

17

Maternal And Child Health

The Future
of Glasgow's
Hospital Services



Let's Plan It
Together!



**GREATER GLASGOW
HEALTH BOARD**

in partnership with
the NHS Trusts
in Glasgow

The Yorkhill NHS Trust comprises Scotland's biggest children's hospital (Royal Hospital for Sick Children), one of Glasgow's principal maternity centres (Queen Mother's Hospital), and the community child health services for Glasgow. In addition Yorkhill is the site of highly specialised services such as Foetal Medicine (babies before they are born), Bone-Marrow and Kidney Transplantation and the National Centre for Paediatric Cardiac Surgery.

The Health Board has decided to take the opportunity to explore the provision of a new Maternity and Children's Hospital as part of the reconfigured health service in Glasgow. There would be a period of 7 to 10 years before building was completed.

Why is this worth thinking about now?

- By 2010 most of the buildings at Yorkhill will be 40 to 50 years old. We would need to be thinking then about how to create a "new Yorkhill". Failure to do that then would mean that the next generation of children would be condemned to using buildings that had been designed in the 1960s - an era when hospital

services were very different from what they will be in the future.

- The Yorkhill site is cramped. The hospitals on it cannot be replaced there properly without knocking them down first!
- Piecemeal replacement of parts of the hospitals on the small Yorkhill site would condemn staff and patients to being among a building site for many years..... and it would be almost impossible to produce a highly effective modern design in a piecemeal development.
- So - why not think about creating a fully up-to-date replacement with stronger links with other services in one single building contract and with no building site disruption to the Yorkhill site itself?

The Yorkhill NHS Trust welcomes the opportunity to investigate the option of relocating to a new site in Glasgow.

Staff within the Trust will work with patients and their families and all other interested parties in considering this and other alternative options. We can then start to set out in more detail how we feel health needs of children and mothers can best be provided for in the future.

As Yorkhill currently provides many national and regional services for mothers and children we are aware that any proposals for the future will also be of widespread interest to the public throughout Scotland.

Medical care is continuously developing and this has implications for where and how mothers and children are treated. Our vision is to deliver the best health care in the most appropriate setting. Patients and their families tell us that where it is safe to do so they would like to be cared for in the community, close to where they live, or better still in their home. However, there are patients who require access to more sophisticated investigation or surgical or medical treatment that can only be provided by a concentration of highly trained staff and resources in a hospital setting. Such care should be provided in modern, fit for purpose facilities equipped and designed to meet the challenges of leading-edge clinical care in a safe child and family-friendly environment.

The proposal contained in the modernisation plan is to transfer all services provided by Yorkhill into a

first class new children's hospital in association with an adult hospital service on the same site within the next 7 - 10 years. Further work needs to be done to consider whether it would make sense to create a new maternity hospital at the Southern General as part of that scheme or whether the service can function satisfactorily with the maternity service remaining elsewhere on the Southern General Hospital site in its existing relatively modern accommodation (which would be big enough).

Some advantages of locating these services on the same site will be:

- The ability to share and access clinical expertise and knowledge more easily.
- Further integration between Yorkhill and children's Neurosurgery, Ear Nose and Throat and Facial Surgery services.
- The opportunity to site Accident & Emergency services for children alongside one of Glasgow's two planned adult trauma units, ensuring that all children are treated in a child friendly environment. (None of Glasgow's present A&E Departments has this paediatric support at present.)

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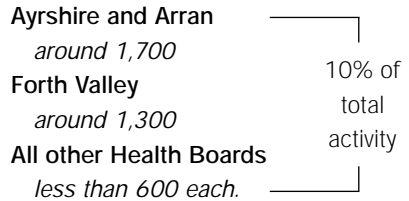
- The possibility of developing specialised adolescent services. (At the moment adolescents are treated on adult medical and surgical wards in Glasgow Hospitals. This proposal would allow us to offer a service specifically designed for adolescents.)
- The sharing of some support services.

Any option for the future location of the services currently provided by Yorkhill must ensure that:

- Effective integration between Maternity and Children's services is maintained.
- Clinical excellence and leading-edge service developments continue.
- Teaching and Research flourish.
- The child centred separate identity of a children's hospital is preserved.
- Services for mothers and children continue to thrive and develop during the interim period.

The Yorkhill Trust provides a mixture of local, regional and national services. Greater Glasgow Health Board residents are the major users - around 43,000 (in-patients, day cases and new out-patients) in 1998/99 (67% of total activity). The next biggest numbers of users are around 9,000

from Lanarkshire (14% of total activity) and 5,500 from Argyll and Clyde (9%). Other Health Boards' numbers are:



Accessibility to Yorkhill at present is reasonably straightforward by car, (but car parking is limited), or else involves combinations of trains (via Partick), underground (via Kelvinhall) or bus. Accessibility to the Southern General will not be significantly more difficult for those travelling by car (and car parking will be easier). Public transport access via the underground (to Govan and then short bus ride to the Southern General) will, for very many people, be no more difficult than current access to Yorkhill. The present in-patient attendances at Yorkhill by Glasgow residents show that most people are already used to travelling from widely around the Greater Glasgow area, using several bus routes and changing buses to complete their journey.

An 'Evening Times' story on 21st March, 2000 identified that the bus journey from the city centre to the Southern General (mid-morning) was 23 minutes, which is no more than 15 minutes longer than it would take from the city centre to Yorkhill (where the journey would conclude with a walk up the hill from Argyle Street).

Initial reaction to the suggestion of building a new Children's Hospital at the Southern General has - very understandably - emphasised the supreme importance of retaining the spirit and child-centred focus that the Royal Hospital for Sick Children provides. **We absolutely agree.** What is proposed is the **same set of services, provided by the same staff** but in a completely new children's hospital building better

connected to some services where the child-centred focus is currently weak (such as neurosciences, Southside ENT and services for children who currently attend an adult Accident and Emergency Department). Residential accommodation for parents wanting to stay near their children will also be provided on site to ensure continuation of the excellent support currently provided by Ronald McDonald House.

Comments on this issue or any other aspect of the proposals to modernise Glasgow's hospital services should be sent by June 30th, 2000 to

John C Hamilton
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Glasgow
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Leaflet request form

Getting Informed

If you want to read up on any other issue please complete this leaflet request form. Tick the box next to the leaflets you want, provide your name and address in the space provided and send it to the Freepost address below (no stamp needed).

**Acute Services Review
Greater Glasgow Health Board
FREEPOST (GW 707)
Glasgow G3 8BR**

- 1. The Patient's Experience
- 2. Getting It Right For Patients: What It Means For Organising Services
- 3. Cancer Services: Specialisation In Action
- 4. Why Specialisation Matters - And What We Propose To Do To Make Its Benefits More Available
- 5. Creating More Responsive Accident And Emergency Services
- 6. Ambulatory Care: What Is It?
- 7. Minimally Invasive Technologies: Keyhole Surgery And The Like
- 8. The Overall Planning Challenge For Greater Glasgow - Acute Hospitals In A Wider Context
- 9. Some Recent Background History
- 10. Impact Of Regulations On Doctors' Working Hours

- 11. The Number Of Beds We Propose To Provide
- 12. Regional Services Provided By Glasgow Hospitals
- 13. Why Teaching And Research Matters
- 14. Staffing Matters
- 15. How The Finance Works
- 16. Detailed Analysis Of The Options For South Glasgow
- 17. Maternal And Child Health
- 18. Better Access For West Glasgow Residents
- 19. The GRI/Stobhill Partnership
- 20. Why Centralise Cardiothoracic Surgery?
- 21. Radiotherapy: Linear Accelerators - A Patient's Guide

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