

Project News

DARTMOUTH HEALTH & WELLBEING CENTRE

Working with you, for you.

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Progress Since Last Update:

We are continuing to make good progress and are pleased that our contractors, Classic Builders, have confirmed that we currently remain on schedule (despite COVID still causing some issues) for completion in August 2022.

In the past month, the first-floor concrete slabs have been installed and we are now working hard on building all the first-floor walls in preparation for the roof to follow by mid-January. The water connection is now in place and the wastewater drainage connection was completed with limited disruption to the park & ride car park.

We are working closely with the Trust, GP's and other users of the building to finalise how the building will operate on a day-to-day basis so that all the final details are agreed long before we need them.



What is next?

Over the next month, the last of the excess topsoil will be removed from the site. Works will commence to the car park base and the installation of the surface water drainage infrastructure. There will be a two week shut down over the Christmas period from 22nd December to the 4th January.

Residents of TQ6 asked for views on former cottage hospital site

As reported last month, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust and Dartmouth Town Council are working together to explore whether the community can buy the former Dartmouth Hospital site, and whether its redevelopment could include uses specifically to benefit people in and around Dartmouth. Healthwatch is running a survey to ask about what new facilities local people would like to see on the site and, so far, almost 270 responses have been received.

Leaflets are now being distributed to homes in the area and the closing date for people to respond has been extended to Friday 10 December. People's responses could influence how the former hospital site is developed in future, if Dartmouth Town Council is successful in developing a community bid for the site.

Dartmouth Town Councillor, Ged Yardy, said: "This is a unique opportunity for the community to come together and have a say in what happens to part of our town's waterfront in future. We are working hard to create an economically viable bid for this site over the coming months. There is, of course, a possibility we won't be able to pull together all the funding needed to buy and develop the site, but people's views will be included in a development brief that we would share with other interested parties, if the site has to be sold on the open market."

Adrien Cooper, Interim Director of Environment for Torbay and South Devon added: "We no longer need the former hospital for healthcare and we are preparing to sell the site to help fund the new, £4.8m Health and Wellbeing Centre, being built at the top of the town. We are supporting Dartmouth Town Council to explore whether a community bid for the site is possible, because it means local people would have a real say in any future development there."



The survey is live until 10 December. People can access the survey online bit.ly/cottagehospital or by scanning the QR code here:



Printed copies of the survey are also being distributed to a range of local venues for collection and return via Freepost to Healthwatch. Places where people will be able to pick up a printed copy of the survey include:

- post offices in Townstal (BP garage) and Dittisham
- Blackawton Community Shop
- Stoke Fleming Village Hall
- Townstal Spar
- Dartmouth Town Council offices
- Dartmouth Medical Practice
- Dartmouth Clinic

After the closing date, Healthwatch will collate all responses into an independent report to share with the Council and the Trust in early 2022.