MIDLOTHIAN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL SITE SECURED

NHS Lothian has secured the site for the new Midlothian Community Hospital in an announcement made today (2nd March). The site, which will be situated at Mayshade South, near Bonnyrigg, has been purchased for approximately £750,000. The hospital is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2009.

The new community hospital will provide 88 beds - 40 frail elderly continuing care beds (of which 20 will be registered as care home beds) 24 assessment beds for older people with mental health problems and 24 continuing care beds for older people with mental health problems.

The new community hospital will also include a day hospital for older people with mental health problems, an out-patient department, including x-ray service, childhealth clinics, physiotherapy and a range of other health services.

Bob Anderson, Interim Chair at NHS Lothian said: “This is excellent news for the people of Midlothian. We are delighted to have now purchased the land and that we can continue to progress with what will be an excellent healthcare facility for the area. As a local myself I am looking forward to seeing residents being able to access improved healthcare provision within their own community.”

Adam Montgomery, Leader of Midlothian Council said: “We are delighted that the planned community hospital is moving forward and that our partnership with NHS Lothian will enable us to provide dedicated care home beds. The central situation of the site, together with local transport facilities, will make the hospital easily accessible to Midlothian residents.”

The next stage is to begin negotiations with the bidder to agree a development contract for the hospital.

Ends