

# Update from University Hospitals Dorset

**Siobhan Harrington, Chief Executive**

Poole Quay Forum, Tuesday 27 January 2026

**We are**  
caring  
one team  
listening to understand  
open and honest  
always improving  
inclusive

**2026:  
Our year  
of change**

**25 weeks  
to go!**





With our people at the heart of this change



# Royal Bournemouth – our emergency hospital

The BEACH Building  
(**B**irths, **E**mergency, **A**nd **C**ritical care,  
children's **H**ealth)

Some of the new facilities:

- New critical care unit.
- Large maternity unit with birthing pools and single postnatal care rooms.
- New state-of-the-art emergency department with dedicated scanners.
- Dedicated children's area.

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# Royal Bournemouth emergency hospital benefits

- Quicker access to 24/7 expertise.
- Better consultant cover.
- Better same day emergency care.
- Better outcomes for patients.
- New state-of-the-art medical equipment.
- Fewer patient transfers.
- New maternity and neonatal unit.
- Improved facilities for staff, patients and relatives.



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# Our planned care hospital

As part of our £500m investment, Poole Hospital will become the UK's largest planned care hospital by 2026



Comprising of:

- State-of-the-art barn theatre
- 10 new operating theatres.
- Ward refurbishments.
- Brand new Endoscopy unit.
- More accessible Community Diagnostics Centre (CDC).
- Enhanced post-op care.

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# Poole Hospital planned care benefits

- Improved patient experience
- Reduced cancellations, shorter waiting times.
- Improved day case and inpatient environment.
- Specialist rehabilitation environments.
- Community Diagnostics Centre.



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# Future of Poole Hospital's emergency care

- Poole Hospital's Emergency Department will move to the Royal Bournemouth Hospital in Summer 2026.
- Poole's Urgent Treatment Centre will open 24/7.
- Same day care for many minor illnesses and non-life-threatening injuries.



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# Complementing our hospitals – new pathology hub at RBH

- Processes over 9 million tests per year.
- Diagnoses conditions in 70% of all patients seen by the NHS in Dorset.
- Has 200 staff – offering 24/7 365 day support.

# What moves have already happened across Royal Bournemouth and Poole?

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# Service moves and transformation at Poole

- Outpatients Assessment Centre moved into St Mary's Hospital (moved from Beales)
- Treatment Investigation Unit (TIU) moved from RBH to Poole
- In March 2025, maternity and neonatal services moved to Bournemouth from Poole
- We bid a fond farewell in April 2025 to St Mary's Maternity Unit after over 60 years of service.
- The community came together to visit the unit one last time, sharing memories and reflecting on its lasting impact





# Service moves and transformation at RBH

- Stroke and cardiac services consolidated on the RBH site.
- Radiology moved from original RBH location into the BEACH Building.
- Critical Care moved into the BEACH Building.
- New maternity and neonatal units opened in the BEACH Building.
- Emergency Department (ED) at RBH moved into the BEACH Building.
- New front entrance in operation at the BEACH Building.

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## Million-pound upgrade for stroke services

- In April 2023, Stroke services combined at our Bournemouth site. Patients now experience shorter hospital stays, with treatment taking only a third of the time it previously did. This has helped us meet our national targets.
- Our enhanced stroke unit now has a 20% capacity increase, with 43 beds.

# New cardiology hub - boosting care, saving lives

- Our emergency inpatient cardiology services are now centered at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital.
- Changes are improving patient care, reducing heart attack and stroke risk, and saving lives - quicker treatment is potentially saving 17 to 29 lives each year.
- Some outpatient services remain at Poole Hospital.



# Currently in progress

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# The Coast Building – new ward and catering block

Royal Bournemouth Hospital

- Build completion date – **June 2026**.
- 110 additional beds over four levels of ward accommodation - supporting respiratory and gastroenterology.
- New catering facility on the ground floor.
- Links to the existing hospital 'street' at both the ground and first floor level.
- Plant space and solar panels on the roof.



# New Endoscopy Unit Poole Hospital

- This impressive facility is set to open in early summer 2026.
- It will become the largest endoscopy hub in the country.
- It will increase our treatment capacity, shorten patient waiting times, and enhance the experience for both patients and colleagues.
- It will feature six spacious procedure rooms and a dedicated space for staff training and meetings.
- Future-proofs training while supporting UHD's vision to treat more patients more efficiently.



# Transformation - key dates

## Early 2026

- Surgical Same Day Emergency care (SDEC) completed at RBH
- New haematology and oncology wards at RBH



## 20 July – 4 August 2026

- Emergency services move to RBH and planned care moves to Poole
- Poole Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) opens 24/7
- Poole Child Health inpatients move into the BEACH
- Patients move into new Coast Building at RBH
- Temporary Enhanced Post Operative Care goes live in Poole



## Spring 2028

- Poole Surgical Hub complete



## March 2027

- Child Health Outpatients move to RBH (some outpatients to remain at Poole Hospital)



## Winter 2026 – 27

- Enhanced Post-Operative Care Unit (EPOC) open in Poole
- Urgent Treatment Centre reconfiguration complete at Poole
- Acute Medical Unit (AMU) and Rapid Access Consultation and Evaluation Unit (RACE) at RBH

# Parking Challenges

- Parking continues to be a challenge at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital (RBH) site due to ongoing construction works.
- We are planning a new patient and visitor car park at RBH, with up to 150 additional parking spaces and a minimum of 20 new blue badge spaces.
- Some projects are already underway and some expansion projects are on hold until areas of the site are re-opened and car parks are returned to the Trust for use.
- We work closely with transport operators in the area such as Morebus and Beryl to ensure there are suitable alternatives to driving.



# Royal Bournemouth Hospital new wayfinding zones



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# Volunteer Support

- Our wonderful volunteers are located in all main entrance lobbies and can transport patients to their appointment via wheelchair if they are unable to walk the distance.
- Did you know that Royal Bournemouth Hospital has a passenger buggy which transports patients and visitors around the site?
- The buggy runs between 8am – 5pm Monday to Friday and can be flagged down from our buggy bus stops behind the Bus Hub or outside the West Wing entrance.
- Please speak to any of the team, identifiable by their light blue uniform!





UK Government

# FIT FOR THE FUTURE

10 Year Health Plan  
for England

The NHS logo, consisting of the letters 'NHS' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, set against a white rectangular background. The background of the slide features a glowing blue DNA double helix structure.

## Three shifts:

- From hospital to community
- From analogue to digital
- From sickness to prevention

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# Corporate Fundraising helps enhance our hospitals

Through sponsorship, direct donations, fundraising activities, Charity of the Year partnerships, gifts in kind and more, local businesses and corporations directly enhance care across the Royal Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Hospitals.

These partnerships create powerful opportunities to showcase corporate social responsibility, amplify brand awareness, drive employee and customer engagement and invest in impact - while transforming care across Dorset.

**If you decide to support us as part of your corporate strategy, we'll be on hand to steward your chosen fundraising option and to ensure our relationship is mutually beneficial.**



**Karen Smith**  
**Senior Charity Manager**  
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**Hayley Harris**  
**Corporate Fundraiser**  
**[Hayley.Harris19@nhs.net](mailto:Hayley.Harris19@nhs.net)**

# Our Charity's Current Projects - The BEACH Appeal

In 2024, the Charity launched The BEACH Appeal, raising **£1.5 million** for items (above and beyond NHS funding) for our NHS services located in the BEACH Building at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital.

To date, we've raised over **£1 million**.

Can you support the next phase of The BEACH Appeal, which will focus on our Children's Unit?

Items we are fundraising to make a real difference include:



Themed waiting areas



Teen chill zone



Sensory play area



Outdoor play area



Themed artwork



Parent lounge



Game consoles

# Our Charity's Current Projects

Alternatively, you can fundraise for an area of your choice, and any funds raised will benefit that specific area.

Some areas you can support include:

**NICU**



**Music therapy for children**



**SPRING - A baby loss service**



**Dementia care**

**Surgical care**



**Yoga for cancer patients**

**Cardiology**



**Gully's Place - supporting children and young people with life-limiting conditions**



**Eye Unit**

**Hospice at home**



**DCODE - A summer camp empowering diabetic children of Dorset east**

**Thank you for your support**  
Any questions?

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