

9 October 2018

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **New £250,000 unit at Russells Hall Hospital**

A new quarter-of-a-million-pound facility at Russells Hall Hospital means patients needing minor surgical procedures will no longer have to go to theatre.

The Minor Procedure Room in the outpatients department is designed to be more comfortable and less overwhelming for patients. It will also free up theatres for more patients who really need them, while making the Trust more efficient.

Patients who will be treated include those with varicose veins, those needing minor skin excisions, some eye patients having injections and those needing pain management injections without the need for x-rays.

The new facility is expected to be opened at the end of November.

Ned Hobbs, director of operations for surgery, women's and children's division, said: "This will provide significantly improved patient experience, creating a more comfortable environment that's not as overwhelming as theatre can be, and with a far shorter time spent within the hospital

"Theatres are obviously our most expensive resource, and some procedures do not need that full theatre environment. It means our theatres can be reserved only for cases that absolutely must take place there."

Chief operating officer Karen Kelly added: "It's really exciting to be making this improvement which will have so much benefit for our patients."

The project has taken more than a year from first planning, involving everyone from operational management to finance, estates and clinicians. It will be led by a clinical director and matron, and new scrub nurses have been recruited for the area.

## **CAPTION**

Pictured from left are Craig Hicklin, variations and minor works manager; Faith Newrick, assistant directorate manager, surgery, women's and children's division; Theagh Bytheway, theatre duty manager; Tracy Simner, deputy nursing manager; and Hywel Rees, theatre speciality manager – technical.

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