

PARTNERSHIP FOR HEALTH



FRIENDS OF DAVENPORT HOUSE

BULLETIN NO 2—APRIL 2019

Future of Hospital Services in West Hertfordshire

It is widely accepted that hospital provision in west Hertfordshire at Watford General and Hemel Hempstead and St Albans Hospitals is below par and a major injection of capital in new buildings is required. A maximum budget to meet this need has been set at £350 million.

A long process of consultation has led to four options. All assume that **acute and emergency services** will be provided at Watford General while **planned medical and surgical care** will either be shared at Hemel and St Albans, or concentrated on one of these sites, or provided on a brand new site. There remains much to play for and you can record your views via the Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group website.

The decision to locate acute and emergency services at Watford General only serves to emphasise the importance of Luton and Dunstable Hospital to residents in the Harpenden area.

Come to the meeting being organised by Friends of Davenport House in the **Harpenden Public Hall** on **Monday 13 May at 7.30pm** to hear and ask questions about the services available to you at Luton and Dunstable Hospital (see full advertisement overleaf).

NHS Long-Term Plan

Now the Government has committed an extra £20 billion to the NHS over the next few years, the NHS is seeking patients' views on what its priorities should be. Healthwatch Hertfordshire is collating patients' views in Hertfordshire on behalf of the NHS with two surveys, one on general experience and the other on views on specific illnesses and long-term conditions. For further information go to <https://www.healthwatchhertfordshire.co.uk/surveys/nhs-long-term-plan/>

Help Required

The recent reorganisation of the PPG led to the creation of the charity, Friends of Davenport House, with six trustees elected at the AGM. This is a good number of trustees and we do not wish to increase it at present. Instead, we are looking for a number of members prepared to do small jobs to make us more effective in serving our members. None of these are very time consuming and can be done in your own time. Anyone interested please contact me on rjcmunton@outlook.com



- Someone to help John Harris, as required, to produce the online Bulletin. It is a matter of providing assistance when John is very busy (he is also Treasurer!) or on holiday.
- Someone to help me arrange the three education meetings we hold each year. We are largely set up for this year.
- We have links with four other health bodies which produce monthly newsletters (National Association of Patient Participation- NAPP; St Albans and Harpenden Patient Group – SAPG; Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group – HVCCG; Hertfordshire Healthwatch). We need four members to read one newsletter each and when appropriate write a very short piece (3 paragraphs at most) on a topic of interest to members (2 hours a month?). Each organisation also holds meetings which you could attend if you so wished but you are under no obligation to do so.

Richard Munton
Chair

FRIENDS OF DAVENPORT HOUSE

HEALTH MATTERS!



LUTON &
DUNSTABLE
UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL

CLINICAL EXCELLENCE, QUALITY & SAFETY

**Simon Linnett, Chairman of the L&D tells
us all about the latest developments at
our successful Hospital**

**MONDAY 13 MAY
AT
HARPENDEN PUBLIC HALLS
*STARTING AT 8.00 PM***

(Doors open at 7.30pm)

Free and open to all in the Harpenden area

**Simon Linnett will be accompanied by Liz
Lees, Chief Nurse.**

**We will hear about rebuilding plans for
the hospital and the possible merger with
Bedford Hospital, all in the context of the
new National Health Plan**