

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust

Report to Harrow Overview and Scrutiny Committee

March 2008

Redevelopment of the hospital

RNOH received some excellent news last month, confirmation that the London Strategic Health Authority, *NHS London*, supports the redevelopment of the Stanmore site as the preferred option for the hospital. They were also absolutely clear that no alternative options would now be pursued. Specifically, this means that the proposal made earlier in the year to move RNOH to the Royal Free hospital in Hampstead is no longer an option under consideration.

This is fantastic news and it demonstrates confidence in the model of care that we have for specialist orthopaedics and in particular recognition of the high standard of care we deliver to patients with very complex needs.

There is still a lot of work to be done before we can start the new hospital and our priority at the moment is to complete the outline business case for submission to the Strategic Health Authority by the end of April 2008. There will then follow a period of about two years of detailed planning prior to the start of construction. Our plans are for a new building to accommodate all of the hospital wards, operating theatres and imaging facilities. This will be placed adjacent to the existing outpatient department which will be refurbished. This will place the whole of the hospital immediately adjacent to the Aspire national training centre so that patients can get easy access to the fantastic facilities within that building. We intend to sell surplus land at the East and West end of the site.

NHS Foundation Trust application

RNOH is pursuing its NHS Foundation Trust application and we are currently working towards an authorisation date of April 2009. The financial turnaround within the Trust during the last 12 months has placed us in a very strong position in relation to this application. We anticipate finishing the year with a £1 million surplus at the end of March 2008.

In the meantime, we are continuing to recruit new members to join the Foundation Trust and at the moment we have 1600 members signed up.

We are very much looking forward to achieving NHS Foundation Trust status to strengthen our relationship with local residents, current and former patients and others who support the provision of specialist orthopaedic services. We believe that this will help us secure the long-term future of the hospital. We very much appreciate the continued support of the Harrow Overview and Scrutiny Committee in delivering these two important priorities for the hospital.

Andrew Woodhead
March 2008