Stakeholder briefing

We are delighted to announce that from next week the NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol will be used to deliver outpatient services and day case services to support children and adults from across the south-west region.

As you know, shortly before we moved into standby at the end of June, we began discussions with our NHS colleagues across the region about how we could best use our facilities to support their clinical and non-clinical work.

Over the summer we have been able to host a number of meetings and provide clinical facilities for simulation and clinical skills training to support our network hospitals.

We are very pleased that we are now able to provide our clinical space to colleagues from University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW) to assess and treat patients.

Tim Whittlestone, Chief Medical Officer, NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol, said: "The NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol will shortly begin hosting outpatient clinics and day case services so that the NHS in the region has capacity to provide routine care and treat those with Covid-19.

"Our hospital will remain on standby to treat critically ill people with Covid-19 if needed, and we would like to thank our hosts at the University of West of England (UWE Bristol) for their continued support."

The NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol is a purpose-built intensive care unit designed to provide the highest level of specialist care for critically ill patients with Covid-19 and remains on standby, ready to support NHS hospitals in the region if needed.

While on standby, the NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol will provide additional capacity to support resilience in the region as a facility to assess and treat non-Covid-19 day patients.

Treatment offered at the hospital will include a paediatric day case service for patients from Bristol Royal Hospital for Children (BRHC) as well as a new high-volume eye diagnostic assessment hub for patients at Bristol Eye Hospital (BEH). No inpatient or Covid-19 care will be undertaken at the hospital at the same time as these services, and the facility will remain ready to quickly revert back to an intensive care Covid-19 hospital, if needed based on expert local clinical advice.

Dr William Oldfield, Medical Director, University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust which runs BRHC and BEH, said: "We're delighted to be working with the NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol on this temporary measure which will allow us to see as many patients as possible at BRHC, BEH or at the Nightingale, while maintaining social distancing and stopping the spread of the virus.

"The NHS Nightingale Hospital Bristol will not treat any Covid-19 patients while hosting outpatient and day case services, and patients will be cared for by the same clinical teams as they normally would to ensure that the high quality care we strive for is maintained regardless of the location.

"While these services are being provided at the Nightingale, other services are continuing to be provided at BEH and BRHC, so if you or your child is booked for an appointment please check the location on your appointment letter."

Please note: during standby our stakeholder briefings will be fortnightly.

24 November 2020