

# National Rehabilitation Centre

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## Update report

- 1. Project Milestones:** The National Rehabilitation Centre programme submitted the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the NRC on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This was in line with the project milestones and in accordance with NHS capital business case process. The OBC was submitted to NHS EI ahead of the joint review process with Department of Health and Social Care.
- 2. New Hospital Programme:** In December 2020 the NRC was confirmed as one of the 40 new hospitals to be built by 2030 in the New Hospitals Programme (NHP). There are two waves of this programme with 8 large and 6 small schemes being reviewed in the first wave. The NRC is in the first wave of capital draw down for the NHP programme. The NHP programme has involved a new series of approvals and reviews of the OBC with some further work required against new criteria. Once approved the NHP and the NHS EI review process will come together to review the NRC case at the Joint Investment Committee. The NRC Programme Director is pushing for this to happen in July but as yet this is not confirmed.
- 3. Building design:** NRC programme team have completed the detailed design stage for OBC for the internal design of the building and the schedule of accommodation. This was checked and challenged by a health care planner, along with the clinical teams and patients. Architects worked closely with the clinical and academic teams to provide a highly integrated and interactive space where patients participate in research whilst completing their rehabilitation programmes. Best practice design was taken from a number of rehabilitation centres around the world. NRC team are confident that the design of the building will facilitate patients to be as independent as possible combining digital and physical solutions to this.
- 4. Digital Strategy:** A detailed digital strategy has been developed in two main ways for the NRC. Firstly, to support Carbon Net Zero and energy efficiency in the building and secondly with Assistive Technology to promote independence with wearables such as environmental controls.
- 5. Enabling works:** Enabling works on site continue with the Section 278 process. The Developer, BS Stanford, the company who runs the estate will submit this application. This will allow the road junction, bell mouth entrance and the access road to the site to be built. All of this is important to enable construction of the NRC to start on time. It has been funded through early draw down of the £70m allocated for the scheme.
- 6. Additional cost pressures:** There have been additional cost pressures on the NRC project taking the total cost to £89.1m. The increases in cost relate to the new government target for Carbon Net Zero (£4.1m) increased space following public consultation and some additional requirements to enable patients to transfer as early as possible in their journey.
- 7. Funding:** As agreed in the Autumn Budget of 2018 the allocated £70m to the NRC scheme is to build the clinical capacity for the NRC. The NHP has indicated there may be a further £11m of funding due to additional cost pressures described. This leaves a £9m capital gap.
- 8. The Timeline:** The overall timeline has now changed again due to the NHP review process. Inclusion in the National Programme is important but has caused a delay of between 4-6 months depending on when the case is reviewed at the joint investment committee.
- 9. Conclusion:** Significant progress has been made on the NRC programme since the last policy committee update with reconfirmation of the governments support for the NRC through the NHP. The timeline has been extended due to inclusion in the NHP review but the NRC programme team are working on mitigations to this delay.