour's pledge to add 40,000 NHS appointments. Funding allocated to the NHP is part of this allocation.
4. The NHP Review has now concluded, the detailed outcome of which has not yet been shared with NHP or any Trusts that are currently sitting within its Programme.
5. It is expected that Wes Streeting (Secretary of State for Health and Social Care) will announce further detail shortly regarding how the £22.6bn will be spent. Specifics about the UHL’s Ofh programme will not be known until the New Year and maybe even post the March

2025 Budget. However, it has been stated that early funding will be released to Trusts that have major infrastructure risks (ie: presence of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete, also known as RAAC).

6. Remaining schemes will be delivered through a rolling programme of major investment which has yet to be determined. As a result, at this point we do not know our funding envelope.
7. Throughout November/December the NHP will be developing a fully integrated and risk adjusted long-term programme plan which will consist of:
 - i) Funding allocations and scheme delivery programme
 - ii) Industrial Strategy – 20yr pipeline
 - iii) Full Hospital 2.0 design
 - iv) Main Works Partner launch details
8. The details of the programme will be communicated next year as detailed in point 5.
9. For now, the clear message from NHP is that it is ‘business as usual’ and we have been urged by our NHP Project Lead to continue with the development of the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for our scheme, as per our consulted way forwards. This was supported at the Trust Leadership Team meeting on 27 August 2024.
10. The national NHP is working closely with the Ofh Programme Team through a process called Progressive Development. This ensures we remain aligned to Hospital 2.0, which encompasses the principles of the NHP: standardisation of facilities, modern methods of construction and a new process for procuring external contractors.
11. The SOC development remains to timescales and will be submitted in February 2025.

Live Projects:
East Midlands Planned Care Centre

12. UHL has one of the largest and longest waiting lists in the country, with a stark difference in health outcomes between the most and least deprived areas. This large refurbishment of an existing building on the LGH site will provide additional ring-fenced capacity to protect planned care from emergency pressures, support the ongoing elective recovery and reduce long waits. There will be fourteen outpatient rooms and four clean rooms a full two theatre operative suite, a post-operative ward and a Medical Daycase Unit. The centre will provide over 100,000 appointments per year.
13. This £47m development is in its final stages. Building works are now complete and operational commissioning is well underway.
14. The unit will open for clinical activity on the 9th December 2024.

Endoscopy New Build Unit

15. Also at the Leicester General and adjacent to the East Midlands Planned Care Centre, we are building a new specialist endoscopy unit. This is a dedicated facility that will see approximately 12,800 patients each year once it is open.
16. Due to unforeseen services discovered during the preliminary stages of the build, the project suffered a programme delay and will now be operational in August 2025.