

Issue 12 – 4 September 2020

Latest news from Torbay and South Devon

We are sending you this update to keep you informed about Trust developments. Please feel free to share these updates amongst your networks. If you wish to unsubscribe, or you have been passed this update by someone else and you would like to subscribe please email: communications.tsdf@nhs.net

We are ensuring our website has the latest information on it so please do look there for the most up-to-date information www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk. You can also keep up-to-date by following us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

Consultation begins in Teignmouth and Dawlish



The Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) led consultation in the Coastal Locality which includes Teignmouth and Dawlish began this week on 1 September and will continue until 26 October 2020. The consultation is being run differently from normal because of the need to socially distance, but there will be lots of other opportunities for people to take part and give

their views. The dates and times for the online meetings have now been published on the CCG website.

These meetings are on:

Friday 11 September	2:30pm – 4pm
Thursday 17 September	10:30am – 12noon
Wednesday 23 September	6pm – 7:30pm
Tuesday 29 September	3pm – 4:30pm
Monday 5 October	11.30am – 1pm
Saturday 17 October	11am – 12:30pm

For more information on the meetings and how to join, visit the [consultation meetings page](#).

The consultation document with a questionnaire is being delivered to thousands of homes in the area and there will be a number of online consultation sessions for people to take part in. People can also go onto the CCG website find out more including how to take part in the online sessions as well as other ways to give their views. The web address is: www.devonccg.nhs.uk/teignmouth-and-dawlish

Healthwatch Devon (covering Plymouth, Torbay and Devon) is independently overseeing the consultation and evaluating the proposals to:

- Move high-use community clinics from Teignmouth Community Hospital to a health and wellbeing centre in Teignmouth
- Move specialist outpatient clinics from Teignmouth Community Hospital to Dawlish Community Hospital, four miles away
- Move day case procedures from Teignmouth Community Hospital to Dawlish Community Hospital
- Continue with the model of community-based intermediate care, reversing the decision to establish beds in Teignmouth Community Hospital

If these proposals are agreed, once services are up and running in the new health and wellbeing centre and Dawlish Community Hospital the Teignmouth Community Hospital site would be put on the market so that the sale proceeds can be used for NHS services.

Day surgery unit reopens at Torbay Hospital

Earlier this year, with the onset of the pandemic, we had to radically change how we provided services. We are really pleased to say that we are now stepping back up many of our services whilst ensuring there are measures in place to ensure they are safe.

This week saw the reopening of the Day Surgery Unit at Torbay Hospital which we know is good news for the patients waiting to undergo a day procedure. It is expected to be operating at full capacity in October.



Mr Ian Currie, Trust Acting Medical Director, explains: “We are now safely re-introducing more non-urgent hospital services, such as cardiac investigations and some laparoscopic (‘keyhole’) surgery. We are urgently prioritising those most in need on our hospital waiting lists - the sickest and those waiting the longest. The reopening of the Day Surgery Unit is a very welcome milestone on our service recovery plans, as we

perform surgery on over 9,000 patients a year there. The waiting lists are long and we have a lot of catching up to do, but we are methodically contacting all patients and will work tirelessly to perform all needed surgery safely and as quickly as we can.”

NHS staff thanked for giving patient with a life-limiting disease a chance to thrive in Channel 4 programme



Trust staff were in the spotlight as part of a Channel 4 documentary about a local patient’s incredible journey with Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

Local man, Dr Peter Scott-Morgan, was diagnosed with MND in 2017. MND typically limits life expectancy to two years from diagnosis. However, Peter, an internationally renowned robotics scientist, refused to accept this fate and mapped his own future combining radical surgery with artificial intelligence and robotics technology.

Peter said: “This was the NHS at its very best. Everyone involved went out on a limb for me, and I can’t stress enough the impact. I’m now almost totally ‘locked-in’ but, dare I say it, my quality of life is extraordinary. I have purpose. I’m having fun. I’m now not just surviving – I’m THRIVING!”

Peter was supported in his desire to live as full a life as possible, despite his prognosis and offer him a new lease of life. The surgery and on-going support reflect one of the Trust’s main aims; focusing on what is important to individuals, enabling them to live their lives as they would want to.

Under the care of the Trust's highly skilled, medical professionals, Peter underwent two landmark sets of major surgery to pre-empt the inevitable effects of MND and prepare him to live with the impact of the disease.

Firstly, a triple-ostomy (fitting stomas in to the bladder, colon and stomach) to enable him to maintain nutrition and continue toiletry functions with dignity as Peter's ability to eat and drink diminished. This innovative surgery, although involving procedures carried out routinely for patients with a variety of conditions, was radical as the three procedures were carried out in a single operation, which is believed never to have been performed simultaneously on an MND patient anywhere before.

Secondly, an elective laryngectomy, resulting in Peter sacrificing his voice in order to save his own life, allow him to continue breathing and to avoid contracting potentially fatal pneumonia. In this landmark pre-emptive procedure Mr Philip Reece (the consultant Ear Nose and Throat surgeon) performed what is believed to be the first ever elective laryngectomy on someone with MND in the UK.

Peter has compensated for losing his voice via state-of-the-art technology. He communicates by generating his own voice (recorded before he lost it) via sophisticated computer software linked to a screen on which he spells out words using his eyes.

Dr Maree Wright, Associate Specialist in Anaesthesia at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, said: "It has been a privilege to be part of Peter's journey and work together with many other professionals to give him the opportunity to push forward the boundaries whilst living with MND."

Mr Philip Reece (consultant Ear Nose and Throat surgeon) said: "It has been both thought provoking and a great privilege to know, work with and help Peter. What has been done has been a paradigm shift in the management in some of those with MND. It will not be the right way for some sufferers, but I believe it is for Peter and will help others in the future."

Peter's incredible story, 'Peter: The Human Cyborg' can be viewed on Channel 4's catch-up website by [clicking here](#)

New post-shielding guidance

The government issued new guidance on 18 August for those who had been shielding. It lists the following changes:

- You do not need to follow previous shielding advice
- You can go to work as long as the workplace is Covid-secure, but should carry on working from home wherever possible

- Clinically extremely vulnerable children should attend education settings in line with the wider guidance on reopening of schools and guidance for full opening: special schools and other specialist settings
- You can go outside as much as you like but you should still try to keep your overall social interactions low
- You can visit businesses, such as supermarkets, pubs and shops, while keeping 2 metres away from others wherever possible or 1 metre, plus other precautions
- You should continue to wash your hands carefully and more frequently than usual and maintain thorough cleaning of frequently touched areas in your home and/or workspace
- You will no longer receive free food parcels, medicine deliveries and basic care from the National Shielding Service

Current Guidance on visiting at Torbay and South Devon Hospitals

We know that visiting family and friends while they are in hospital is crucially important to their recovery and to your own confidence around their wellbeing and recovery. We are continuously updating and reviewing our visiting arrangements in line with national and local guidance and are committed to taking the necessary steps to balance the safety and health of our patients, staff and wider community with a compassionate approach that ensures our patients and families remain connected.

We encourage that wherever possible, family and loved ones avoid face-to-face visits. However please contact the Ward to discuss the visiting considerations that relate to your relative or loved one, and we will work with you to make the necessary arrangements that keep you and your loved one safe and connected.

- By contacting the Ward, you can make an appointment to come and visit or make contact through a Virtual Visit using digital technology.
- The number of visitors at the bedside is limited to one close family contact or somebody important to the patient for one hour per day, between 4pm – 7pm. Please note that our Maternity Ward operates a different visiting policy – please visit the [Maternity Services](#) page for details.
- A second additional visitor could be permitted in exceptional circumstances. This would include a family member for individuals receiving end-of-life care.
- Other people who are in attendance to support the needs of the patient, for example a familiar carer/supporter/personal assistant, should not be counted as an additional visitor. Patients may be accompanied where appropriate and necessary to assist with the patient's communication and/or to meet the patient's health or social care needs.

Practical considerations when visiting

- Where it is possible, please maintain 2 metres social distancing throughout the visit.
- When you arrive on the Ward you will be given practical advice about social distancing, wearing personal protective equipment, handwashing and risks associated with the removal of gloves to hold hands.
- Anyone showing symptoms of coronavirus should not visit, even if these symptoms are mild or intermittent, due to the risk they pose to others. This is important for infection prevention and control.
- If you display symptoms of coronavirus you should self-isolate at home and organise a test, members of your household should also self-isolate for 14 days.
- Where a face-to-face visit is not practical then virtual visits will be supported and facilitated.

For more information about our services please go to our website <https://www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/> or contact the service direct

Pop-up clinics in Torbay

A joint NHS and Shekinah community health project is running pop-up clinics in Torbay to help eradicate a disease which causes liver damage.

People at risk from contracting the blood-borne Hepatitis C virus are encouraged to attend the clinics to be tested for the disease. A free £5 Tesco food voucher is given to people who attend as an added incentive.

The clinics are being held in homeless centres and churches where anyone can have a simple free test for the disease and offered treatment if needed.

Clinics will be held at:

- The Living Room, St. Mary Magdalene Church, Union Street, Torquay on 9th and 11th September, 11am-1pm
- The Haven, 1 Parkside Rd, Paignton on 3rd, 10th and 17th October 12noon-2pm

If you have any concerns about Hepatitis C or require further information please contact Sheila Needs on 01803 654950 or email tsdft.livernurses@nhs.net

Have you booked your flu jab?

GP surgeries across Torbay are now taking bookings for flu vaccinations as part of the largest ever flu vaccination programmes ever seen in the UK.

The following groups are entitled to a free flu vaccination:

- People who were required to shield from coronavirus - and anyone they live with
- People with some medical conditions, including diabetes, heart failure and asthma
- Pregnant women
- Pre-school children aged over two
- All primary school children and, for the first time, Year 7 pupils
- Initially, everyone aged over 65, and then all over-50s (the latter is still subject to confirmation)
- Healthcare and social care staff

Hospital car parking charges re-introduced

From 1 September hospitals across Devon, including Torbay, re-introduced car parking charges for patients and visitors.

Those entitled to free parking or concessions due to their condition or circumstances will continue to receive a free service.

Whilst we understand parking charges are not popular, they are unfortunately necessary to cover the costs of providing and running car parks. As we look to reduce our waiting lists, these costs cannot be taken from funds needed for essential patient care.

Car parking charges for staff are currently being waived per Government guidance and will remain free for as long as this arrangement continues.



Torbay and South Devon
NHS Foundation Trust

Notice of Annual Members' Meeting

Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 12noon



Annual Members' Meeting

Date: Wednesday 16 September 2020

Time: 12noon – 1pm

As a result of COVID-19, this year's Annual Members' Meeting will take place virtually.

The theme this year is '**Celebrating our People**' and you are invited to join us on Wednesday 16 September to hear updates about the last 12 months at your Trust.

To join this event please go to <https://tsdft.uk/amm> where further details are listed on the Trust website.

If you would like to submit a question for response at the meeting please email foundationtrust.tsdft@nhs.net or call 01803 655705. The deadline for submitting questions is Monday 14 September.

The annual report and accounts for 2019/20 are available on the Trust website at <https://tsdft.uk/amm>.

www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk

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