

Communicating the migration

A SIGNIFICANT communications programme launches this month around the phased migration of services from existing Glasgow hospitals. This high-profile public information campaign supplements the staff communications that have been ongoing for many months, but are being significantly ramped up as we approach the move.

Radio Clyde 1 and Clyde 2 advertising, featuring a number of tailored public information messages, began on 30 March and will run through till mid-June. These ads will give clear site-specific information and direct listeners to a web resource where more detailed information can be accessed.

A special eight-page Public Information booklet detailing changes to acute hospital provision is being sent to every household in our health board area (that's 561,000 homes). Royal Mail will deliver them in the week beginning 11 May.

Key to all our messaging is signposting people to a newly developed web portal that will sit on our website www.nhsggc.org.uk featuring detailed information and links to travel details; a campus guide, including parking and drop-off points, and, importantly, an interactive digital feature enabling users to key in a postcode and be told what A&E or Minor Injury Unit they should use. To read more about the migration visit: www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/staff-communications/on-the-move/

New rooftop helipad

THE helipad on the roof of the South Glasgow University Hospital is the only elevated helipad in Scotland. At 64.07 metres above ground level, it is one of the highest in the UK. It is anticipated that there will be about 400 flights per year, with 62 of these being patients for the children's hospital. The flights will include Scottish Ambulance Service and military helicopters. The helipad will be operational 24/7.

The first test flights took place last month. Emergency medicine consultant Dr Phil Munro said: "We are delighted the first landing has taken place and it went perfectly.

"The design of the helipad was agreed at the outset of the build after emergency doctors and planning colleagues looked at the best hospital helipad designs nationally and internationally.

"We believe this design offers the best possible helicopter to Emergency Department transfer time for adult and paediatric patients. The new south Glasgow helipad is similar in design and height to the Royal London Hospital, which is the busiest trauma unit in the UK."

Twenty-four members of staff have been trained to support the transfer of patients from helicopters into the hospital. In the event of severe weather such as high winds, helicopters will divert to the nearby Bond Aviation site on Govan Road. To read more about the helipad visit: www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/staff-communications/on-the-move/

For more information visit: www.nhsggc.org.uk/staffcommunications