

Date: 04.07.16

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## Media Release

### Blue Badge parking at the RUH – have your say

Patients, visitors and staff at the Royal United Hospital in Bath are being invited to have their say about how it can further improve the parking experience for Blue Badge holders, as part of the hospital's overhaul of parking at the Combe Park site.

It comes as a new car park with an extra 300 spaces is nearing completion at the RUH.

The hospital is working with Nimbus disability consultancy, one of the country's leading providers of independent disability-related advice.

Nimbus will be holding an event on July 15 where public and staff Blue Badge permit holders can hear about new parking arrangements, and have a discussion about how the hospital can ensure a fair and accessible approach to parking for all.

Martin Austin, Nimbus managing director, said: "We are supporting the RUH to ensure that disabled people are able to help shape the services they use. On the day we will explore a number of issues common to parking for disabled people: accessibility, availability and affordability. Are disabled parking spaces in the right place, for example? Would Blue Badge holders consider paying to park to protect their spaces from misuse? What more can be done to enhance the parking experience at the RUH?"

Howard Jones, RUH Director of Estates and Facilities, said: "Involving disabled people is an important principle to ensure that services they use are as inclusive as possible. This is an opportunity for us to look at our current parking systems and to hear the views of Blue Badge permit holders."

The public event on July 15 is being organised by Nimbus and will be held at the RUH. You can register your interest in attending online at

<http://www.nimbusdisability.com/blog/royal-united>

**Ends**