



# foundations for health

March 2023



Doncaster and Bassetlaw  
Teaching Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust



A magical Children's Ward visitor **p3**

£31million investment for Montagu **p6**

Born and Bred in Doncaster **p9**





4



6



8

# Contents

2	Give your thoughts: two new health centres in Doncaster
3-4	Update on the refurbishment of our Central Delivery Suite
5	A magical visitor to the Children's ward at DRI
6-7	Developments and investments at Montagu Hospital
8	Introducing our PNA training programme
9	500 signed up to Born and Bred in Doncaster research programme
10	Fingerprint breakthrough in Breast cancer detection
11	New device at DBTH improves accuracy of breast cancer surgery
12-13	Appointments to our Executive Team
14	South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Acute Federation join national Innovators Scheme
15-16	Supporting DBTH Charity



10



15



16

If you have comments or want further information about any of the articles in *Foundations for Health* please contact the Communications & Engagement team on 01302 644244.

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## Public invited to comment on two new health centres for Doncaster

### Public consultation on two new proposed health centres in the Bentley and Rossington areas of Doncaster have started.

For a period of 12 weeks, people affected by the plans are being invited to give their views through surveys and public meetings.

The proposals, developed by the NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, include the move of patients and staff from the existing Don Valley Healthcare Centre and the Ransome Practice to new premises on the site of the former community library on Chapel Street, Bentley.

And in Rossington, a proposed new building on the site of the former colliery intends to house the existing Rossington Practice and West End Clinic.

Doncaster has secured part of £57.5m capital funding given to South Yorkshire to support the transformation and modernisation of the primary care estate. The investment

required for the Bentley hub is £5.62m and the Rossington hub is estimated at £7m. The funding will be used to create modern and flexible spaces offering a range of services to patients, joining up local services and improving the use of digital technology in primary care.

The aim of the new facilities, due for completion by June 2024, is to:

- Provide fit for purpose facilities for the future delivery of Primary Care services;
- Provide improved integration and co-location of NHS and Local Authority services;
- Maximise value for money through shared estate and facilities;
- Provide improved access and choice of services;
- Support the recruitment and retention of the workforce; and
- Support the delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan.

People are invited to complete an online survey which closes on 7 April.

Feedback will be collated at the end of the consultation period and a report published into the findings. More background information and artist's impressions of the proposed new buildings can be found at [southyorkshire.icb.nhs.uk/newhealthhubs](https://southyorkshire.icb.nhs.uk/newhealthhubs)

For those affected by Bentley plans:

For those affected by Rossington plans:



# A magical visitor to the Children's Ward

On Wednesday 1 February, the Children's Ward at Doncaster Royal Infirmary received special visitor Magician Freddie from POD Children's Charity.

Armed with a case of magical props and a bright red waistcoat, Magician Freddie toured the Children's Ward performing a host of magic tricks and gifting each patient their very own wand. Magician Freddie was a joyful and charming presence on the ward, sparking captivated stares and laughter from patients and their families from the waiting room to the bedside.

The magical performances were an instant hit with young patients who were even invited to help perform the tricks themselves. Magician Freddie spent a dedicated period of time with the children on the ward, helping to divert attention away from their unfamiliar environment and bring a little fun to their hospital experience.

Maxine Deakin, Play Leader at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals, said: "A stay in hospital can be a worrying time for young children, especially being in an



unfamiliar environment away from home and family. During special visits like this it's great to see so many smiling faces."

"Thank you to Magician Freddie for bringing a little magic and wonder to the ward."

The visit was funded by POD Children's Charity, a nationwide charity which organises entertainment for children whilst staying in hospital. The charity currently provides entertainment shows across 50 hospitals and hospices in the UK, including Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals. With a broad catalogue of entertainers, from

magicians and puppeteers to clowns and musicians, POD Children's Charity provide a valuable service to children's wards, helping to bring laughter and joy to young patients during a time that is often challenging.

During the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, all POD Children's Charity visits to hospitals were cancelled in line with restrictions to protect staff and patients. The charity has now begun to gradually resume their monthly visits, with Doncaster Royal Infirmary visits starting back recently over the Christmas period.

Freddie Wilkinson has spent the last nine years of his two-decade professional entertainment career working with POD Children's Charity, providing magic shows in playrooms, clinics and at the bedside. He takes great pride in supporting the charity's work and looks forward to visiting the ward again next month.

In speaking about his visit, Freddie said: "It was fantastic to visit the Children's Ward at Doncaster again with POD Children's Charity. Watching patient's faces light up makes it really worthwhile. I hope I was able to bring a little joy and a positive distraction from their stay in hospital."

The visits to Doncaster Royal Infirmary's Children's Ward are kindly funded by Whin Hill & Bessacarr Amateur Gardeners Society who have helped Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals bring a little fun and magic to young patients since 2017. Their generosity is also greatly received by patient's families. Hospital visits can be an anxious time for both parents and children, and these special visits from the POD Children's Charity entertainers provide a window of relief for everyone.





# An update on the refurbishment

The Central Delivery Suite and Triage at Doncaster Royal Infirmary (DRI) is currently undergoing a £2.5 million refurbishment as the area is updated and modernised.

The works, which began in May 2022 include a full refurbishment of the suite's birthing rooms, as well as the creation of a new welcoming reception and waiting area, and the opening of our first Midwifery Led Birth Centre. The delivery suite will include a fully-equipped Obstetric Observation Area to support women who need additional observations and a large well equipped Triage department to support all our women and families.

Whilst Midwifery-led Maternity services have been around for a little while, this will mark the first time this has been possible at Doncaster Royal Infirmary.

If mums-to-be are fit and healthy and are expected to deliver without complication, the new area provides a more comfortable and home-like environment, with the option of a birthing pool. If mum and baby encounter any issues, they can be swiftly transferred to the Obstetric service, which is in a neighbouring area.

The area is expected to be complete in March 2023. In the meantime, the temporary Central Delivery Suite is currently situated on level 3 of the Women's and Children's Hospital at Doncaster Royal Infirmary.



# nt of our Central Delivery Suite

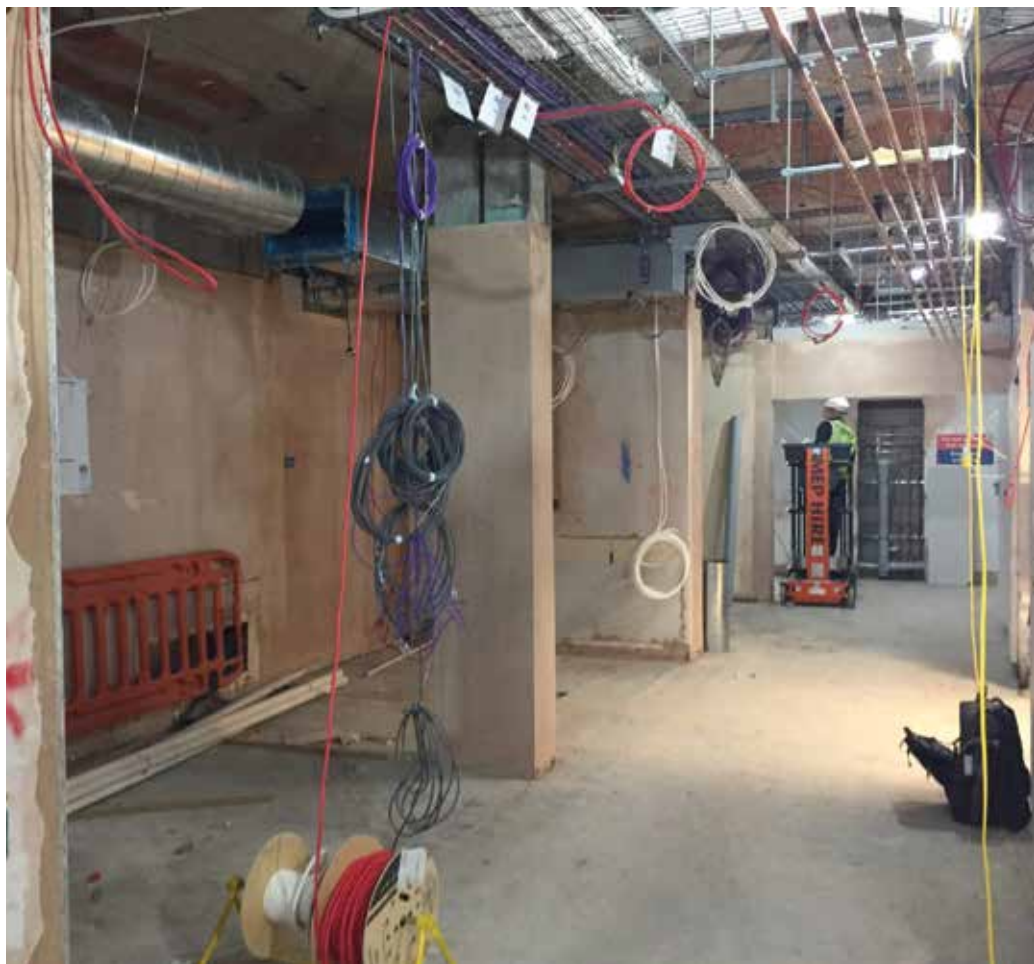


In addition to the new facilities, the team has taken the opportunity to upgrade the area's general infrastructure, including the placement of new windows, ceilings, flooring, ventilation, heating, fire precautions and much more.

The project is being overseen by the Capital Planning Unit, which is part of the Recovery, Innovation and Transformation directorate. Andy White, Head of Capital Infrastructure, said: "The former environment of the Central Delivery Suite did not meet the needs of our women and their families or the expectation of Better Births report commissioned by NHS England. The refurbishment and modernisation of the area will provide choice for our women and improve the patient experience we offer.

Furthermore, the changes we are making will also have a direct impact on the working life of colleagues within the Trust, and specifically our midwives, and this will have a positive effect upon the quality and safety of care provided. It is fantastic to see our progress, and we will soon have a modern unit which offers the very best service for local people.

In addition to the upcoming refurbishments, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals' Charity is currently fundraising to create a specialist bereavement suite, also to be sited within the Women's and Children's Hospital at Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Known as the 'Serenity Appeal', individuals can find out more, and how to donate, by heading to <https://dbthcharity.co.uk/serenity-appeal>





# £14.9 million theatre facility to be created within Mexborough's Montagu Hospital

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) is set to receive £14.9 million of capital investment funding from NHS England (NHSE) to develop an elective orthopaedic centre at Montagu Hospital in Mexborough.

Working in partnership with Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BH) and The Rotherham Hospital Foundation Trust (TRFT), colleagues at DBTH will lead the programme to implement a new, dedicated orthopaedic hub for the people of South Yorkshire, with health professionals undertaking hip and knee replacement inpatient procedures alongside foot and ankle, hand and wrist, and shoulder day case surgery.

In the first year of operation the centre will undertake some 2,200 orthopaedic procedures on behalf of the three partner trusts, equating to about 40% of the current orthopaedic waiting list locally.

Known as the Montagu Elective Orthopaedic Centre (MEOC), the facility will feature two state-of-the-art theatre units, two anaesthetic rooms and a recovery suite, in addition to 12 inpatient beds in a dedicated orthopaedic facility. The development will also benefit from its placement within Montagu Hospital, co-located with rehabilitation services and with access to the planned Community Diagnostic Centre and a hydrotherapy pool.

Another benefit of its location in Mexborough is that Montagu Hospital is defined as a 'cold site' and does not provide emergency services. This means that, despite peaks in activity within the wider acute hospitals, the MEOC will be ringfenced and protected against the usual cancellations and postponements which can, unfortunately, be common as staff are moved elsewhere to help manage emergency pressures, particularly in winter.

Further planning is currently underway, with offsite construction of the theatres set to begin in May 2023 and expected to take around seven months to complete with the new centre opening in November 2023.

Mr Ranjit Pande, Clinical Director for Trauma and Orthopaedics at DBTH, and clinical lead for the project, said: "This is a wonderful development for the people of South Yorkshire, and a testament to our commitment to work together, as providers across the region, to do our very best for local patients. We will now work hard to develop this service, and, if all goes plan, we will be able to treat our first patients by the end of the year."

Analysis provided by South Yorkshire Integrated Care System (ICS) outlines that the region's waiting list is around 43% greater than it was in March 2020. At present, 2,500 patients

have waited over 52 weeks for their operation, of which two thirds are waiting for an orthopaedic procedure.

Jon Sargeant, Executive Director of Recovery, Innovation and Transformation at DBTH, said: "This is a fantastic development and will see us significantly reduce the waiting list for operations such as knee and hip replacements, as well many other elective orthopaedic procedures

**"I'M DELIGHTED TO SEE OUR LOCAL HOSPITALS COMING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY SERVICES IN ONE PLACE, HELPING TO TACKLE OUR REGION'S WAITING LISTS AND DELIVER OUR AMBITIONS WITH THE ELECTIVE RECOVERY PLAN FOR SOUTH YORKSHIRE."**

"Working with our partners at Barnsley and Rotherham, we will be able to offer state-of-the-art facilities in a setting which is immune from the usual cancellations we often see within hospital settings. Furthermore, it will help to outline our ambitions for Montagu Hospital as a centre of excellence for elective and diagnostic care, ensuring we are making the most of the site, and its unique and accessible location within the Dearne Valley."

It is anticipated that, with shared staffing and additional capacity, the centre will operate on

patients from across the region.

Bob Kirton, Deputy Chief Executive at Barnsley Hospital, said: "This investment provides an excellent opportunity for the people of South Yorkshire to benefit from easier access to the services and care that they need. I am really looking forward to the unit opening later this year."

The development of the Montagu Elective Orthopaedic Centre has been supported by the South Yorkshire Integrated Care System as well as NHS England, and helps to fulfil ambitions of the latter's Elective Recovery Plan which seeks to eliminate waits of longer than a year by March 2025.

Gavin Boyle, Chief Executive at NHS South Yorkshire, said: "We are working hard across our system to reduce the time that our patients are waiting for operations. This investment is extremely welcome and will provide us with a fantastic facility that will give people from across South Yorkshire better and faster access to services.

"I'm delighted to see our local hospitals coming together to provide high quality services in one place, helping to tackle our region's waiting lists and deliver our ambitions with the elective recovery plan for South Yorkshire. By working together across our health and care system we can continue to drive forward improvements, such as this new centre, to provide the best possible experience of healthcare and ensure our local people have access to services they need to live well."



# £16 million investment coming to Montagu Hospital to increase testing capacity

We recently received confirmation of further funding to create an imaging suite at Montagu Hospital, as part of the site's wider Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) plans.

In 2021, Montagu Hospital, was selected to host one of a pair of 'Community Diagnostic Centres' (CDCs) within South Yorkshire, following a £3 million investment from the National CDC Programme, of which Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) received around £230,000 of initial capital funding.

Phase one of the project began in January 2022 when a mobile MRI was placed at Montagu Hospital and this was joined in early February by a CT scanner. In the first three months of operation around 2,600 patients were seen, and many more since – work that has helped to reduce the backlog of activity which has accumulated as a result of COVID-19-related restrictions throughout the past two years.

Following this successful initial development, the Trust received funding of just over £9 million to take the project to its second phase in July 2022. This meant the development of a fully functional endoscopy suite, with training facilities and multifunctional clinic rooms including ultrasound facilities in addition to the continuation of the work undertaken during phase one, with CT and MRI scanning continuing using mobile units.

A further case was submitted and approved for these developments to be joined by the creation of an imaging suite which will contain Static CT, MRI and ultrasound scanning facilities, significantly increasing the site's capacity to undertake diagnostic tests for illnesses such as cancer.

As per current plans, construction on the new endoscopy suite will begin in March 2023, and will be placed within the exiting Pain Clinic which has been re-sited within the previously vacant physio-therapy area, while the imaging suite will be a new build to the rear of site in accordance with the site Development Control Plan adjacent to the new Montagu Elective Orthopaedic Centre, works for which will also get underway shortly.

Jon Sargeant, Director of Recovery, Innovation and Transformation at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals, said: "Diagnostic Centres are envisaged to be a one-stop-shops for checks, scans and tests. Since 2022, the Trust has received funding over £25 million to invest in services at Montagu Hospital and bring services closer to our communities. The huge benefit of utilising our Mexborough site



is that it is defined as a 'cold site' and does not provide emergency services. This means that, despite peaks in activity within the wider acute hospitals, our CDC facilities will be ringfenced and protected against the usual cancellations and postponements which can, unfortunately, be common as staff are moved elsewhere to help manage emergency pressures, particularly in winter."

At present, colleagues undertake 23 hours of CT scanning work at Montagu Hospital, seeing around 70 patients a week. Once the static scanners are in place within the new imaging suite, it is anticipated this will increase to 57.5 hours, or around 172 patients – more than doubling the current capacity. Finally, after the completion of phase two, the CDC will have the capacity to see 241 patients per week. A similar increase will also be seen with MRI diagnostics.

Finally, the team will be able to offer cardiac imaging and echo cardiography. At present, cardiac Imaging is not a service DBTH offers, with patients having to be referred to Sheffield's Northern General Hospital. By using MRI and CT technology, it is possible to diagnose a wide-range of heart conditions including coronary heart disease, valve disease, and cardiac tumours.

The Trust is hoping to offer this locally within the Mexborough site in an effort to reduce health inequalities across the region, enhance the care provided for cardiovascular disease, and reduce unnecessary delays to diagnosis.

Dr Tim Noble, Executive Medical Director at DBTH, said: "By investing and further developing the Community Diagnostic Centre

in Mexborough, we will be able to increase our overall diagnostic capacity, improving patient experience by providing faster diagnosis and treatment, implementing future pathways of care, as well as training staff to deliver these services in the future.

"Colleagues worked extremely hard to complete the first phase of this project, and our teams have gone above and beyond to secure further funding, and develop a further business case, to ensure that we are on track to deliver the ambitions we laid out when we began this journey – a huge 'thank you' to all those involved."

Works will start to get underway in the coming weeks, with the endoscopy suite anticipated to be completed in Autumn 2023 and the imaging suite by Summer 2024.

Gavin Boyle, Chief Executive at NHS South Yorkshire, said: "We are working hard across South Yorkshire to reduce the time that our patients are waiting for operations and treatments. The one stop test, check and scan centre in Mexborough will give people from across the area better and faster access to get checked out and into treatment or help them manage long term conditions.

"This is a significant investment and I'm delighted this will offer people vital services much closer to home without the need to travel too far. By working together across our health and care system we can continue to drive forward improvements, such as this new centre, to provide the best possible experience of healthcare and ensure our local people have access to services they need to live well."



# Professional Nurse Advocate qualification and celebration event

Colleagues at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals recently hosted a special celebration and graduation event for the Trust's latest tranche of 'Professional Nurse Advocates' earlier this year, as 16 qualify into the role.

The Professional Nurse Advocate (PNA) Training Programme is a clinical development scheme for registered nurses and was introduced in response and recognition of the effects that the pandemic has had on NHS staff.

PNAs offer something known 'restorative clinical supervisions' – the means placing an emphasis on strengthening an individual's ability to cope by providing a safe psychological space for them to discuss how they are feeling, how their profession impacts on this and how it can affect their professionalism. It was created to address challenges within Critical Care, such as supporting nurses who may be at risk of burning out and in turn could have a negative effect on patient safety, quality of care, staff wellbeing, and absence rates.

So far, 16 individuals have qualified as PNAs at DBTH, with a further 13 in training. It is the Trust's ambition to have 100 individuals successfully complete training within the coming months and years, which equates as one advocate for every 20 nurses, all with the ability to support their colleagues.

Jenny Hunt was one of the first 400 individuals in the country to receive training and has subsequently been successfully appointed into a Lead Professional Nurse Advocate at the Trust through a joint appointment with the University of Sheffield.

Jenny has been seconded into the role



and will work to develop a network of trained PNAs at DBTH, in conjunction with the University of Sheffield who deliver the PNA academic programme locally. The PNA role provides a model of supervision which supports a continuous improvement process that builds personal and professional resilience, enhances quality of care, and supports preparedness for appraisal and revalidation.

Speaking about the role, Jenny said:

"Having been a nurse for 25 years, I can see that having access to a PNA would have been

of great benefit as it would have prevented me from feeling burnt out at times. It would have given me the psychological support that has not particularly been there and that safe space to discuss how I was feeling, what I wanted to do, where I wanted to go, and how I was going to progress.

"It has really given me the confidence to support staff and see what a difference looking after staff wellbeing will have on patient care. This is our aim, to make sure we have safe, effective practitioners, who enjoy their job and working for the Trust."

Joining colleagues at the celebration event was the Trust's Chief People Officer, Zoe Lintin, Kirsty Clarke, Acting Deputy Chief Nurse, and Eileen Aylott, Regional Professional Nurse Advisor for NHS England. Each successful candidate was presented with a certificate as special pin badge to commemorate their achievement.

Speaking after the event, Kirsty Clarke said: "Ensuring we support colleagues is incredibly important to us at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals particularly given the challenges of the past two years. With our participation in the Professional Nurse Advocate Training Programme, we hope to provide colleagues with the skills to facilitate restorative supervision, and all of the benefits this way of working will undoubtedly bring.

"I am confident that our new PNAs will do a fantastic job in their new role, and we hope that many others will follow in their collective footsteps, helping to further improve our Trust as a place to work, as well as receive care."





# Born and Bred in Doncaster (BaBi-D) research programme signs up 500 participants in just six months

**A new research study to improve health outcomes for local children and families has just recruited its 500th participant in Doncaster.**

A new research study to improve health outcomes for local children and families has just recruited its 500th participant in Doncaster.

Led by Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH), and delivered in partnership between local health organisations, the Born and Bred in Doncaster (BaBi-D) research programme is a birth cohort data collection study. The project links information from both the participant's patient records and their child's patient record, to build up a much clearer picture of people's lives and answer questions that aim to improve healthcare services.

The Research Team at DBTH expected to recruit approximately 10 per cent of the expectant mothers to the study within the first year. This target was set against 2021 birth rate figures and was equivalent to 308 participants. However, the number of participants consenting to take part in the study have exceeded this target, reaching 500 recruits in the first six months of the project.

Prospective participants are asked to join when they see their midwife, who are asked for their consent to become part of the study. If consent is given, health researchers join together lots of data about the participant and their child so that health organisations can look at ways to improve healthcare services through research and planning in the local area and beyond.

Data obtained through the study can help local health organisations explore topics around health inequalities and determine measures to address these areas of concern, such as whether there are relationships between things that happen in pregnancy and children's future health, if children in some areas are more likely to get asthma than children in other areas, and how our genes affect our health and lives as we grow up.

Speaking about the success of the project, Lois Mellor, Principal Investigator for the BaBi-D study and Director of Midwifery at DBTH, said: "As a partnership approach, the BaBi-D project is fortunate to be facilitated by a diverse range of health and social care professionals, each bringing their expertise to ensure that this project is successful. This is an ambitious and long term project that will capture data from birth through to adulthood, to help inform what health inequalities people in the area have and how we work to reduce these.

"There has been real positivity towards the project from our community and we are proud to see that people appreciate the difference we are trying to make by hosting research programmes such as BaBi-D in the Doncaster area. The success of BaBi-D is only possible thanks to the generosity of women and babies who joined the BaBi family and the enthusiasm

and dedication of the midwives who invited them. We are grateful to all the women, babies, health professionals and researchers who make BaBi-D happen.

Sam Debbage, Director of Education and Research at DBTH, said: "We want to ensure this research study reflects the requirements and concerns of the local area. Therefore, we are keen to hear from our community and welcome your thoughts on any research topics you would like the programme to explore. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the team to give your suggestions."

Taking part in BaBi-D is voluntary and participants are free to withdraw at any time. This research, like every research project undertaken, is checked to make sure it meets the highest scientific and ethical standards. You can find out more about the study, or provide the team with your research ideas, on the dedicated Born and Bred in Doncaster website: [www.dbth.nhs.uk/babi-d](http://www.dbth.nhs.uk/babi-d)

The BaBi-D project is a partnership with health and social care providers and wider partners in the area; Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH), Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH), Doncaster Council, Primary Care Doncaster, and supported by the research departments at The University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University.

BaBi-D is part of the BaBi network; a group of local birth cohort studies that work together to link routine data with the aim to improve the health and wellbeing of families through research.

The Born and Bred In (BaBi) network is part of the Born in Bradford family and is supported by the National Institute for Health Research Yorkshire and Humber ARC (NIHR YHARC). As of 5 December 2022, the BaBi network has successfully recruited 14,439 participants.

To find out more please visit: <https://www.babinetwork.co.uk/babi-sites/babi-bradford>



# Fingerprint breakthrough in breast cancer detection

**A team of scientists from Sheffield Hallam University has successfully developed a pioneering non-invasive method for detecting breast cancer from fingerprints, with 98% accuracy.**

The researchers found that technology called Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionisation Mass Spectrometry (MALDI MS) can be applied to enhanced fingerprints for the detection of breast cancer. The technology is normally used to map drugs, pharmaceuticals and biological molecules within tissue sections.

A cohort of women with benign, early or metastatic breast cancer was recruited from Doncaster Royal Infirmary's Jasmine Breast Unit, with fingertip smears taken from each patient either at diagnosis or during active treatment. Subsequent machine learning was applied, predicting the correct category of cancer with 97.8% accuracy.

Breast cancer annually affects 2.3 million people across the world and causes more than 600,000 deaths. It is the most common cancer in British women. NHS figures have revealed that 1.2 million women — 37 per cent of those invited — did not turn up for breast cancer screening in England last year. The latest developments have potential to increase uptake in breast cancer screenings and help reduce NHS backlog.

Traditional methods of screening and detection, such as mammography and biopsy, are effective but can expose individuals to radiation, have limitations to specificity and can cause discomfort.

Some patients also find existing screening painful or culturally unacceptable, with mammograms requiring a patient to expose their breasts.

The research team is led by Sheffield Hallam's Professor Simona Francese and includes Lynda Wyld, Professor of Surgical Oncology at the University of Sheffield and consultant oncoplastic surgeon at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Dr Cristina Russo from Middlesex University, Dr Charles Bury from Medicines Discovery Catapult, Dr Cameron Heaton from Foster+Freeman, and Dr Laura Cole and Dr Marjory Da Costa-Abreu from Sheffield Hallam University.

Professor Francese said: "This proof-of-concept study is at the interface of forensic science and clinical diagnostics and shows that fingerprints are valuable not only to obtain intelligence to profile criminal offenders but also to diagnose pathologies. At a time where the NHS is understaffed and with considerable backlogs, a painless, quick and non-invasive method to



screen for breast cancer collecting the sample in the comfort of the home is highly desirable.

"These are exciting findings and, given the potential impact, we must pursue validation for a future rollout. It would be reckless not to fund this follow-up work."

Professor Wyld said: "This novel technique is still at an early stage in its development but the results are very promising. We plan to undertake some more research to confirm these findings on a large group of women but if the findings are confirmed the technique holds great potential both for the screening and diagnosis of breast cancer but also for monitoring how well treatments

such as chemotherapy are working. This would potentially save women having regular CT body scans every few months. The fact that the technique only requires a finger tip smears, which are easy to transport and perform, may also make breast screening and diagnosis more accessible."

It is the latest development from Sheffield Hallam University's Centre for Mass Spectrometry Imaging, Biomolecular Sciences Research Centre, which, amongst other, is carrying out ongoing research into how fingerprint technology can provide crime investigators with additional biometric information about a criminal's activities prior to committing a crime.





## New device introduced at local hospitals to improve accuracy of breast cancer surgery

Healthcare professionals at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) have introduced Magseed and Magtrace to help improve the accuracy and timeliness of breast tumour surgery.

Cancers picked up through breast screening are usually small and impossible to feel. To help clinicians find tumours when they operate, colleagues have traditionally used a wire which is placed within the growth by the radiologist on the day of surgery or the day before.

Unfortunately, wires can sometimes displace making it difficult to find the tumour, extending the time taken during surgery, which can have a knock-on effect for other planned procedures. The patient may even need a second surgery if the tumour cannot be found.

Looking for a better way of working, colleagues at DBTH are now working with a new system called Magseed. Using this process, healthcare professionals are able to deploy a tiny metal marker, about the size of an apple pip, which can be placed in the tumour any time before surgery.

On the day of surgery, clinicians are able to use a magnetic probe to guide them to the exact location of the tumour, allowing for its extraction. Furthermore, it's not a problem if the procedure is delayed as the seed does not displace, stays completely still and is painless.

Radiologists and surgeons alike prefer to use seeds because they are easier to put in than a wire, and do not displace, making it easier to find the tumour. Additionally, the whole procedure becomes much more accurate and results in minimal removal of breast tissue.

From a patient perspective, having a seed placed within the tumour is more convenient than having a wire placement, with individuals not having to worry about it coming out or hurting when in place.

**I WANT TO THANK ALL COLLEAGUES THAT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN INTRODUCING MAGSEED AND HOPEFULLY WE CAN CONTINUE TO INNOVATE LONG INTO THE FUTURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WITHIN OUR CARE."**

Ms Clare Rogers, Consultant Breast Surgeon at DBTH, said: "It has taken a lot of hard work to get to this point, but we're already seeing the benefits of this new way of working, with some fantastic patient feedback. I want to thank all colleagues that have been involved in introducing Magseed and hopefully we can continue to innovate long into the future for

the benefit of those within our care."

Colleagues at the Trust have also introduced Magtrace. Similar to Magseed, this makes use of magnetic particles for sentinel node biopsy – a procedure in which the sentinel lymph node is identified, removed, and examined to determine whether cancer cells are present. Traditionally, a dye is injected under the patient's nipple on the side of the cancer. The dye then travels through lymphatics to the armpit lymph nodes and concentrates in the most important sentinel nodes.

Previously, clinicians were using radiocolloid injected by the Gamma Camera team which has to be injected less than 24 hours before surgery, and Bassetlaw patients had to travel to Doncaster for the procedure.

Using Magtrace, patients can be injected safely within their clinical appointment up to 30 days before surgery on either site. This also negates the need for radiocolloid, which is currently in short supply due to manufacturing problems, and has helped to maintain the service and avoid any delays to cancer surgeries.

These are just some of the ways the Trust is seeking to innovate for patients, particularly within the area of cancer diagnosis and treatment, with more information available here: <https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/news/introducing-the-faster-diagnosis-framework-fdf/>

# Chief Nurse joins Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals

**Karen Jessop has joined Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) as the organisation's Chief Nurse.**

Karen was previously the Deputy Chief Nurse at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals (STH), a position she held between October 2017 and January 2023.

Qualifying as a Registered Nurse over 25 years ago, Karen joined Hull University Hospitals in 1995 where she spent the next two decades, holding a variety of roles within critical care and surgery. Karen eventually progressed to become a Matron and a Divisional Nurse Manager, also qualifying as a Registered Midwife and completing a Master's Degree in Health Care Leadership with the University of Birmingham.

Speaking about her appointment as Chief Nurse, Karen said: "I am delighted to finally join Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals. This Trust has the ambition to be the safest in England, outstanding in all that it does. I believe that our nurses, midwives and allied health professionals have an integral role to play in achieving this goal, and I am excited to be a part of this journey and help to lead us in this direction.

"I am looking forward to meeting many more individuals at DBTH and hearing their ideas on how we can improve, develop and enhance our services – as well as how we can further support colleagues to deliver the very best care."

An integral role at the Trust, the Chief Nurse provides clear leadership to around 3,000 clinical

staff, overseeing the development and delivery of outstanding patient care, while driving the organisation's strategies for 'Quality', 'Patient Experience', 'Patient Safety' and 'Infection Prevention and Control'.

Richard Parker OBE, Chief Executive at DBTH, said: "I am absolutely delighted to welcome Karen to the Trust and her new role. I am confident that Karen will provide inspirational leadership to the Trust's largest professional teams, helping us to deliver our strategic objectives and, crucially, ensuring that we are the employer of choice for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals to ensure that we are able to provide the very highest standards of care for the patients of Doncaster, Bassetlaw and beyond."







## Chief Operating Officer joins Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals

**Denise Smith has joined Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) as the organisation's new Chief Operating Officer (COO).**

Denise was previously the Chief Operating Officer at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn, a position she held from May 2019 to January 2023. Originally from York, Denise joined the NHS over 25 years ago, and has worked across primary and secondary care, in both commissioner and provider organisations.

Speaking about her appointment as Chief Operating Officer, Denise said: "I am delighted to join Doncaster and Bassetlaw

Teaching Hospitals. While we have faced an incredibly difficult couple of years as a result of the pandemic and we have work ahead of us, I believe this Trust has the vision and ambition to do the very best for its patients. While undoubtedly challenging, there are plenty of opportunities ahead of us and I can't wait to work with colleagues to further develop our services and, ultimately, deliver the very highest standards of care for local people."

The Chief Operating Officer is an integral role at the Trust and is responsible for the leadership and delivery of the Trust's operational services, ensuring high quality care and the delivery of performance

standards in a safe and sustainable way.

Richard Parker OBE, Chief Executive at DBTH, said: "On behalf of the Trust, I am delighted to be welcome Denise to Team DBTH. I believe our new Chief Operating Officer has a wealth of experience in operational leadership and management in the NHS, and Denise brings significant expertise to the role, supporting our ambitions for the future. We know the pandemic has had a significant impact on our teams and the services we provide, I am confident Denise will help to support our recovery and renewal post pandemic, and I look forward to working closely with her as part of the Executive Team."



## South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Acute Federation joins national Innovators Scheme

**I am delighted to announce that South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Acute Federation has been selected to be part of NHS England's Provider Collaborative Innovator Scheme.**

The programme, of which we will be part of the first cohort, has been created to support us to accelerate our development and increase the benefits for our patients. The ultimate goal is to create sustainable improvement in the quality and efficiency of patient care across the country, through collaboration and clinical leadership.

NHSE will provide us with hands-on support throughout the programme to facilitate positive changes, including reducing unwarranted variation in patient outcomes, access, and experience, and building greater resilience for services, for example, by sharing capacity and resources.

SYBAF was selected to participate in the programme alongside eight other provider collaboratives:

1. Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Acute Hospital Alliance
2. Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire West Mental Health Provider Collaborative

3. The Cheshire and Merseyside Acute and Specialist Trust Collaborative
4. Foundation Group Provider Collaborative
5. Leicestershire Partnership and Northamptonshire Healthcare Group
6. Mid and South Essex Community Collaborative
7. North East London Mental Health Learning Disability and Autism Provider Collaborative
8. UCL Health Alliance

Alongside our colleagues in these collaboratives, SYBAF will play an important role in leading service transformation and shaping national policy – ensuring that it is based on the experience and expertise of those on the frontline. The support offered by NHS England will mean we can work together in a much less transactional way than we have become accustomed to, meaning we can focus on our shared goals and how we can achieve them through working together. Through the Innovator scheme, we can troubleshoot issues with each other and create a national community of shared learning which will not only benefit us and our Trusts, but the health sector as a whole.

As a provider collaborative, SYBAF has already made some great strides and improvements, from the refining of clinical pathways such as maternity, urgent care and gastro-intestinal to upgrading our recruitment and procurement processes. Whilst these improvements are undoubtedly making our hospitals better places to work and to receive care, we are excited to accelerate this alongside like-minded organisations and under the tutelage of NHS England. The specific programme of support NHS England will deliver will be co-designed with us to be based around our locally agreed priorities.

This is a unique opportunity to shape the future of service improvement, and I am excited that SYBAF has been chosen to kickstart a new era of collaboration in the NHS. I'm sure you'll all join me in some positive anticipations of achieving our shared goals together.

**Ruth Brown**  
Chief Executive  
South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw  
Acute Federation

**DBTH is part of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Acute Federation. As part of this collaborative, we work with our partners in other local hospital Trusts to share resources, pool knowledge and make improvements to care.**



# Lions Clubs Support Serenity Suite Appeal



The Lions Clubs of Tickhill & District and Thorne Rural have made a very generous donation to Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals Serenity Suite Appeal to help local families affected by baby loss.

The Serenity appeal was launched by the hospital Trust's charity to make improvements to maternity facilities and offer a more comforting experience to families going through such a tragedy.

Currently, women who suffer baby loss at Doncaster Royal Infirmary give birth to their sleeping babies on a busy labour ward, where they can hear other families celebrating and the cries of infants being born, making an already difficult experience, even harder.

The launch of this appeal will help Doncaster Royal Infirmary to fund a specialist bereavement suite named the 'Serenity Suite'. It will be a purpose-built suite, away from the hustle and bustle of the main labour ward, where families can spend time together in a safe, secure, and serene space. A place, where they can grieve the loss of their baby with all of their loved ones, with the support of dedicated Bereavement Midwives.

The Lions Clubs of Tickhill & District and Thorne Rural are pleased to be able to financially support the Serenity Suite Appeal to make difficult times that bit easier for local families. Together with a matching grant secured from Lions Clubs International Foundation, a total of £33,475.58 will be made available for the purpose-built suite.

**“FUNDRAISING EFFORTS, SUCH AS THIS TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTION FROM THE LIONS, ENABLE US TO GET ONE STEP CLOSER TO ACHIEVING THIS GOAL, SO WE WILL BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES TO THE APPEAL.”**

Lions member Ron Lindsay says, “this is a significant amount of money that both lions clubs and that of Lions Clubs International Foundation have pledged. Tickhill & District, and Thorne Rural Lions Clubs will continue to

fundraise for such a worthy cause, in support of families affected by the loss of their babies.”

This donation is the biggest single donation to the appeal so far and puts the Charity just £20k away from their £150k target which will cover the creation of the Serenity Suite and some additional equipment for Bassetlaw Hospital.

Rhian Morris, Specialist Bereavement Midwife at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals, said: “We can’t thank The Lions enough for this generous donation. As a trust, we want to do all that we can to ensure that families get the time and space they need, in privacy, to grieve and be with their child. The creation of the Serenity Suite will allow us to achieve this, and fundraising efforts, such as this tremendous contribution from The Lions, enable us to get one step closer to achieving this goal, so we will be eternally grateful to everyone who donates to the appeal.”

If you wish to support the Serenity Appeal yourself, you can find more information about what the funds will provide and how you can help to fundraise on the charity website at [dbthcharity.co.uk](http://dbthcharity.co.uk).



# BJJ Rollathon raises £5.5k for Doncaster Chemotherapy Unit

A Doncaster martial arts gym has hosted a 24-hour Brazilian Jiu Jitsu rollathon to raise funds for the Chatsfield Suite, a local cancer care unit.

The full-day fundraising event was held in memory of David Richardson who was undergoing treatment at the Chatsfield Suite before he sadly passed away, leaving behind his loving family.

Keen to do something which would keep her loving father's memory alive, Emma set out on her fundraising journey, supported by Neil White, owner of Doncaster Martial Arts Centre (DMAC). A 24-hour rollathon was planned to take place at the gym. A test of resilience, the rollathon was a fitting tribute to David, who showed incredible resilience and mental strength towards the end of his treatment at the Chatsfield Suite.

Spurring each other on, members of DMAC completed a whole day on the mats, and managed to raise an incredible £5,500. Emma also organised a raffle in which entrants could win private tutoring sessions with Neil and his son, Chris.

Such was David's positive influence on those around him, everyone who attended the rollathon gave generously towards the donation which was made in his name. Fighters from neighbouring gyms also attended the event and the final total was boosted by a



generous £500 donation from Grimsby Martial Arts Centre, £250 from Armthorpe Academy and £380 from Saria limited (previously Propser De Mulders). Neil White also contributed £500 to the final total.

Emma Richardson, David's daughter, said: "I was overwhelmed by how many people turned out to raise money in Dad's name. I think it helped a lot of people as everybody has been

**"DAVID WAS AN ABSOLUTE PLEASURE TO CARE FOR. HE WAS ALWAYS POSITIVE AND WAS RENOWNED FOR SUPPORTING OTHER PATIENTS THROUGH THEIR DARKEST MOMENTS. THIS DONATION IS SUCH A FITTING LEGACY FOR HIM AS IT WILL ALLOW US TO BRIGHTEN UP THE UNIT AS HE SO OFTEN DID WITH HIS CHARM AND POSITIVITY."**

affected by cancer at some point, whether directly or through someone they love. Handing the cheque over felt good – like we had all achieved something together that will endure for the future. Dad always wanted a bit of the spotlight and I know he would have loved this."

The money raised will be used to purchase comfort items for the Chatsfield Suite to

further improve the environment for patients receiving treatment there. Lara Cunnane, Ward Manager of the Chatsfield Suite, said: "Our goal is to make our treatment areas feel like a home-from-home. Our patients spend a lot of time here and donations such as this one help us to provide home comforts that can help to distract from the clinical environment."

The funds will be used to erect some tree murals in the area where patients receive blood transfusions. A lengthy treatment, blood transfusions require patients to attend long appointments and these items will help to keep them occupied and to create a more serene environment. It will also allow the unit to install LED ceiling tiles and virtual scenes to soften the clinical environment.

Lara said: "David was an absolute pleasure to care for. He was always positive and was renowned for supporting other patients through their darkest moments. This donation is such a fitting legacy for him as it will allow us to brighten up the unit as he so often did with his charm and positivity."

Previous donations to the Chatsfield Suite have funded a family room and the renovation of an outdoor space into a tranquil garden, which is an exclusive space for patients and family members to get some fresh air during treatments.

If you would like to know more about how you can support Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity to deliver projects like this one, head to [dbthcharity.co.uk](http://dbthcharity.co.uk).





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## Key worker discount helps first time buyer secure dream home

Cindy Acheampong, a Biomedical Scientist at Bedford Hospital, is one of the people who has benefitted from Harron Homes' key worker support.

She was able to jump onto the property ladder with her fiancé at the age of 25, buying a stunning four bedroom detached home at Harron's Brierley Heath development in Sutton-in-Ashfield.

Cindy said, "Several things sold the house to us: the size, the layout, the way it was styled — which gave us inspiration for how we could decorate our own home — and the location as the road links are good.

"The NHS incentive was a huge advantage. We used it to upgrade our flooring, lighting and amenities — little things that will make our house a home."

For more information on Harron Homes, visit <https://www.harronhomes.com/find-a-home/>

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