

# ***Bullet points***

**A monthly update for stakeholders interested in the  
Doncaster and Bassetlaw Clinical Services Review**

## **No.1 - February 2011**

### **For the record**

Over the past few months, there has been substantial comment about alleged changes - past, present or planned at Bassetlaw Hospital. Much of this comment has been inaccurate and misleading and, in view of the concerns that it has created among staff and patients, hospital management have decided to put the record straight. Set out below are some of the main statements made recently and beneath each one are the facts.

#### **“1000 nurses at Bassetlaw Hospital will lose their jobs”**

Not true. We have 450 nurses and midwives at Bassetlaw, and there are no proposals for a single one to lose their job. Yes, there may be changes ahead – the NHS never stands still. But our intention is always to manage service changes by retraining and redeployment, and through not automatically filling vacancies when there are retirements or resignations.

We have just recruited 25 new nurses; nine will be working at Bassetlaw Hospital.

#### **“Whole wards at Bassetlaw Hospital have already closed”**

This is simply not true. We have not closed whole wards. We have actually increased wards at Bassetlaw Hospital: Ward A5 was opened to be a ‘winter ward’ but now remains open all year round.

#### **“No investment in Bassetlaw Hospital – only a dining room”**

Not true – at a conservative estimate, there has been investment of £10.3m in recent years in bricks and mortar at Bassetlaw Hospital (not counting equipment and other service developments):

- day surgery and medical day units, medical assessment unit, maternity unit
- CT and MRI scanners, X-ray rooms and fluoroscopy
- ‘clean air’ orthopaedic theatre, outpatient/dermatology unit
- chapel refurbishment, bereavement offices, car parking improvements, social work base
- new kitchens for preparation of patients’ meals (not just a dining room)
- 19 new clinical services.
- work beginning on a £1.3m breast care unit.

## What's been happening?

- **11 February** - NHS Bassetlaw and NHS Doncaster issued a statement confirming that Bassetlaw Hospital's Intensive Therapy Unit (ITU) will not close. The statement follows media speculation prompted by an out-of-date and out-of-context email that has since been overtaken by events.

The statement said that staff who could have been affected by any changes to the ITU unit were officially informed at the end of 2010 that there were no closure plans. Dr Phil Foster, NHS Bassetlaw's Medical Director, said: "We can confirm that there is now a clear commitment from both NHS Bassetlaw and NHS Doncaster, as commissioners of local health services, that acute medicine should be provided in Bassetlaw Hospital and this would need to be supported by an Intensive Therapy Unit.

- **January 25<sup>th</sup>** – Members of the NHS Bassetlaw Senior Management Team gave an update regarding the Clinical Services Review to members of Bassetlaw Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- **January 25<sup>th</sup>** – Members of the NHS Bassetlaw Senior Management Team gave an update regarding the Clinical Services Review to Bassetlaw GPs.
- **January 20<sup>th</sup>** – NHS Bassetlaw Medical Director Dr. Philip Foster and CSR clinical advisor Denise Nightingale met with the Bassetlaw Maternity Services Committee to discuss the findings of the review into maternity services.
- **January 19<sup>th</sup>** – NHS Doncaster Chief Executive Annette Laban and CSR clinical advisor Denise Nightingale gave an update to members of Doncaster Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- **January 19<sup>th</sup>** – Mr de Bono and Dr Brooke returned to Bawtry Hall to present their reports to Doncaster and Bassetlaw GPs and then to members of the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Maternity Services Liaison Committees.
- **January 14<sup>th</sup>** - Two independent reports on the possible shape of maternity and children's services were presented to more than 40 hospital clinicians ahead of publication. Authors Mr Martin de Bono and Dr Adrian Brooke met the staff at Bawtry Hall in two separate sessions, concluding that local children's and maternity services are safe but not sustainable. The full reports and a jointly issued news release from NHS Doncaster, NHS Bassetlaw and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust can be read at [www.doncaster.nhs.uk](http://www.doncaster.nhs.uk).

## What's coming up?

NHS Bassetlaw and NHS Doncaster are carrying out a period of pre-consultation engagement. We want to involve interested local groups and individuals in shaping the options for future services, which will then be presented to the public as part of a future 90-day consultation programme, which will be widely publicised. If you would like to be further involved, please call NHS Bassetlaw on 01777 863527 to register your interest.

<p><b>Issued on behalf of the Clinical Service Review partners by NHS Doncaster Communications Office. For further information about any of the items mentioned ring 01302 566042</b></p>
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