

## Our Plans for the Future

NMUH faces a number of challenges in the next few years that need addressing, and we are clear that standing still is not an option. A hospital on this site providing services to the local community is essential, but we need to be clearer about what our direction is. We are currently a partner in the Royal Free London hospital group and the option is open to become a full member. With this in mind we are producing a 'Case for Change' that outlines what these challenges are and how we can best deal with them. As part of this we wish to engage fully with all of our stakeholders – patients, staff, local residents – so that your views are fully taken into account. Our approach is centered around our vision – to provide outstanding care for local people – and our three strategic objectives:

- Excellent outcomes for patients
- Excellent experience for patients and staff
- Excellent value for money.

### **1. Excellent outcomes for patients**

We strive to provide excellent outcomes, but the data we have indicates that this will become more difficult in years to come. The population in our local boroughs is set to grow rapidly, and at the same time we need to keep pace with an ageing population. At the same time our A&E department is under significant pressure and this shows no signs of slowing down. We need to find a way to deal with this increase in pressure before our services start to feel the strain.

### **2. Excellent experience for patients and staff**

In order to keep patient and staff experience excellent we need to be able to retain and develop our staff. Currently, recruitment and retention of staff is one of our biggest issues and national trends mean that this problem will likely continue. In order for services to be sustainable and high quality, we need a robust community-wide response to be able to adequately staff them, now and in the future.

### **3. Excellent Value for Money**

One of our most pressing current problems is our well documented funding constraints – we need to find a way of continuing to provide excellent care while coping with the increasing costs of medicine and equipment. We know that simply finding more funding will be difficult as our commissioners are also under pressure. There are several factors behind our deficit but ultimately this requires a

### **Our future**

We need to ensure the Trust's position is sustainable in the long-term, both in terms of the care we provide and our finances. There is an absolute need for a strong, efficient hospital on our site but we need to consider in more detail what this will look like.

We are currently a Clinical Partner in the Royal Free Group, and the option to become a full member remains open. Regardless, any outcome will require closer working with our local partners to address the issues described above.