NHS

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Final countdown to opening of £7.5 million St Luke's Treatment Centre

The countdown is on to the opening of the new £7.5 million St Luke's Treatment Centre in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, with final preparations being made this week ready to welcome the first patients through the doors.

NHS healthcare services provided by 'Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Alliance' and Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) are transferring to the new facility this week from the nearby Market Harborough District Hospital, ready for full opening from Tuesday, 7 March.

The ground floor of the building will house the St Luke's branch surgery of Market Harborough Medical Centre which also opens its doors for the first time on Tuesday, 7 March.

The Minor Injuries Unit, currently located at Market Harborough and District Hospital, will open on Tuesday, 7 March at the new Treatment Centre, transferring from the district hospital after it closes for the last time at 9pm on 6 March.

All organisations continue to work closely together to ensure as little disruption as possible to patients during the transition period. Where it has been necessary to move an appointment to the new building, patients have already been rebooked into the new facility or offered appointments at alternative clinics.

Patients arriving at the Treatment Centre will be welcomed at a bright and airy main reception and waiting room.

Dr Richard Palin, Chair of East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "St Luke's Treatment Centre will provide state-of-the-art facilities for patients in Market Harborough and the surrounding areas. This facility brings vital healthcare services together under one roof, and we're delighted to be opening the doors to patients in the coming days."

Dr Noel O'Kelly, clinical director for Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, added: "We are very pleased to be moving into the Treatment Centre, which is a fantastic resource for the people of Harborough. This will give us up-to-date, high quality accommodation for the range of services that we provide from LPT, working in conjunction with GPs and other NHS organisations."

The new facility is a result of a partnership between East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Property Services, NHS England and NHS healthcare providers and was built by Morgan Sindall.



Alasdair White, head of Construction Project Management at NHS Property Services, said "We're proud to see this building welcome its first patients in coming days and I'd like to thank our NHS and developer partners for their hard work in creating this excellent facility."

Dr Fiona Bishop, Senior Partner at the Market Harborough Medical Centre, added: "We're really looking forward to the opening of the practice's St Luke's Branch surgery, which is a wonderful facility for our patients."

NHS Property Services and East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG have confirmed that it will be called St Luke's Treatment Centre and the building is located next to the existing St Luke's Hospital on Leicester Road.

Elliot Howard-Jones, Director of Commissioning Operations for NHS England (Central Midlands) said: "This is one of the NHS's biggest investments in planned care in the locality, and I am delighted that the people of Market Harborough and surrounding communities will now benefit from these excellent new healthcare facilities."

On arrival, patients should report to reception on the ground floor, where receptionists will direct them to the right place.

A formal opening ceremony is planned for later in the year.

The St Luke's Treatment Centre will offer much-needed modern healthcare accommodation. It will enable integrated service teams to be created by bringing together clinical services – including mental health clinics – that are currently dispersed throughout the area.

Other services on the ground floor include and a new X-ray suite and physiotherapy facilities.

The first floor of the building features 20 consulting rooms that will be used for outpatient services provided by local NHS healthcare partnership, 'Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Alliance' and Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT), including specially equipped podiatry rooms and a base for the district nurse team. There will also be a separate reception and waiting area.

The second floor of the building will provide office space for LPT and the Alliance with facilities including hot-desks and staff amenities.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

About St Luke's Treatment Centre

The new facility will enable patients to be treated locally, without the need to travel to Kettering or Leicester, and will be vital to meeting the healthcare needs of an ageing and increasing population. The provision of effective and convenient primary and community care services will also support patients to better manage their own conditions, thereby reducing the need for hospital care.

The build programme was completed to schedule in December 2016 and was handed over to the owner, NHS Property Services. The final, current phase involves the providers of the health services working closely together to ensure that the appropriate equipment is in place, and that a smooth and efficient transfer takes place from the current base at Market Harborough and District Hospital. Some landscaping works will be undertaken into April 2017.

The 2,150sqm accommodation, procured through the East Midlands Property Alliance (EMPA) framework, has been designed to high industry standards to ensure it is efficient to run and fully accessible for disabled people.

Modern features include photo-voltaic cells to use the flat roof space to off-set the costs of running the building, natural ventilation to rooms, and a window and 'brise soleil' sun shading system strategically positioned on the south elevation.

The clinical floors are served by two lifts, one of which is a stretcher bed lift, and three staircases while each storey has a colour scheme – green on the ground, blue on the middle and purple on the upper floor.

The St Luke's site will have more than 100 parking spaces for staff and patients, up on the cumulative previous totals of St Luke's and the district hospital. Five of these are allocated as disabled parking at the front of the building and there is also a drop-off area.

An external area has also been retained for the mobile breast screening service.

Formed by local authorities in the East Midlands and managed by Scape Group, EMPA improves the procurement and delivery of construction projects for public sector bodies, saving them – and the taxpayer – time and money. A number of local companies have been involved in the project as sub-contractors.

The building was designed by architects at Pick Everard, supported by project management by Faithful+Gould while Edge PS was the cost advisor.

NHS Property Services, which owns the freehold on the building, is currently finalising leases with the occupiers of the new building.



About NHS Property Services

NHS Property Services brings property and facilities management expertise to the NHS estate. At a time of major change and increasing demand for the NHS, the organisation is reducing costs, creating a more fit-for-purpose estate and generating vital funds that are being reinvested to support improvements in frontline patient care.

The property portfolio consists of 3,500 buildings – worth over £3 billion – which represents around 10 percent of the entire NHS estate. The vast majority of sites are used for clinical, local healthcare and fall into one of three categories: health centres and GP surgeries; hospitals/hospital-related properties; and offices.

The company has a major role as both landlord and service provider for our NHS customers. Our services fall into four main business areas: Strategic estates planning, asset management; construction project management; and facilities management services.

For more information, contact Alex Cameron, Communications Manager, on 01823 361375 or 07990 848906. For urgent out-of-hours media enquiries relating to NHS Property Services, please email media.enquiries@property.nhs.uk

See www.property.nhs.uk and follow us on Twitter @NHSProperty

About East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group

East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group (ELR CCG) was created under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The ELR CCG represents 32 GP practices serving more than 315,000 patients in Melton, Rutland, Market Harborough, Blaby District, Lutterworth, and Oadby and Wigston. CCGs plan and purchase acute and community hospital care along with mental healthcare and other allied services. NHS England plans and purchases GP services, pharmacies, dentists, opticians and specialised commissioning services. From 1 April 2015 East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG has shared some of the commissioning responsibilities for its local GP services with NHS England.

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About Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust



Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides community health, mental health and learning disabilities services for the one million people living in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

We have a budget in excess of £275 million and employ approximately 5,500 staff. For more information visit: www.leicspart.nhs.uk.

About NHS England

NHS England leads the National Health Service (NHS) in England. We set the priorities and direction of the NHS and encourage and inform the national debate to improve health and care.

For further information, please e-mail england.memedia@nhs.net or call 0113 825 3433.