

# Astley Ainslie Hospital

## Community Consultation Disposal Commitment

### Introduction

The Astley Ainslie Hospital has now been declared surplus to NHS Lothian clinical strategy requirements. Services are being relocated as part of the closure process, the majority most within the nearby Royal Edinburgh Hospital campus. As part of the process of disposing of surplus assets NHS Lothian is committing to engaging with all key stakeholders, including the general public, MSP's Councilors, CEC planning department, Historic Environment Scotland and other interest groups to collate ideas and issues that are of importance to the community.

### Purpose of document

With service re-provision still at the planning stage there is a substantial period available for community engagement prior to any disposal route being implemented. Meetings have already been held with local Community Council representatives, MSP's and the general public. The purpose of this document is to confirm NHS Lothian's commitment to on-going engagement and to suggest a plan for the nature of this engagement and the documentation that will demonstrate the prioritised outcomes which will inform a disposal. This information will be used to create the criteria which all parties will use to establish the re-use of the land and buildings. It will form the basis of a document creating the most important development parameters for the site.

This document will be formalised by way of a Development Brief containing all main development aspects and will be offered to CEC planning department for endorsement

### Engagement commitment

- Inclusion – NHS Lothian is seeking to engage with all stakeholders to provide the widest range of interests the opportunity to provide their opinions.
- Support – NHS Lothian will provide venues for the agreed meetings and will facilitate these meeting, stimulating debate and documenting the benefits and concerns of those engaging.
- Planning – the agreed formats and time scales will be planned and managed to ensure all parties have the opportunity to make their views known. This will involve advice from consultants procured by NHS Lothian but will not seek to restrict or curtail any input from stakeholders but to assist with processing information and producing a document which is fair and factual
- Work Together – NHS Lothian is taking a collaborative approach to establishing priorities for the site and will be open and transparent in the collating and production of all views on a factual basis
- Methods of engagement – the Community Council Representatives will be asked to provide a scope of how they wish the engagement to be carried out. This can

include the use of focus groups such as the current Community Council meeting and regular MSP and local CEC Councilor up-dates, the use of social media via a dedicated web site for information provision and public meetings facilitated by qualified professionals

- Communication – ensure that there is a readily accessible route for communication which is available to all and easily understood.

### **Time scales**

These are high level indicative time frames which are adjustable developments during the process and are flexible to incorporate any agreed amendments

- Re-provision of services/site sold – 2023
- Initial community agreement to format of engagement – Summer 2018
- Implement initial community engagement plan – Autumn 2018 - Winter 2019
- Produce, agree and achieve documentation – summer 2020
- Marketing commencement – Autumn 2020
- Select a preferred purchaser – Spring 2021
- Purchaser takes over as lead and continues engagement with stakeholders, developing proposals and procuring consents required for them to purchase the site – Spring/summer 2021 - winter 2022/spring 2023