



## Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our regular Llantrisant Health Park newsletter. We've been busy on the site since it was handed over in October last year, working hard to get the best from the huge potential it offers, and to create the purpose-built hardstanding and service building for the mobile MRI scanner that has been on-site since April 2024. Read on to find out more.



Paul Mears, Chief Executive,  
Cwm Taf Morgannwg  
University Health Board

## Delivering on our vision

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board is working to deliver a future in which Llantrisant Health Park (LHP) will be a cutting-edge diagnostics and treatment centre.

We plan to improve care and access to services for thousands of patients living within our health board boundary, but also for many hundreds of thousands more that live and work within South East Wales and the populations covered by our partner health boards.

We are working with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Velindre University NHS Trust to deliver accessible, safe, and innovative healthcare services.

## Meet the team

The Llantrisant Health Park (LHP) programme is about much more than a building. It is about designing a new facility and services that will meet the current and future health needs of our population in our local area and across the region.

We've brought together a multi-disciplined team of NHS Wales and external consultants to guide us through the specification, design, planning and delivery process.

Our Clinical Design Team includes senior clinical leaders. The Infrastructure Team includes experts in the design, build and delivery of major healthcare infrastructure programmes, who are working alongside NHS Wales staff to deliver the physical build.

We are also working with our regional partners via the South East Wales Regional Orthopaedic Programme and South East Wales Regional Endoscopy Programme. Together we have the skills to create a world class facility.



## MRI unit provides easy access to care

The mobile MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) unit recently set up at Llantrisant Health Park has helped reduce waiting for diagnostic screening, seeing 410 patients in the first 28 days of operation.

The unit is providing additional services to long-wait residents from Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, but is also available to support partner health boards where extra capacity is needed.

Initial patient feedback has been extremely positive and has shown a willingness to use diagnostic services away from acute hospital sites.

Feedback from patients has praised the cleanliness of the premises, said that the service felt more personal than in a hospital environment, that procedures were clearly explained and delivered in a professional and respectful environment.

The health board's staff were commended for being helpful and kind, the facilities were highlighted for being easy to find and access, along with providing plentiful parking and being efficiently operated.

Sharon Donovan, Superintendent Radiographer, explained: "This has been a big team effort and all staff involved have been a credit to the radiography service and helping ensure its success in a short period of time."

## Timeline to delivery

The specification, design and build of the Llantrisant Health Park site is a complex multi-phased programme. Phase one was completed in February 2024 with the conclusion of the critical Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Plan of Work design phases 0 and 1. This included feasibility studies, detailed infrastructure surveys and developing the project brief. Key dates for the remainder of this calendar year include:

- Strategic overview presented to Welsh Government by end of July 2024
- Community Diagnostic Centre cases for imaging and endoscopy presented to partner Boards by the end of September 2024
- The RIBA 2+ design phase - the concept design - completed by early October
- RIBA 3 will begin immediately to develop the detailed design
- Tendering for any proposed demolition will start before the end of October 2024, along with applying for any relevant demolition planning consent
- Works will commence in early 2025 and last up to three years

## LHP services at a glance

- Aim to be the first purpose built GiRFT-accredited surgical hub in Wales, delivering high volume low complexity surgery
- Endoscopy unit designed to meet Joint Advisory Group on GI Endoscopy (JAG) accreditation
- Arthroplasty (joint replacement) unit and same-day/out-patient surgery
- Clinical diagnostic hub

## Designing for the future

Ensuring the success of the LHP programme goes beyond the physical infrastructure of the site. The team have been working to identify and plan facilities that match current and projected population needs, while delivering first class patient outcomes and services.

Paul Mears, Senior Responsible Officer, LHP Programme, explains: "Our plans take account of the latest clinical developments from global leaders. We're not looking to replicate existing services, but to redesign clinical pathways to provide 'best-in-class' services. We will innovate and prioritise optimal patient outcomes, clinical efficiency, safety and resilience.

"We've completed fact-finding visits to other exceptional planned care centres in the UK, and are combining this learning with research from UK and international organisations.

"The insights we generate are helping develop care models that refine clinical pathways, working practices and introduce more standardisation. The aim is improved patient experience, reduced hospital stays and minimising waste.

"Form follows function, and the clinical models will define the physical infrastructure we provide on the site," concludes Paul.

LHP will develop over time. The initial phase will include day surgery and orthopaedics capacity, plus endoscopy services with an endoscopy training academy, and radiography.

The development has flexibility built in, so the capacity of the site can be maximised and additional services added-in according to the needs of regional partners.