Sharing the plans of our new state-of-the-art hospital

Your first look at our new hospital

Figure 1 blue box with sketches of the new hospital

Designed for the Future

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a state-of-the-art new hospital for
the people we serve across West and North Yorkshire and East Lancashire. We urgently need to build a new hospital as most of the current building was constructed using Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC), which has a limited life and must be completely replaced as soon as possible.

But we are not simply replacing a building - we are designing a hospital for the future and transforming how we provide care and services for our communities.

By incorporating international best practice and innovation, we are creating a hospital we can all be proud of.

Site overview

Figure 2 an image showing a map of the hospital

- Proposed new hospital and supporting buildings (multistorey car park, substation, nursery)
- Current non-RAAC buildings to be used part of the new hospital
- Areas still to be decided as part of site plans
- Proposed road and additional parking
- Proposed green space
- Proposed plant/hospital infrastructure.

Key considerations

- We have limited options for how and where we build the new hospital.
- Our current site is the only feasible option to build the hospital within the required timescale
- We need to build the new hospital as quickly as possible, so are doing this as a single-phase build
- We have to keep the current hospital running while we build the new one.
- As part of the national New Hospital Programme, we are using the Hospital 2.0 blueprint, which has fixed sizes for all clinical areas and criteria for where certain services have to be positioned within the hospital.

Our new Airedale Hospital is designed to:

Transform Care - the new building will enable us to develop and improve services for patients, supporting the use of new technology

and innovations in care. This will include expanding same day emergency care, new ways of delivering planned procedures to reduce the need for hospital stays and waiting times and doing more minor procedures in outpatients.

Improve patient and visitor experience - a light, bright and accessible building that will make it easier and quicker for people to get to the care they need. It will offer greater privacy and dignity for patients and support greater involvement of families.

Support effective and efficient care - a simpler lay-out, bringing together services that need to work closely to reduce transfer times between departments and making it as quick and easy as possible for patients to get the care they need.

Meet our communities' needs - the hospital will have the flexibility to meet the needs of our diverse communities and our growing and

ageing population. This includes larger clinical areas to meet modern healthcare needs and improved accessibility.

Enhance green space - creating as much green space as possible and enhancing the biodiversity that makes our site so special. We are also looking at ways to better connect the site to the local area and improve pedestrian and cycling links.

Harness the benefits of our rural setting - there are proven links between calming environments and patient recovery times and the design will make the most of the views of the rural landscape and provide spaces for calm reflection.

Maximise the benefits of new technology and innovation - we are building a “smart” hospital that will make the best use of digital technology to help deliver care and manage the building.

Be sustainable and environmentally friendly - designed to meet NHS Net Zero building standards, low carbon and sustainable materials will be used in our new hospital, wherever possible.

State-of-the-art design

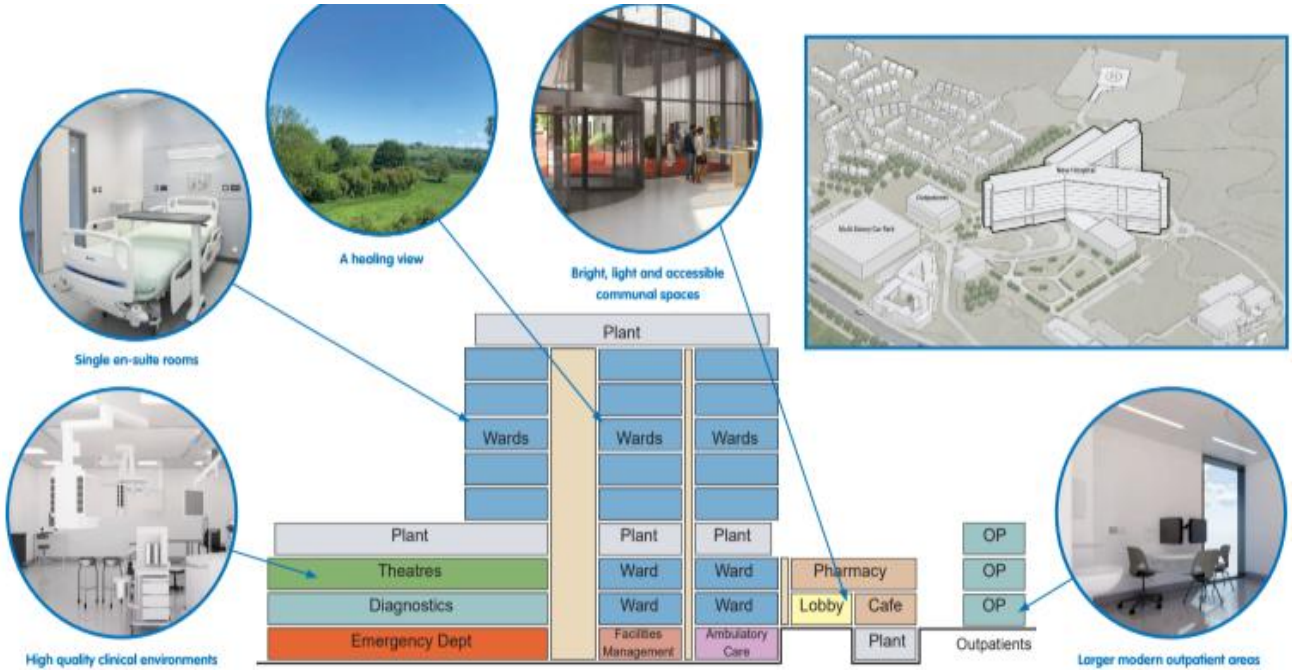

Figure 3 Image showing pictures of what the hospital will look like

We are designing a hospital for the future - one that is very different from what we have now and one that will work in a very different way too. As part of the New Hospital Programme, we are using the national Hospital 2.0 blueprint. This has been developed with input from

clinicians, healthcare staff and patients from across the country and includes standard templates for wards, theatres and treatment rooms. It incorporates the latest innovations and best practice to ensure:

- The best clinical outcomes for patients - making it as quick and easy as possible for people to get the care they need and reducing the time they need to be in the hospital.
- Patient comfort - more space for patients, carers and visitors as well as single en-suite rooms for all patients to reduce the risk of infection, protect their privacy and dignity and get better rest so they can go home quicker.
- A modern approach - the hospital will use new digital systems and technology, such as falls detection monitors, to help improve patient care and enable patients to return home as quickly as possible. This will also be used to manage the building as efficiently as possible and prevent technical faults from disrupting services.

Designed for our communities

The new hospital has been carefully planned for the future, taking account of the expected growth of the population we serve and their changing health needs. This information has been used to make sure we have the right number of beds, treatment rooms, theatres and departments to provide the care our communities will need, both now and for the years ahead.

In line with the NHS 10 Year Plan, we will deliver more outpatient appointments, routine tests and recovery care in local community hubs, while the new building provides the specialist services that need to be delivered in hospital.

Figure 4 a mock sketch of the hospital and the lobby area

Improving outpatient care

Outpatient services will be provided in a separate new building immediately next to the new hospital. This will make it easy to access from both the car park and hospital to help:

- Reduce footfall and congestion in the new hospital
- Make it quicker and easier for patients to get to their outpatient appointments.

This will be supported by increased diagnostic tests and therapy services in community settings.

Our timeline

Figure 5 Image showing the dates and times of planning

Designed with care

Minimising the impact of the new hospital on our neighbours is a key part of the design. We have also listened to what local people have said is important to them, including preserving green spaces and making the new building accessible and easy to navigate. In designing the new hospital, we have been careful to take on board and balance the views of local people with Hospital 2.0 requirements and the challenges of the site. The shape of the buildings and how they are placed on the site have been carefully chosen to minimise the impact on nearby houses as much as possible. To help retain good levels of light and sunlight to nearby homes the tallest part of the building has been set back as far as possible from the boundary. To help protect residents' privacy the areas closer to the boundary will be used for departments which require fewest windows. The exterior design of the building will be developed at a later stage but we will use materials and colours that reflect the beauty and history of the local area, and that will help it blend into the skyline.

Figure 6 Image showing different design approaches inspired by natural surroundings

Local Voices Matter

Help us make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a state-of-the-art hospital. Share your views on how our design will meet the needs of our local communities:

- **Survey:** Complete the survey by 24 July 2026 via the website: www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk/about-us/securing-the-future-of-airedale.
- **Contact Information:** If you need a printed copy, an

alternative language, or a different format, please contact the team.

  - **Email:** anhsft.yournewhospital@nhs.net
  - **Phone:** 01535 536563 (Leave your name and number for a call back).

- **Events:** Join a residents' drop-in session or visit the community roadshow. Details are available on the website.