

**06 December 2021**

## **Community Diagnostic Centre Update**

The first Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC), previously known as a Community Diagnostic Hub, for Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin (STW) is currently going through the design stage, and construction is expected to begin before the end of the year.

The proposal is to transform diagnostic services through the introduction of CDCs based on a national recommendation following Sir Mike Richards' [review of diagnostic capacity](#) (2020).

It will see elective diagnostic tests delivered away from acute hospital sites and separately from urgent diagnostic scans. This will help reduce waiting times for non-urgent tests and the risk of cancellations, improving patient experience and outcomes.

STW has been successful in being allocated £4.5 million of capital funding from the government to develop and open a pilot CDC in the Telford area. The capital funding is backed up by an initial revenue fund of more than £2.4 million.

### **Key information**

- ▶ Why Telford? Telford is within 10% of the most deprived areas in England and Wales meaning it is a location with high health inequalities.
- ▶ What do people think about it? Early engagement work has taken place, with nearly 1,300 responses to our questionnaire which fed into the business case:
  - ▶ Four out of five people (80%) agreed that there is a need for CDCs in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin
  - ▶ 82% of people agreed the NHS should invest in CDCs
  - ▶ 76% of people stated that it would make it easier for patients to access services.
- ▶ What will be included in a CDC? Proposed services and equipment in our first CDC include:
  - ▶ CT (a series of X-ray images taken from different angles around the body)
  - ▶ Non Obstetric Ultrasound Scans (non-invasive scans)
  - ▶ X-Ray
  - ▶ ECG (Electrocardiograms)
  - ▶ Clinic rooms
  - ▶ Phlebotomy (blood tests).

### **Next steps**

- ▶ Working groups have been set up and are meeting weekly. These include: Workforce; Estates; Digital; and Clinical (pathways design).
- ▶ A site has now been identified for the CDC on Stafford Park 1 in the TF3 area of Telford, approximately 1 mile from the town centre.

- ▶ Work has started on the design, involving those who will be using the building, and detailed plans are being finalised.
- ▶ Construction and development of the first CDC is due to begin before the end of the year.
- ▶ A new diagnostic suite is currently being built on the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital site, the first step in separating elective from urgent scans.
- ▶ Subject to engagement, we are proposing to site three further CDCs in the county over the next 4 to 5 years (Shrewsbury, North Shropshire and South Shropshire).