

- 1. Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals and Queen Victoria Hospital – clinical and academic partnership and merger option**
- 1.1 BSUH's ambition is to become a leading UK teaching hospital: the academic base and the critical care, tertiary and trauma centre for the south east of England.
- 1.2 QVH provides specialist services for burns, reconstructive and maxillofacial surgery. As the major Trauma Centre for the region, BSUH needs to have these services available for its patients. Rather than competing with a world-class service on its doorstep, BSUH established a clinical and academic partnership with QVH in early 2008 to provide the best care for patients. BSUH and QVH have since entered into further discussions about working even more closely to deliver improved tertiary and trauma services for patients from the south east of England and to strengthen our teaching and research capabilities.
- 1.3 QVH is a small, specialist organisation with a wealth of clinical expertise and an international reputation. Its size, however, is making bearing its own capital, regulatory, support service and corporate governance costs increasingly problematic, and alongside this, the need to modernise the QVH estate (including plans to provide a new surgical centre on the East Grinstead campus) is becoming more pressing. As BSUH moves forward its plans to modernise the Royal Sussex County Hospital and strengthen and broaden what it provides at the Princess Royal Hospital, a closer alliance with QVH would bring many benefits for us and especially for the people of Mid-and North Sussex.
- 1.4 BSUH and QVH are therefore exploring the possibility of a merger, the terms of which would be dependent on securing and improving what could be provided for the long-term benefit of patients. The QVH Board of Directors is also considering alternatives in parallel with talking to BSUH. Any decisions will be properly debated and tested by both Boards, South East Coast Strategic Health Authority and GP commissioners.
- 1.5 In the first instance, a decision on whether or not to pursue a merger will be taken by the Boards of QVH and BSUH by the beginning of August 2010. In the event that a merger is not pursued, then BSUH will immediately progress its application for NHS Foundation Trust status in its own right with a planned authorisation by Monitor, the Foundation Trust Regulator, in April 2011.

Alex Sienkiewicz
Director of Corporate Affairs

6 July 2010

2. 3Ts development

- 2.1 Since the last HOSC update on the 3Ts Programme (27 January 2010), members will be aware that BSUH has been provided with sufficient resource to progress the design of the 3Ts facilities to the point at which a Full Planning Application can be submitted.
- 2.2 BSUH, working closely with Council Officers, intends to submit the Planning Application just before Christmas 2010. As part of the Pre-Application process, BSUH is drawing up a detailed plan for consultation, communication and engagement with local consultees.
- 2.3 Subject to the outcome of the determination of the application, major demolition work will start in September/October 2011, with completion of the first main stage of development in 2015.

Duane Passman
Director of 3Ts, Estates and Facilities

6 July 2010