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Media Release

With pix: Pharmacy in 2014; demolition in June; Pharmacy site cleared

Old Pharmacy's final farewell at Bath's RUH

It's all change at the front of the Royal United Hospital with demolition of the old Pharmacy now completed.

Patients and visitors have been able to follow the progress as contractors levelled the site in just over a month.

As works continue, there is likely to be some vehicle access disruption from Monday 31 July to 8 August along the road leading to the Fracture and Orthopaedic Unit. Pedestrians will be able to walk through, but anyone needing assistance or a wheelchair should ask at main reception for a porter to help them.

The Pharmacy site clearance means that building work can begin this autumn on new RNHRD and Therapies Centre. The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust is creating a purpose-built outpatient centre that will bring together its renowned rheumatology, pain and therapies services, which are currently provided at the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases' (RNHRD) Mineral Water Hospital site.

Facilities will include a new hydrotherapy pool, a gym, a therapeutic garden and clinical areas to improve the patient experience. The new centre is expected to be completed by 2019.

The RUH's Forever Friends Appeal is raising a minimum of $\pounds 2m$ towards this $\pounds 16m$ project in association with the RNHRD Charitable Fund – with the Brownsword Charitable Foundation challenging the public to back the appeal by generously promising to match every pound donated up to the level of $\pounds 1m$.

Chairman: Brian Stables Chief Executive: James Scott The new RNHRD and Therapies Centre is part of the Trust's estates redevelopment plan to make the RUH fit for the future and to further improve services to patients. To find out more visit <u>www.ruh.nhs.uk/fit4future</u>

Ends

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