

MTW Transport Update

Public Transport

There will be additional public transport to the hospital. The routes, frequencies etc are still the subject of discussion between the Trust, KCC, TWBC and the bus operators.

However it is likely that there will be improvements to the services between the hospital and the towns of Maidstone, Tonbridge and Tun Wells.

The Kickstart bid by KCC, Arriva, TWBC, and the Trust for government funding to make significant improvements to the route between Maidstone, Pembury and Tun Wells was successful in March this year. However, due to recent treasury budget cuts, this award was subsequently withdrawn. Discussions are now taking place on what improvements could still be made to this route.

In addition the trust has identified the transit corridors to the hospital from Tonbridge and Tun Wells as the most efficient and effective use of provision. These higher frequency routes would then link to train services to the town centres and other bus routes from further afield. Discussions on these potential improvements are also underway.

Car Parking

The original design of the hospital was based around a car parking split of 950 staff and 250 patients/visitors. The Trust plans to submit a planning application later this year to increase the patient/visitor provision to 353. In addition the Trust is looking at a variety of ways to control demand for spaces at the hospital e.g. the implementation of smarter working practices.

Staff Transport

The Trust is undertaking numerous initiatives to reduce the number of staff travelling to the hospital in single occupancy vehicles. These will form a core component of the Trust's Travel Plans and will include measures to encourage car sharing, cycling and public transport use. In addition the provision of a staff minibus is currently being considered.

Patient Transport

The Trust runs a fleet of non emergency ambulances and a voluntary car driver scheme for eligible patients. In addition a number of external volunteer car services exist that provide a service for those unable to access the hospitals by other means.