

Stakeholder Briefing

February 2023

Investment in urgent care services in Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland moves a step closer

INVESTMENT in urgent care services in Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland has moved a step closer.

In August 2022, the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) launched an 11-week programme of patient engagement on proposals to improve urgent care services by introducing an Integrated Urgent Care model at James Cook University Hospital and extending the opening hours of the Redcar Primary Care Hospital's Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC).

The plans will also see the GP Out of Hours Service permanently move from North Ormesby to the James Cook site.

Results from the patient engagement saw overwhelming support for the proposals, with 83% of survey respondents in favour.

Health chiefs plan to introduce the proposals in a phased approach, subject to approval from the ICB Executive meeting on 14 February 2023.

The aim of the ICB is to introduce a phased approach to the proposals so that improvements are in place in time for winter of 2023, to ease pressure on services that this winter have come under significant pressure due to flu and COVID.

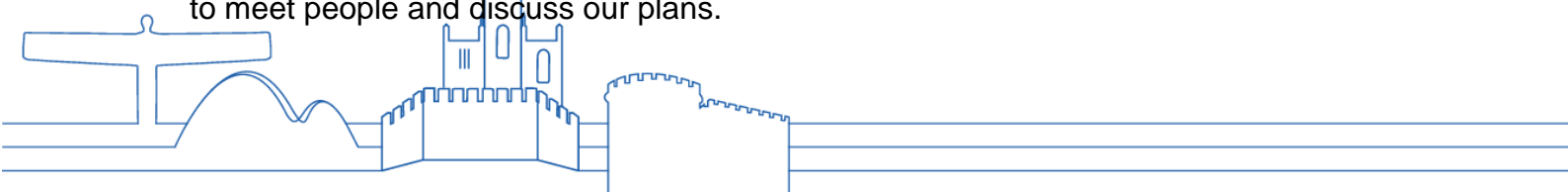
Phase one will see a procurement exercise take place to seek a provider for an Integrated GP Out of Hours Service, which is anticipated will be in place for winter 2023.

Extended opening hours at Redcar Primary Care Hospital's UTC is also expected to be phased in, in readiness for winter 2023.

The final phase will see work progress with South Tees NHS Foundation Trust on the development of an integrated UTC at the James Cook University Hospital.

Craig Blair, Director of Place (Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland) for the North East and North Cumbria ICB said: "We are absolutely delighted with the response from local people to our engagement activity.

"This was the first time we have planned any engagement since COVID and it was good to get out and about across the Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland area to meet people and discuss our plans.



"While we are really pleased with the positive response to our plans, we will take on board feedback from people around access to services and issues such as parking and public transport as our plans develop further.

"The aim of our phased approach is to ensure we have some planned improvements in place in time for the winter of 2023/24 to ease pressure on our already stretched health and social care system so that people can be treated in the right place, at the right time for their clinical needs."

For more information, please email necsu.icb.involvement@nhs.net.

