

Stirling Care Village Frequently Asked Questions (January 2015)

1. What is a care village?

In this case, it is a campus of health and social care services.

2. Who is involved?

NHS Forth Valley, Stirling Council, Scottish Ambulance Service, Forth Valley College and third sector partners.

3. Where will it be and what services/facilities will be offered at Stirling Care Village?

The Care Village will be developed on the Stirling Community Hospital site.

In the 'Care Hub' there will be integrated health and social care services mainly for older people. These include services for older people who require additional short-term care, an assessment or rehabilitation following an illness, an operation or an acute hospital admission. The 'Care Hub' would also provide specialist support for patients with dementia and those who require palliative and end of life care. Services would be delivered in a modern, purpose-built facility with more than 100 short stay care beds.

In the 'Primary Care Building' there will be four GP Practices (Viewfield, Park Avenue, Park Terrance and the Wallace Practices), Community Nursing, a Minor Injuries Unit, GP Out of Hours services, X-Ray facilities and a local base for the Scottish Ambulance Service..

Other new buildings will house an 'Energy Centre' for the Care Hub and Primary Care Building and a vehicle workshop for the Ambulance Service.

All other Community Hospital services, including a wide range of outpatient clinics, will continue to be provided on the site.

4. Who will use the Care Village?

The majority of services will be for older people living in Stirling and the surrounding area but some, Community Hospital services and the Minor Injuries Unit, will continue to see patients from across Forth Valley.

5. What is happening to Stirling Council's Care Homes?

The Council intends to transfer the assessment service from their four existing care homes to the new 'Care Hub' and externally commission long term care and respite beds in the independent and voluntary sectors. Longer term use of the care home buildings is still under consideration by Stirling Council.

6. Will there be any more services coming to the site?

There are no plans to transfer additional services, however, the use of buildings and facilities across NHS Forth Valley are reviewed on a regular basis to make best use of existing accommodation. The Clinical Services Review, which is currently underway to develop a new healthcare strategy, will also help identify future service requirements across Forth Valley.

7. Why is the Scottish Ambulance Service moving to the site, will that have an impact on local residents?

The Scottish Ambulance Service's current premises, at the Riverside site, are no longer fit for purpose and joint working has identified the case for their co-location with other services on the Care Village site. It is not anticipated that there will be any detrimental impact from the Service's move to the site.

8. What are the timescales for the Care Village and when will it open?

The current programme sees construction commencing in July 2015 and completing in August 2017. The facilities will open as soon as possible after the buildings are complete.

9. How much will the Care Village cost and how is it being funded?

The construction cost of the Care Village is c£33m and this will be funded by finance found by the development partner (Hub East Central Scotland Ltd), the project being Design Build Finance and Maintain (DBFM). Furniture and Equipment and other miscellaneous costs will be funded separately by the partners.

10. Will there be sufficient staff/patient/visitor car parking?

It is anticipated that a parking management strategy will be developed and implemented to ensure that shorter stay parking, primarily for patients and visitors, is prioritised and protected.

11. What will happen to the rest of the Community Hospital site?

The remaining area has been identified as being surplus to NHS requirements and some of the land could be developed in the future for housing, including a range of accommodation for older people.