

Holsworthy Community Involvement Group position statement

Update 2 – May 2018

Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) formally requested Northern Devon Healthcare Trust (NDHT) to provide an implementation plan to reopen inpatient beds at Holsworthy Community Hospital.

The CCG received this plan on Thursday, 3 May and is now working with NDHT to assess the risks involved so that it can be safely implemented.

Once this detailed work is complete, the finalised plan will be presented via a community group set up to oversee developments.

The group is predominantly made up of local people and community leaders with support from the NHS.

The Community Involvement Group will meet for the first time on Tuesday, 12 June. Membership of the group and Terms of Reference will be agreed at its inaugural meeting.

Its role will be to build on the engagement activity already undertaken in the community, using statistical information, local workforce information, clinical expertise and lay perspective to develop a series of options for the future.

These options will then be presented to the wider community and, if a consultation is required, a process will follow.

This latest development follows public meetings in the town in April when the NHS and local people agreed to work together to find long-term solutions to the health challenges the town faces.

Beds at the hospital were temporarily closed by NDHT in March 2017.

At this time, the beds remain temporarily closed. Other services at the hospital remain operational.

Nationally and locally, there is a shortage of qualified nursing and physiotherapy staff and the CCG is under no illusion of the difficulty NDHT will have in reopening beds.

The CCG also recognises that the town is in a remote location and that a bespoke solution is necessary to the challenges it faces.

