

Statement of Community Involvement

In respect of:

Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Masterplan

At: Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester

March 2022

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has been prepared by the applicants Dorset County NHS Foundation Trust (DCHFT) and Prime (UK) Developments (Prime), collectively 'the Applicants'. It relates to the proposals for new developments at Dorset County Hospital.
- 1.2. The application seeks outline planning permission for the following description of development:

“Outline Planning Application for the partial demolition of onsite buildings and structures to consolidate and expand the facilities at Dorset County Hospital campus. Development will comprise up to 10,920 sqm of net additional floorspace (including an extension to the emergency department and ICU, expansion of medical and health services and a new hospital support centre) and up to 95 residential units, green infrastructure and other ancillary works. All matters reserved except vehicular access onto Damers Road.”
- 1.3. This SCI accompanies the planning application and describes the elements of the consultation that have been undertaken prior to the submission of the application. It sets out the responses we have received during this process and how the application has sought to address the concerns raised. The following forms of consultation have been undertaken prior to submission:
 - Discussions with Dorset Council
 - Discussions with stakeholders
 - Notification of our proposals to members of the community in the vicinity of Dorset County Hospital.
 - An online public information event held between 28 February 2022 and 13 March 2022.
- 1.4. This Statement of Community Involvement is structured as follows:
 - Section 2 – The Requirement for Public Consultation
 - Section 3 – Pre-application Consultation with Dorset Council
 - Section 4 – Public Engagement
 - Section 5 – Discussions with Stakeholders
 - Section 6 – Results and Responses
 - Section 7 – Summary

2. The Requirement for Public Consultation

- 2.1.** The National Planning Policy Framework (2021) strongly encourages consultation and engagement prior to submitting a planning application. Paragraph 132 of the Framework states that:

“Applicants should work closely with those affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the community. Applications that can demonstrate early, proactive and effective engagement with the community should be looked on more favourably than those that cannot.”

- 2.2.** In addition to this, paragraph 39 states:

“Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes from the community.”

- 2.3.** The online Planning Practice Guidance resource includes a section “Before submitting an application” which has been referred to during the process.

- 2.4.** Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Prime's usual method of public consultation, a public meeting, was not feasible. As such DCHFT created an online public engagement event and sent an information pamphlet to circa 3,000 homes surrounding the hospital site.

- 2.5.** This Statement will show that DCHFT has met the national guidance relating to community engagement and pre-application discussions. Furthermore, national planning policy makes it clear that such engagement is a material planning consideration that should be looked upon favourably when determining planning applications.

3. Pre-application Consultation with Dorset Council

- 3.1. Pre-application advice has been sought from Dorset Council on the masterplan proposals at Dorset County Hospital.
- 3.2. A number of informal meetings were held with Council Officers between October 2021 and February 2022. Full details are set out in section 4 of the Planning Statement supporting the planning application.
- 3.3. Feedback was provided by the Planning Officer on the following design matters:
 - The principle of the need for development, including key worker housing on site, housing mix, improvements for staff, patients and visitors and the national support for the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit expansion.
 - The relocation of the helipad to the roof of the new Emergency Department extension.
 - Detailed discussions on design and layout, green infrastructure, informal play space and private amenity proposals, which have informed the scheme.
 - The proposed access points from Damers Road, Public Right of Way diversion, car and cycle parking including electric vehicles.
 - Principles around building appearance, material precedents and sustainability.
- 3.4. A formal written response was requested from Dorset Council planners to capture comments made.

4. Public Engagement

- 4.1. The Applicants have undertaken significant public engagement in the preparation of this planning application. This section summaries the types of engagement.
- 4.2. An online public engagement event was held between Monday 28 February and Sunday 13 March to display information on the proposed development and provide answers to likely questions. A feedback survey was made available to enable visitors to share their views with the project team.
- 4.3. To prioritise the community surrounding Dorset County Hospital an information pamphlet was delivered to 3,000 homes on the first day of the engagement, giving details of the proposed development, website links and QR code directing to the online engagement and feedback survey. A telephone number was provided for those who may find it difficult to access the information online to call with further queries. A copy of the pamphlet is attached as [Appendix 1](#) and GPS tracking data demonstrating the extent of the distribution area is attached as [Appendix 2](#).
- 4.4. In addition to the pamphlet, 100 homes directly neighbouring Dorset County Hospital also received a letter from DCHFT explaining the rationale behind further development and inviting residents to take part in the online engagement or contact DCHFT directly to discuss the development. A copy of this letter is attached as [Appendix 3](#).
- 4.5. A press release was also distributed to Greatest Hits Radio, Dorset Echo, Bridport News, Nub News, Keep 106, BBC Radio Solent/Dorset, Purbeck Gazette, Western Gazette and West Dorset Magazine. The full press release is attached as [Appendix 4](#). This resulted in a front-page article in the Dorset Echo and coverage in four other publications. The online article can be accessed here [Dorset County Hospital unveils £77m expansion plans | Dorset Echo](#).
- 4.6. DCHFT has made use of its communication network to share details of the online event with Foundation Trust Members. A banner was also placed on the homepage of the hospital's website and a series of posts providing information and links to the website and feedback form on its social media platforms.
- 4.7. Between 28th February and 13th March, DCHFT made a number of social media posts with the following interactions:

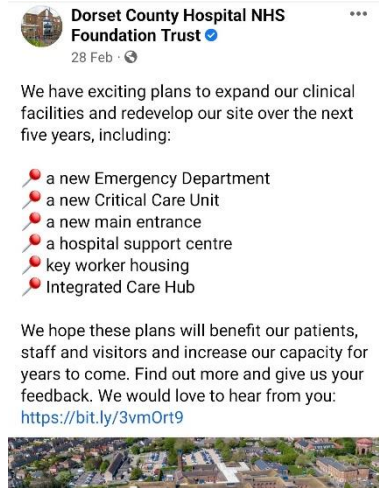
Facebook

- 6 posts on the DCHFT account page with the following combined stats:
 - Reach of 40, 838 (number of people who saw the posts)
 - 97 shares
 - 32 comments

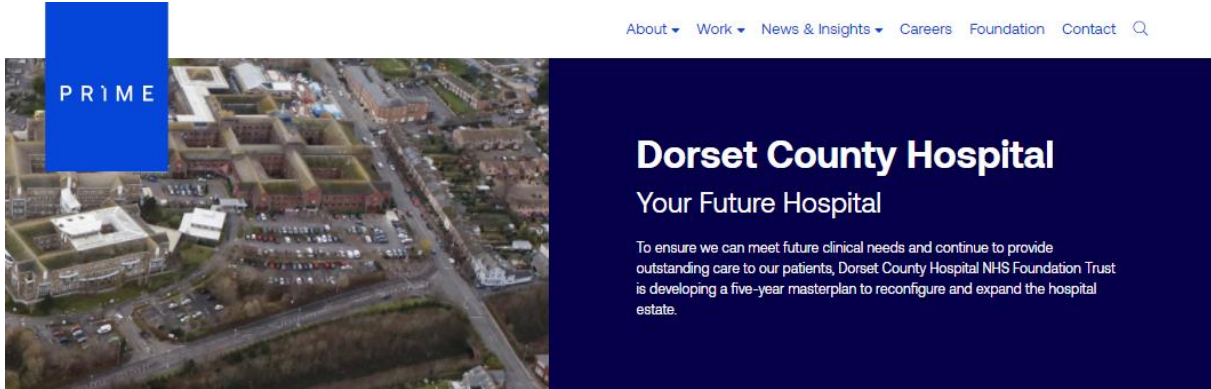
Twitter

- 6 posts made by the DCHFT account with the following combined stats:
 - Impressions: 13,476 (number of times post was seen)
 - Engagements: 510 (number of clicks, likes, retweets)

4.8. Examples of the posts are provided below



4.9. Examples of the information displayed online are provided below and remain available to view online at www.primeplc.com/consultation/dch-masterplan/



Dorset County Hospital

Your Future Hospital

To ensure we can meet future clinical needs and continue to provide outstanding care to our patients, Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is developing a five-year masterplan to reconfigure and expand the hospital estate.

Why do we need a masterplan?

Dorset County Hospital (DCH) provides emergency and planned care to a population of approximately 300,000 across the west of the county. In 2017, NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group completed a Clinical Services Review which confirmed that we would continue to be the emergency and planned hospital for the region. Investment is now imperative to ensure that the hospital can deliver our patients' and clinicians' needs for years to come.

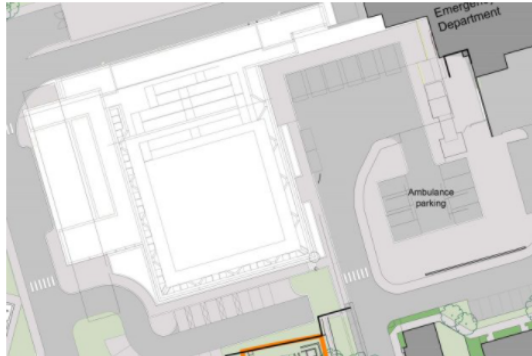
The Government's New Hospitals Programme will see 40 new hospitals built across the UK by 2030. More than £77m in funding has been earmarked from the programme to allow us to expand our clinical facilities at DCH. We also have aspirations to improve the main hospital site, as well as re-develop our Trust Headquarters and the former Damers School site. We have identified six projects which would transform the experience for everyone:

- New Emergency Department (ED)
- New Critical Care Unit
- New Main Entrance
- New Hospital Support Centre
- Key Worker Housing
- New Integrated Care Hub

These are all part of the Trust's Your Future Hospital programme, which sets out development plans on the DCH site over the next five years. The Trust is working on the scheme in partnership with Prime, an award-winning specialist health and care property company. We successfully teamed up on the multi-storey car park (MSCP), which will improve parking for patients, staff and visitors. The MSCP is due to be completed this summer (2022).

View a larger version of the hospital site plan [here](#).

Emergency Department (ED)



Continuing to provide outstanding care

Our Emergency Department (ED) has been ranked as one of the top 10 in the country for emergency care, even though we currently see twice the number of people the department was originally built for. The ED team work extremely hard to provide high-quality care. We want to provide an environment that allows them to continue to provide outstanding care and give patients the best possible experience for years to come.

The New Hospitals Programme will allow us to build a new ED on part of the site of the former Damers School building, which would be demolished to facilitate the expansion. It will have a link corridor into the existing hospital and the helipad will be relocated onto the roof, with ambulance parking situated on the site of the current helipad. The layout for the ED would be reconfigured to work better, with dedicated areas for a majors unit, minor injuries unit and paediatrics. Patients would access this facility via a new entrance off Damers Road, with short-stay parking provided.

During construction, our current ED would stay in operation, with construction managed around it. The ED would then move into the new building once it is completed. The existing ED would be repurposed.

Critical Care Unit (CCU)

Maintaining our high standards of critical care

With ongoing housing developments, a growing population, increased tourism and the COVID-19 pandemic, we have never had a higher demand for our critical care services. This is where seriously ill patients receive specialist care. It's vital that we keep up with this demand without compromising care for our patients and support for their loved ones.

At present our hospital has 11 critical care bed spaces. The New Hospitals Programme will enable us to build a 24-bed critical care unit suitable to serve our community for the next 25 years. The new Critical Care Unit (CCU) would sit directly above the new Emergency Department (ED) on part of the site currently taken up by the former Damers School building.

Similar to the ED project, our current CCU would remain open until the new facility is built, with the space being repurposed once services have relocated.



Access Routes

Improving vehicle flow and emergency vehicle access

A new access point off Damers Road would be required to the south of the new Emergency Department (ED) to enable service vehicles and patients to reach the department with ease. This improved configuration will in-turn provide ambulances with a separate, dedicated access route as the existing blue light access from Damers Road will not be affected.

We do not anticipate an increase in the number of vehicle movements to the hospital as we are developing plans to meet current demand. The new access route will decrease congestion by improving vehicle flow into the site and prevent conflict for ambulances on arrival. The site currently has three ambulance parking bays – this will be increased and a waiting area for up to ten vehicles will be created. We also plan to develop a dedicated drop-off area and increase the amount of short-stay parking.

This project would require development on the current helipad site. A new rooftop helipad will be created on the ED building, easing disruption for our neighbours by preventing road closures and removing noise and downdraft disturbance to a greater distance. The Trust is working with the Ambulance Service and Air Ambulance team to identify a suitable temporary location off-site for the construction phase of the project until a new rooftop helipad can be opened.

This is a chance to have your say

To make changes to our site we need to apply for planning permission. We will be doing this in phases. In the coming months we will apply to Dorset Council for outline planning permission. This allows for a decision to be made on the general principles of how our site can be developed.

As part of that application we will be including feedback on the proposals from patients, staff and the wider community. To capture your thoughts on the plans we have created an online survey. It is anonymous and the results will help influence the designs as they progress.

Take part in the survey by clicking [here](#)

If the council grants permission for our outline planning application, it would be subject to conditions. We would then need to submit full planning permission for each scheme and we would provide further opportunities for you to give feedback.

5. Discussions with Stakeholders

5.1. In addition to consulting with Dorset Council and the general public. The Applicants have engaged with several other local stakeholders to inform them of the proposals:

Dorset County Hospital Staff

5.2. During February and March 2022, a range of engagement sessions took place with staff, including:

- Information newsletter sent to Hospital Governors and patient representatives with follow up site visit.
- A virtual session which was attended by over 100 staff. A recording of the session was circulated to all staff afterwards.
- Two in-person drop-ins held in the hospital.
- Display placed in the staff restaurant with the project team available to discuss the plans with staff.
- Your Future Hospital staff bulletin.
- Included in the weekly CEO bulletin, emailed to all staff.
- Included in two of the weekly staff bulletins, emailed to all staff.
- Push notification to all staff via the staff app.
- Banner placed on the staff Intranet page.

5.3. Staff were able to provide feedback on plans via the online survey. Examples of the articles sent to staff are provided at [Appendix 5](#).

Wider health system

5.4. DCHFT has discussed the proposals with the wider health system, including community providers and Primary Care Network (GPs within the catchment area). A poster was distributed with a request it be displayed in reception areas.

Dorchester Town Council

5.5. Representatives of the DCHFT project team attended the Dorchester Town Council Planning and Environment Committee on Monday 7th March 2022. A presentation was given explaining the proposals and the requirements for each. Comments and feedback were received and have been considered within the submission information.

Duchy of Cornwall

5.6. As a local significant landowner, and developer of Poundbury, with phases still on site the proposals were discussed, in particular the residential elements to consider matters pertinent to this type of building use in the local area.

6. Results and Responses

- 6.1.** During the two weeks that the event was open for feedback, the webpage received 1387 visits. A total of 376 individuals completed the feedback survey, of these 234 were members of the public, the remainder staff. A summary of feedback has been produced direct from the data source and is attached at [Appendix 6](#).
- 6.2.** The feedback submitted by both staff and the public was overwhelmingly in favour of development. The table below provides an overview of the responses received, followed by a selection of comments from respondents.

Statement	Percentage of staff who agree	Percentage of public who agree
The hospital site is in need of improvement.	95%	94%
A new larger Emergency Department is needed to meet the current and future demands of our population.	97%	98%
More ambulance and short stay parking near the Emergency Department will improve patient, visitor and staff experience.	95%	97%
A new Critical Care Unit is needed to meet the current and future demands.	94%	95%
More Critical Care bed spaces will improve Dorset County Hospital.	93%	94%
The current reception area at Dorset County Hospital is suitable for the hospital and helps patients take a moment to prepare and find their way.	19%	31%
I would welcome an improved reception area with more seating, signage and increased retail options for patients, staff and visitors.	92%	82%

It is sensible to create dedicated office space next to the car park to free up space in the hospital for medical use.	85%	84%
I would welcome homes for key workers on the hospital site.	74%	79%
Providing homes for key workers will help Dorset County Hospital recruit and retain outstanding staff.	78%	84%
An Integrated Care Hub (community health facility) is a suitable development for a hospital site.	67%	70%
I would welcome a new access point being created if it improved traffic flow on Damers Road.	84%	82%
Dorset County Hospital is right to investigate ways to make the most of the space it has on site.	99%	96%
I am nervous about potential disruption while the new facilities are being built.	31%	20%
I am broadly supportive of Dorset County Hospital's plans to use government funding to improve its facilities.	94%	96%

“It is about time this site received a large investment to significantly increase capacity and capability. As a local resident within a 5 minute walk to the hospital, you have my full support.” local resident

“Whilst I agree the hospital needs improvement and a better use of its current space, as a local resident I have serious concerns about the height and imposing nature of the new buildings, given the size and expanse of the new car park. it is very important that local residents are kept informed and that there

is a 3D model of the planned buildings for members of the public to view, with time to feedback comments ahead of any planning decisions. We also live here and whilst supporting the NHS it is also our local neighbourhood and we have every right to be consulted on the planning and to be kept informed of what is happening”. local resident

“The provision for staff accommodation is vital, I have been working for the trust for a year now, I live 30 miles away in north Dorset and have been trying to relocate closer to work but have been unable to due to the current housing market. The ability to live on site, even whilst continuing to look for a property to live in near by would take such a burden off my shoulders.” staff member

“I note that the housing for Key Workers will be rental. Will there be a time limit on these rental agreements, as I would imagine that they will be popular and quickly full.

If there is not limit of length of stay, the hospital will quickly be in the same position as before in not having appropriate accommodation for staff” staff member

- 6.3.** As demonstrated by the survey responses the majority of respondents to the survey, both staff and public, were in favour of the proposed developments. Staff comments frequently highlighted the need for improvement. Staff had a number of questions which pertained to service delivery, range of housing to be provided and availability of car parking. Members of the public praised the service they receive at the hospital and expressed approval for making the most of the opportunity to update the estate. Neighbours to the site emphasised the need to consult on each project within the masterplan at an early stage.

- 6.4.** DCHFT concludes that the proposed masterplan has the broad support of its staff and the local community. What is clear is that both staff and members of the public have a strong interest in the proposed plans and would welcome an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions at an early phase of design as each project is developed further. DCHFT and Prime will make every endeavour to invite stakeholders to take an active role in the evolution of plans, to ensure that the improvements delivered truly meet the needs of staff and the community they serve, whilst being fully considerate to the experiences of neighbours.

7. Summary

- 7.1.** The purpose of this Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is to document the community engagement that has been carried out to formulate these proposals, and to show how the project team, through this planning application, has sought to address any concerns that have been raised.
- 7.2.** This SCI sets out how the Applicants conducted a consultation and public engagement exercise prior to the submission of the application. This included constructive pre-application discussions with Dorset Council and a widely publicised online public consultation event, which was held in February and March 2022.
- 7.3.** Those who engaged with plans online were given the opportunity to submit their views via an online survey with free text areas to submit comments.
- 7.4.** 376 responses were received in total. These have been documented as part of the SCI and reflect the favourable response the local community had to the proposals.
- 7.5.** This SCI shows that a robust and thorough public consultation process has been carried out, which meets the requirements set out in the NPPF despite the challenges imposed by restrictions relating to Covid-19.
- 7.6.** It is concluded that the Applicants have engaged positively with the community and the outcomes have been included when developing the proposals forming this planning application.

Appendix 1 Information Pamphlet

Your Future Hospital



What has been achieved so far - and what happens next?

Transforming our hospital estate has been part of our vision for some time. The first step to making it possible was creating the multi-storey car park (MSCP), which is under construction. The new MSCP will enable us to free up space on the site which is currently being used as surface level parking.

Now that we have created space and developed a site masterplan, we need to apply to Dorset Council for outline planning permission. As part of this application, we want to share the views of our patients, staff, visitors and neighbours on the plans we have put together. You can find details below on how to get involved in this process.

The council will consider our plan and decide whether to grant outline planning permission. If we get approval from the council, we will be able to start looking at detailed designs and plans for each project. We will be sharing information at each stage to ensure we create outstanding facilities that meet the needs of our patients, staff and visitors, and take into account the experience of our neighbours.

Find out more and get involved

We would like to invite you to find out more about our Your Future Hospital programme. More details of the new masterplan and the projects we would like to deliver can be found online. This includes a survey where you can provide feedback. The results will influence our plans and also be included as part of the outline planning application. Find out more at:

www.dchft.nhs.uk/your-future-hospital

Alternatively, you can access the information using the QR code opposite. You can also email yourfuturehospital@dchft.nhs.uk



I do not have access to the internet. How can I find out more?

If you are unable to access plans online or need to access this information in another format, please contact one of our team to make arrangements on 01305 253963.

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not able to hold a large-scale public event due to the risks it could present to our staff and the local community. We have therefore provided as much information as possible online.

We are hoping to hold face-to-face events in the future so that you can meet the team behind our plans and discuss the developments in person.

We will be in touch again when this is possible.

Your Future Hospital



A once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform Dorset County Hospital

We have exciting plans to develop the site at Dorset County Hospital. You may have heard about the government's New Hospitals Programme, which will see 40 new hospitals built across the UK. As part of that scheme, we have been earmarked £773 million of funding to expand key clinical services and improve facilities for patients, staff and visitors. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to develop our site to ensure we continue to provide outstanding care to the 300,000 people we serve across the west of the county. To deliver this, our next step is to apply to Dorset Council for outline planning permission to support our new masterplan. We have identified six projects which would transform the experience for everyone:

- New Emergency Department
- New Critical Care Unit
- New Main Entrance
- New Hospital Support Centre
- Key Worker Housing
- Integrated Community Health Hub

What is outline planning permission?

To make changes to our site we need to apply for planning permission. We will be doing this in phases. In the coming months we will apply to Dorset Council for outline planning permission. This allows for a decision to be made on the general principles of how our site can be developed.

If the council grants permission for our outline planning application, it would be subject to conditions, and we would then need to submit full planning permission for each scheme.

This leaflet includes the plan for our site, information about each project and details on how you can give feedback.



PRIME

NHS
Dorset County Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

1. New Emergency Department

Our Emergency Department (ED) currently sees twice the number of people it was originally built for. We would like to create a new ED on part of the site of the former Damers School building, which would be demolished. The layout for the ED would be reconfigured, with dedicated areas for a majors unit, minor injuries unit and paediatrics. Patients would access this facility via a new entrance off Damers Road, with the existing access point becoming a dedicated route for emergency and service vehicles. The helpad would be relocated onto the roof.

2. New Critical Care Unit

With ongoing housing developments, a growing population, increased tourism and the COVID-19 pandemic, we have never had a higher demand for our services. At present our hospital has 11 intensive care bed spaces. The development will enable us to build a 24-bed Critical Care Unit suitable to serve our community for the next 25 years. The new unit would be situated in the same building as the new Emergency Department, on the floor above. While the new Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit are being built, the existing facilities would remain open.

3. New Key Worker Housing

Dorset is a beautiful place to live and work, but it is also very expensive to rent or buy a home here and this impacts our ability to recruit and retain staff. We need to be able to offer high quality, affordable accommodation for staff that is close to their place of work.

We plan to develop a mix of studio, one, two and three-bedroom homes and apartments for our staff at the hospital, providing affordable housing for those who might not otherwise be able to live in the area.

Your Future Hospital



Our Vision

Dorset County Hospital has been providing outstanding emergency and planned care to the local community since it officially opened in 1998. In 2017, NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group completed a Clinical Services Review which confirmed that we would continue to be the emergency and planned hospital for the west of Dorset. The site has changed very little since it opened, while demand on its services has grown year on year. Investment is now imperative to ensure that the hospital can meet our patients' and clinicians' needs for years to come.

The Trust is working on its masterplan in partnership with Prime, an award-winning specialist health and care property company. We successfully teamed up on the multi-storey car park which will improve parking for patients, staff and visitors. The car park is an essential step in our programme as it frees up space on site for future development.

The image above shows our new masterplan, and how the new facilities would fit within the hospital site.

4. New Main Entrance

We would like to create a new building in the current front courtyard area to provide a better reception and relaxation space. It would improve our facilities with more comfortable seating areas and increased food and drink offerings. A second floor would provide increased hospital space for either office space or clinical facilities.

Whilst details of the internal layout and units are yet to be developed, we envisage this building improving the day-to-day experience of our patients, staff and visitors.

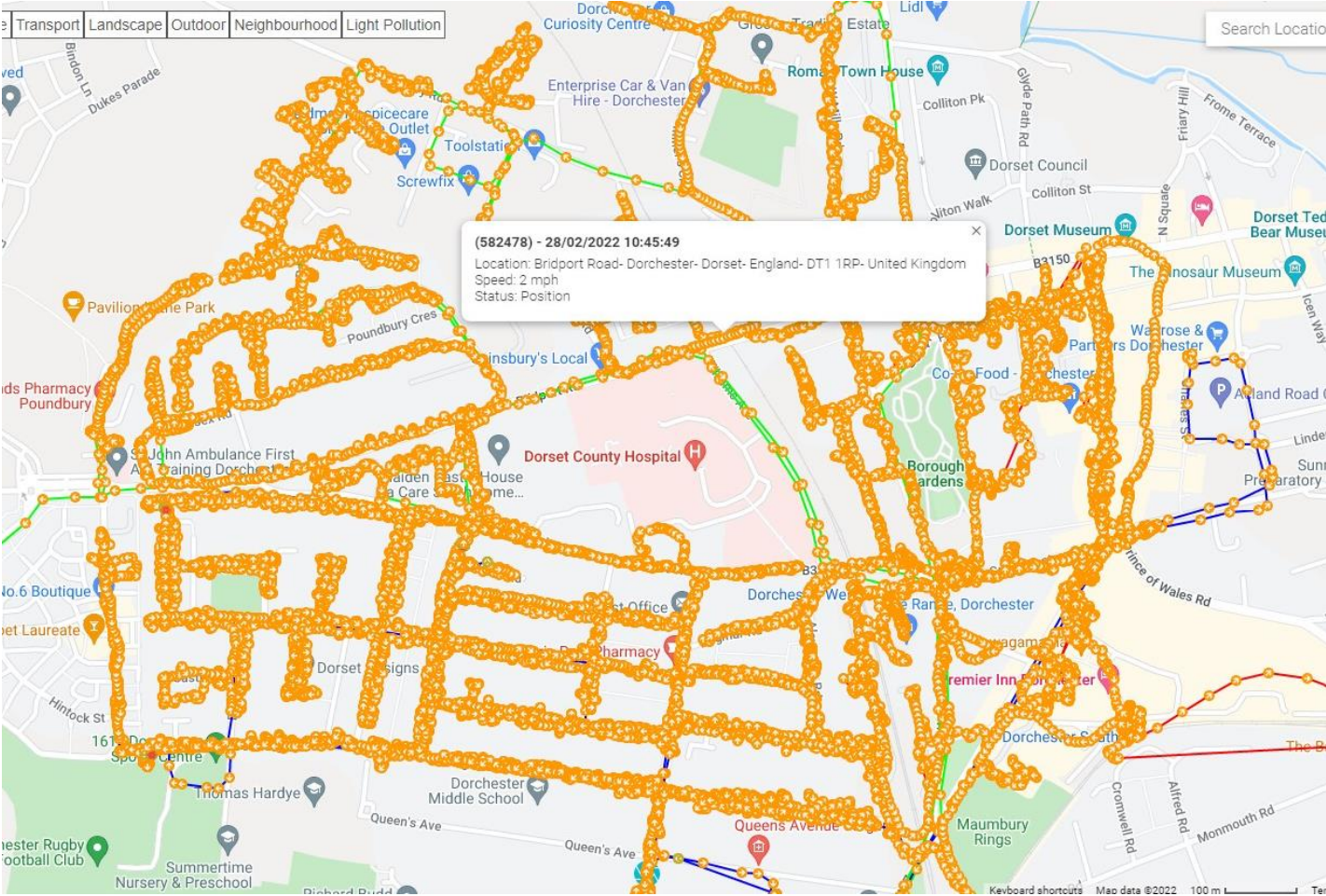
5. Hospital Support Centre

Whilst our new car park is being built, part of the site is currently taken up with a compound for contractors Willmott Dixon. Once this work is complete, we hope to develop a new building on the vacant land. This would bring together our current admin spaces into one building, in turn freeing up the estate for other uses. The building would be suitable to house administrative spaces for staff and there is also potential to provide a small outpatient area if required.

Community Health Hub

NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group plans to create 13 new community health hubs across the whole of Dorset, with Dorset County Hospital identified as a potential location. A two-storey building would be required to house a health hub. It would typically offer community-based services. Health hubs also provide a base for health workers who do the bulk of their work outside of a physical clinic but also require a practical workspace. We are currently considering whether Dorset County Hospital is a suitable site for a health hub, but have made provision for this in our plans.

Appendix 2 Extent of Pamphlet Distribution



Appendix 3 Letter to Neighbours



Dorset County Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

Dorset County Hospital
Williams Avenue
Dorchester
Dorset
DT1 2JY

Telephone: 01305 251150
Fax: 01305 254155
Minicom: 01305 254444

www.dchft.nhs.uk
yourfuturehospital@dchft.nhs.uk

Dear neighbour

Your Future Hospital programme

As a resident living close to Dorset County Hospital (DCH), we are writing to you to tell you more about our plans to develop the hospital site and invite you to provide feedback.

Our multi-storey car park is due to be completed this summer. This means we can now start to move forward with proposals to expand and improve our clinical facilities on site over the next five years.

We have been earmarked £77.3m of Government funding to build a new Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit. This would form part of the Government's New Hospitals Programme.

The Trust also has plans to create an Integrated Care Hub - where health, social care and voluntary services could work together to provide care to patients at home or in a community setting - and longer-term aspirations to build a new main entrance, hospital support centre, and key worker housing for staff.

All of these proposed developments are part of DCH's Your Future Hospital programme.

Enclosed with this letter is a leaflet with information about our plans, plus details about how to find out more online. The leaflet also explains ways you can give us your views, so we can consider your feedback before we submit our outline planning application to Dorset Council.

If we do receive outline planning permission, we would then further develop our proposals and submit full planning applications for each project – making sure you have the opportunity to give us feedback along the way.

Due to the ongoing pressures of COVID-19, we are unable to hold a large-scale public event at this time due to the risks it could present to our staff and local community. However, we do hope to be able to hold face-to-face events in the future to discuss our plans with you in more detail.

Best regards,

Nick Johnson
Interim Chief Executive
Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Appendix 4 Press Release



News Release

Community invited to comment on Dorset County Hospital's multi-million development plans

28 February 2022

Plans for a once-in-a generation redevelopment of Dorset County Hospital's (DCH) site, including a new Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit building, can now be viewed online.

DCH has been earmarked £77.3m of Government funding to build a new Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit, which would link to the existing hospital, plus create an Integrated Care Hub – where health, social care and voluntary services could work together to provide care to patients at home or in a community setting.

The scheme, if approved by local planners, would form part of the Government's New Hospitals Programme.

The Trust also has additional plans to build a new two-storey main entrance, hospital support centre and key worker housing.

All the proposed developments are part of the Trust's Your Future Hospital programme, which sets out plans for the DCH site over the next five years.

Interim Chief Executive at Dorset County Hospital Nick Johnson said:

"It's an exciting time for us at Dorset County Hospital and we're delighted to have been included in the Government's New Hospitals Programme.

"We hope that these plans will make a huge difference to our patients, staff and visitors. It would help increase capacity to meet demand and give patients the care and support they need, as well as provide staff with a better place to work, enabling them to continue to provide outstanding care to those who need it."

DCH is inviting patients and the local community to view and comment on the proposals online at www.dchft.nhs.uk/your-future-hospital until 11 March. Feedback will then be used to further develop the plans and included as part of the Trust's outline planning application.

Nick added:

"We're keen to involve our patients, staff, visitors and local communities along the way as we develop our plans, so hope people will take a look and give us their feedback."

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As part of its development plans, DCH also commits to improving the overall wellbeing of its local communities through its Social Value Pledge. This includes using local tradespeople and reducing carbon emissions through sustainable design.

DCH is being supported by Prime, an award-winning specialist health and care property company, who are working in partnership with the Trust to identify and plan improvements for the future.

They have successfully teamed up on the new 650-space multi-storey car park, set into the hill on a corner site at the bottom of Williams Avenue and Damers Road. The car park is due to open this summer and will improve parking for patients, staff and visitors, as well as free up the space needed to develop the rest of the hospital site.

Ends

Notes for editors:

Attached is an artist's impression of what the new Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit building at Dorset County Hospital could look like.

DCH currently employs around 3,500 staff. A&E demand alone is expected to continue to rise. The Emergency Department was built for 22,000 attendances per year, however in a normal year DCH sees close to 50,000 people.

For more information, please contact the communications team at communications@dchft.nhs.uk |

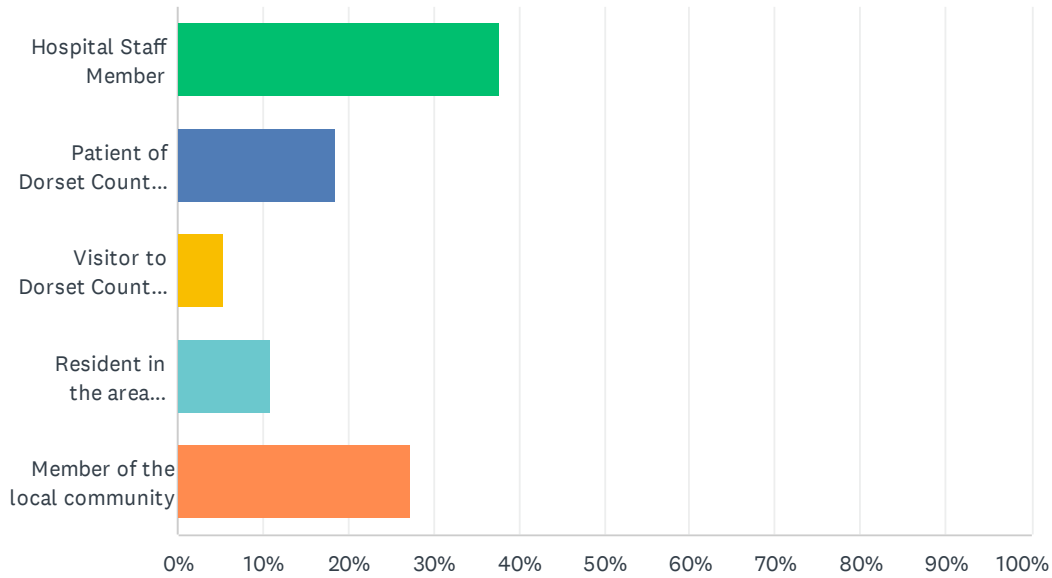
Appendix 5 Staff Communication



Appendix 6 Consultation Feedback

Q1 Please select the option below which most closely describes you

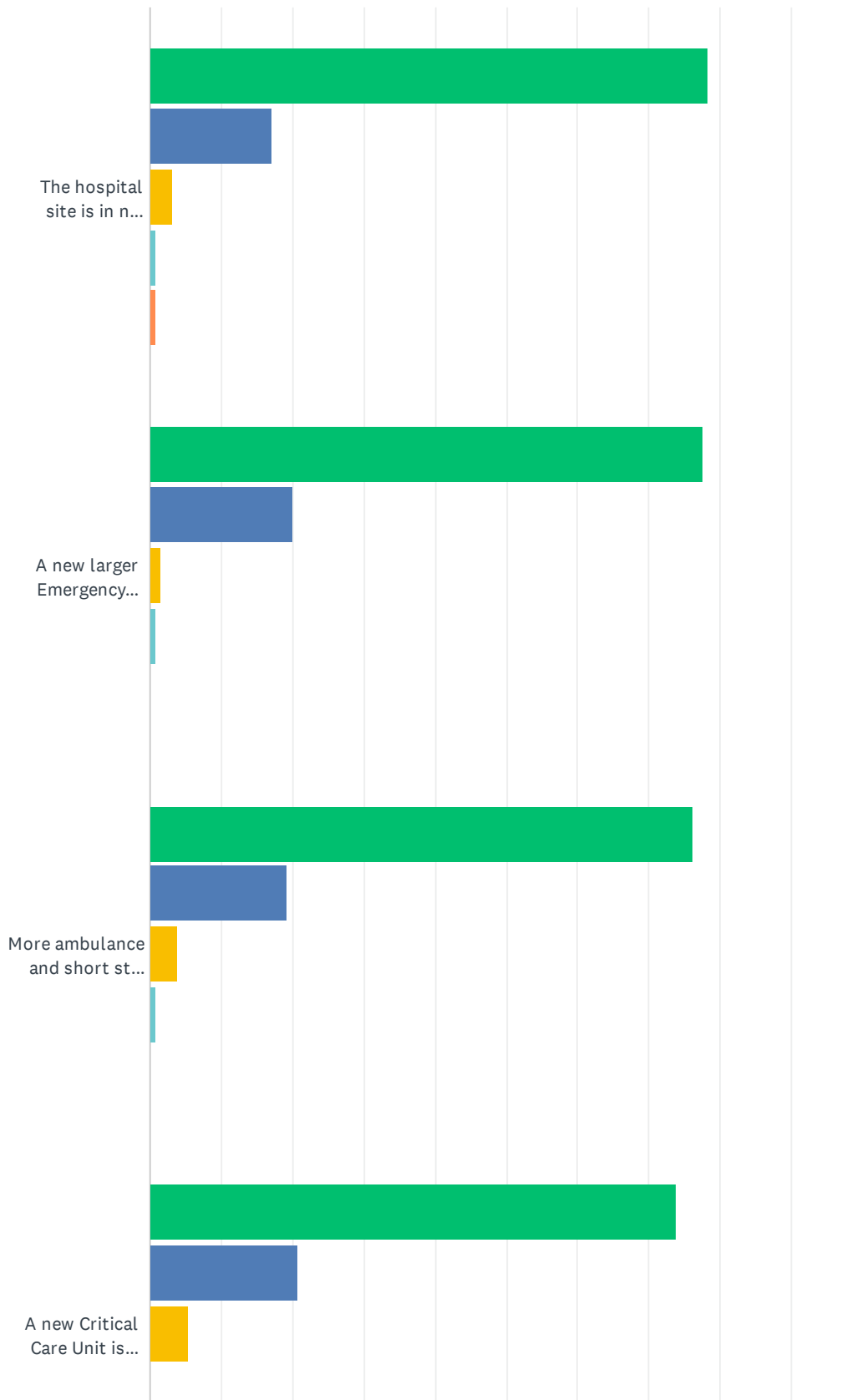
Answered: 376 Skipped: 0



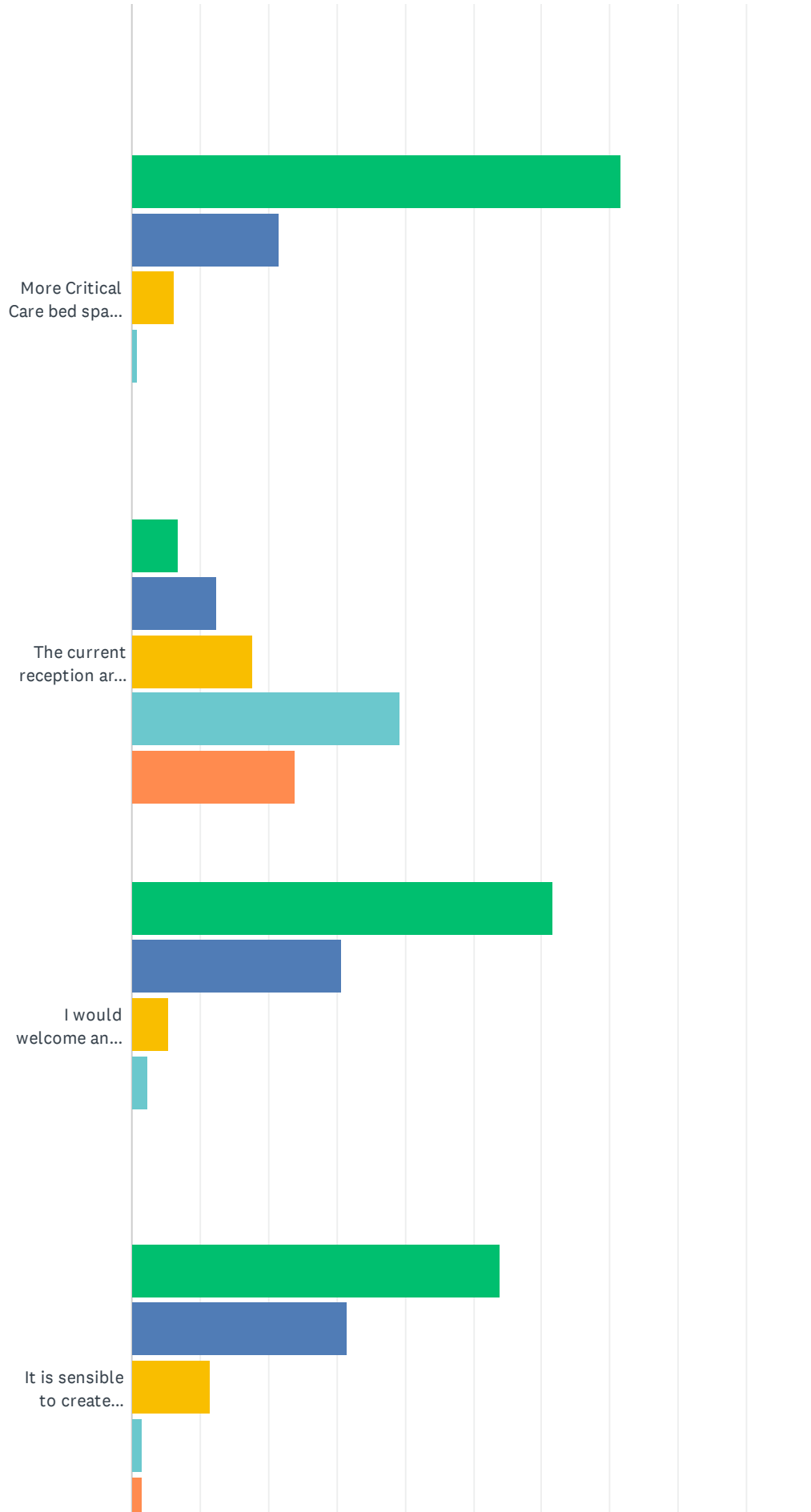
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Hospital Staff Member	37.77%	142
Patient of Dorset County Hospital	18.62%	70
Visitor to Dorset County Hospital	5.32%	20
Resident in the area surrounding the hospital	10.90%	41
Member of the local community	27.39%	103
TOTAL		376

Q2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

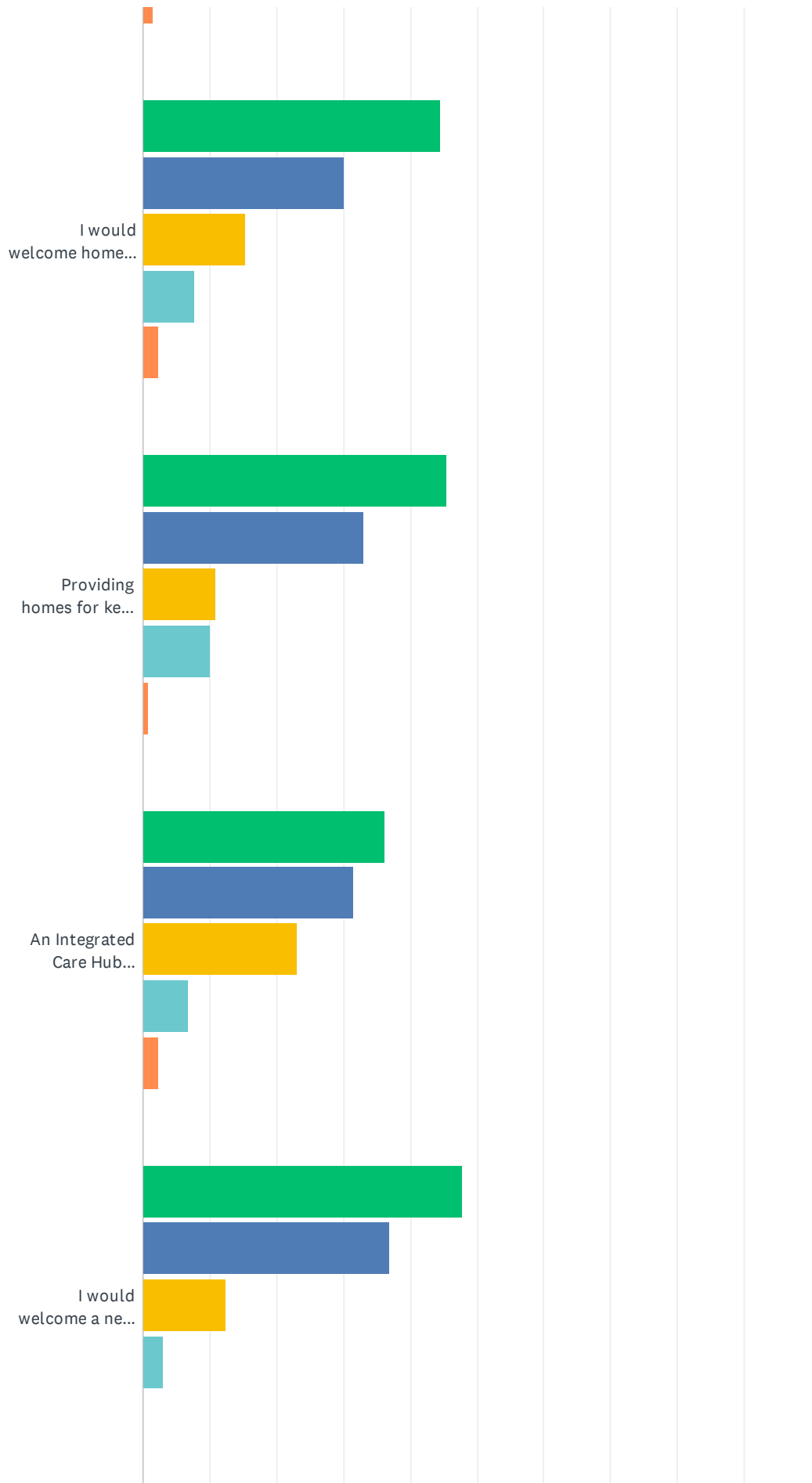
Answered: 130 Skipped: 246



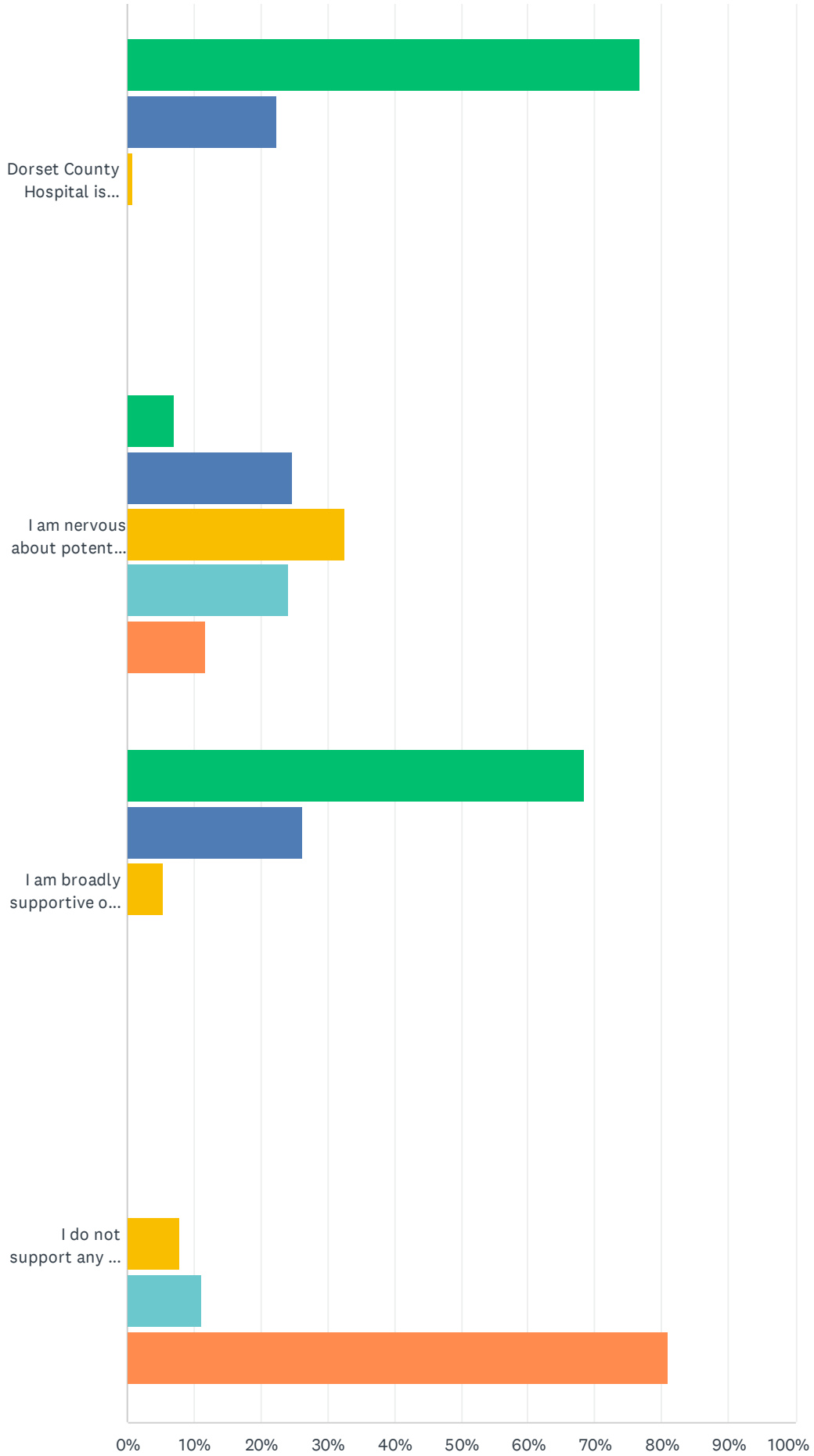
Dorset County Hospital Masterplan Survey



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	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The hospital site is in need of improvement.	78.29% 101	17.05% 22	3.10% 4	0.78% 1	0.78% 1	129
A new larger Emergency Department is needed to meet the current and future demands of our population.	77.69% 101	20.00% 26	1.54% 2	0.77% 1	0.00% 0	130
More ambulance and short stay parking near the Emergency Department will improve patient, visitor and staff experience.	76.15% 99	19.23% 25	3.85% 5	0.77% 1	0.00% 0	130
A new Critical Care Unit is needed to meet the current and future demands.	73.85% 96	20.77% 27	5.38% 7	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	130
More Critical Care bed spaces will improve Dorset County Hospital.	71.54% 93	21.54% 28	6.15% 8	0.77% 1	0.00% 0	130
The current reception area at Dorset County Hospital is suitable for the hospital and helps patients take a moment to prepare and find their way.	6.92% 9	12.31% 16	17.69% 23	39.23% 51	23.85% 31	130
I would welcome an improved reception area with more seating, signage and increased retail options for patients, staff and visitors.	61.54% 80	30.77% 40	5.38% 7	2.31% 3	0.00% 0	130
It is sensible to create dedicated office space next to the car park to free up space in the hospital for medical use.	53.85% 70	31.54% 41	11.54% 15	1.54% 2	1.54% 2	130
I would welcome homes for key workers on the hospital site.	44.62% 58	30.00% 39	15.38% 20	7.69% 10	2.31% 3	130
Providing homes for key workers will help Dorset County Hospital recruit and retain outstanding staff.	45.38% 59	33.08% 43	10.77% 14	10.00% 13	0.77% 1	130
An Integrated Care Hub (community health facility) is a suitable development for a hospital site.	36.15% 47	31.54% 41	23.08% 30	6.92% 9	2.31% 3	130
I would welcome a new access point being created if it improved traffic flow on Damers Road.	47.69% 62	36.92% 48	12.31% 16	3.08% 4	0.00% 0	130
Dorset County Hospital is right to investigate ways to make the most of the space it has on site.	76.74% 99	22.48% 29	0.78% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	129
I am nervous about potential disruption while the new facilities are being built.	6.98% 9	24.81% 32	32.56% 42	24.03% 31	11.63% 15	129
I am broadly supportive of Dorset County Hospital's plans to use government funding to improve its facilities.	68.46% 89	26.15% 34	5.38% 7	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	130
I do not support any new development at Dorset County Hospital.	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7.94% 10	11.11% 14	80.95% 102	126

Q3 If you would like to leave any comments for our consideration, please do so in the box below.

Answered: 57 Skipped: 319

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Fully support the plans	3/13/2022 4:07 PM
2	We need to future-proof our hospital and this will provide improvements for both patients and staff	3/13/2022 10:03 AM
3	Site desperately needs expansion to remain fit for purpose for the residents of west Dorset	3/13/2022 9:19 AM
4	A community hospital on the old damers school site would free up beds in the hospital The improvements do not include extra inpatient beds	3/13/2022 9:14 AM
5	Please create more offices and working space for clinical staff ie doctors, nurses, pharmacists etc., not just trust "hubs" for admin workers. Each time a hospital "develops", only the trust admins, CEOs ad their secretaries get nicer office upgrades while the actual on-floor key workers have to eat lunch in a broom closet. Appalling! Go to Lulworth and Abbotsbury ward to confirm for yourself. I'm sure the CEO's secretary's office is larger than the "staffroom"/broom closet/relatives' quiet room for nurses and doctors to take breaks and eat in during a 12.5 hour shift, a shift which no admin worker EVER does. Shameful really. Please include that in your plans as I haven't seen anything substantial regarding that yet. A place for staff to rest and eat in peace while working a long shift is not a luxury. It's a necessity and it's alarming that it's not been mentioned anywhere in this proposed plan.	3/13/2022 9:14 AM
6	Better virtual reality pictures would show better what is planned eg car park and ambulance parking	3/13/2022 7:13 AM
7	When considering how to use space, specifically as it relates to reception, patient navigation, etc, please do consider linking with the Digital Services team (via Jeni Frampton) as there may be digital options that can be considered to support this (i.e. Interactive indoor 'google maps', use of QR codes, etc) - there is already a plan to trial this with an internal development for paediatrics. The trial is intentionally scalable, so could be used Trust-wide with additional development resource, etc. Let's make sure we join up the dots!	3/11/2022 8:59 AM
8	You should have an elective surgical centre and outpatients on poundbury and admin staff off sites. Need improved wards look cluttered and dirty with kit scattered everywhere very bad first impressions and staff never saying hello when walk on wards. Invest in IT and portable phones wards never ever answer phones! Need more theatre capacity	3/10/2022 8:55 PM
9	Will there actually be a paediatric area, because there is alot of conflicting statements saying this will not happen because there the current numbers do not justify this	3/9/2022 7:17 PM
10	Hospital accommodation should not take up as much as the available development site as proposed as many of the staff that are prioritised for accommodation are generally higher banded professions that would be able to afford rent within the local area. The hospital needs to look at how it can better accommodate the increasing demand for healthcare instead of housing staff.	3/9/2022 5:49 PM
11	This will be the biggest development of the site that DCH has ever seen. As the community around us grows, we desperately need the additional space to provide emergency care and critical care to our patients. Without these developments the care we can provide including the recruitment of staff will be affect.	3/9/2022 5:42 PM
12	DT1 area exclusion for parking permit is no longer suitable, especially as now DCH expanded with buildings off-site. Some DT1 areas can reach +30mins walking distance creating issues especially when it is raining, windy or freezing cold. Personally we live at the edge of DT1 and takes me around 35/40mins to walk to the office in these conditions. In addition, my husband who works clinically in the main hospital, who might be slightly closer but will need to bring multiple changes with this type of weather conditions to allow him to work with dry clothes,	3/9/2022 8:46 AM

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following a 15/20mins walk. We hope that the exception will be changed with the multi storey car park to allow us to arrive at work with ease (and dry) when it is wet and windy outside.

13	Is there a potential to provide nursery day care for children of staff? Within our department, I can say that we have quite a number of staff who are child-bearing and some of their concerns coming to work is the lack of support for childcare that sometimes impact their ability to be at work at all. A day nursery can probably help in supporting staff to provide emergency childcare for those times when usual arrangements don't work.	3/7/2022 4:35 PM
14	1. Is it possible to have internal access from the new main reception area to the East Wing? 2. Will the public be able to access the new ED and ICU internally from the new main reception area?	3/7/2022 1:58 PM
15	I have concerns surrounding the housing, there are not many houses in the proposal, mainly flats, plus a lot of green space which could fit in more houses, but most importantly how would they be fairly allocated? Is it temporary accommodation? It would only cover an extremely small percentage of staff and it doesn't lend itself to families at all. I personally feel it would be put to better use to provide more clinical facilities or more office accommodation. I also question whether a 3 storey building is enough office space, given staff are currently based at varying locations across Dorchester.	3/7/2022 1:19 PM
16	Obviously expansion of Emergency department and CCU entails additional workforce; I trust this is also being looked into.	3/7/2022 11:28 AM
17	This is a much needed development for staff, patients and visitors, the accommodation is much needed and will help with staff retention which will in turn help patients. This will provide the people of Dorset with the hospital they deserve.	3/7/2022 10:57 AM
18	Good proposal for use of the site	3/7/2022 10:20 AM
19	Turning the whole of current Trust HQ and Damers school into Social housing show a lack of foresight for future development of the hospital. Better to buy other land off sight if you want to build housing instead of employing local people. Have you heard of tenants Right to buy? Better to build a new Trust HQ on the existing Trust HQ car park, as previously planned. Once you've filled those social housing with this quarter's latest international staff, what will you do in the next year?	3/7/2022 1:34 AM
20	Providing a few homes will not solve staffing. It's a problem now and will be a bigger problem in the future. Without staff any future plans are futile. This is a government issue and not a trust issue, but I feel it's not fair to put pressure on an already stretched and understaffed service.	3/5/2022 9:22 AM
21	This is an important development	3/5/2022 7:33 AM
22	The hospital is at capacity more often than not, these extension projects will benefit all stakeholders, including north staff and patients. The provision for staff accommodation is vital, I have been working for the trust for a year now, I live 30 miles away in north Dorset and have been trying to relocate closer to work but have been unable to due to the current housing market. The ability to live on site, even whilst continuing to look for a property to live in near by would take such a burden off my shoulders.	3/4/2022 10:58 AM
23	A new audiology department would be nice so they don't have to share it with MDU	3/3/2022 6:58 PM
24	I work on main reception expanding that area is a great idea	3/3/2022 5:05 PM
25	How many parking spaces do we have now and how many are being created with the multi story? How many will be lost due to the new building? Are we as staff any better off ?	3/3/2022 3:30 PM
26	Rather than focusing on attracting new staff with accommodation, the focus should be on keeping current staff and investing in their desires to progress, staff wellbeing areas and basic parking needs; the multi storey will only be replacing current parking and not increasing. These accommodation options also discriminate against employees with families needing accommodation. Realistically, how much time are they going to be free and able to sit in and tend to their gardens? The community care hub in my opinion should be further into the rural community as a base, the idea of these hubs are for those unable to access the main hospital site due to its location to be able to use. This space would instead be ideal for dentistry with increasing need and pressure from patients not being able to access dental care over the pandemic. An improved entrance area should be the last priority. It will only be as good as the available staffing for it and their knowledge/ ability to direct visitors. Extra seating could	3/3/2022 3:28 PM

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inadvertently lead to it becoming a mass new waiting area. The a&e does need expansion. Possibly with a dedicated children's a&e department? This would also open up more attractive job opportunities for pediatric trained professionals.

27	Hospital Support Centre sounds like a good idea but should have individual office spaces for each team rather than an open plan layout. This would aid concentration and help with confidentiality as many teams have to take/make sensitive and sometimes difficult phone calls.	3/3/2022 1:02 PM
28	I had heard that a nursing home style area was being designed also. We have too many people in beds that do not need them and my worry is that all the ccu and ED elements can be improved but we need to ensure there is availability to move patients out of the area to stop 12 and 24 hour breaches..I have seen it in Portsmouth 10 years ago without capacity to move patients on the area became one massive EDAU...we need to look at the whole infrastructure. Dorset has an aging population, we know that and I worry community services are not there to work alongside and support.	3/3/2022 11:41 AM
29	Consideration could be made for a new staff hub, chill out area, staff information point etc	3/3/2022 7:32 AM
30	PLEASE PLEASE ensure there is enough parking as it considerably increases stress for both staff and patients EVERY DAY	3/2/2022 5:46 PM
31	I would like to see green outdoor areas for staff lunch breaks, with seating. These could also be used by visitors.	3/2/2022 3:16 PM
32	definitely need a new road to exit onto Damers road , as current exit is dangerous	3/2/2022 3:15 PM
33	This development is fundamental to the health of West Dorset people. The merger in the east of the county will push services away from Poole, thus DCH needs to grow.	3/1/2022 10:38 PM
34	Are staff still going to be charged to park? What about theatres?Are their facilities not being included in all these plans? Where are the staff going to come from with expansion of facilities when there are not enough to cover existing ones?	3/1/2022 10:27 PM
35	I support the development of key worker housing but this does not need to be onsite. This space would be better used for clinical expansion	3/1/2022 9:19 PM
36	I don't see how housing would meet the needs of staffing in any way shape or form. The space available would mean you could only build a limited amount and for a trust that employees 1000's of staff you are only going to be able to offer limited housing. Further to this, I anticipate the housing will go to those at the higher band of pay anyway, who can afford better accomodation.	3/1/2022 3:10 PM
37	As a long-standing NHS employee, I initially worked at the 'original' DCH in Princes Street, before our 'new' hospital on the current site was built and we were moved lock, stock and barrel here, since when, new housing has been developed on the site we had been occupying. Staff were excited to be invited to a tour (complete with hard hats!) and the new hospital appeared absolutely massive compared to what we had been used to! At that time our locality did not have the numerous urban and rural housing developments which have since been built and the 'new' Poundbury was in its infancy. Since moving here in the 1990's, we have seen local residential development far exceed the educational, health and social care resources currently provided, hence the desperate need for a balanced infrastructure. Moving forward and taking these factors into account, without doubt, a well-equipped and enlarged and extended local hospital with integrated social care hub and community facilities is now required to take us into the modern age and the plans look interesting as well as exciting and deserve to be supported. The only negative, is that Dorchester and Weymouth as well as the surrounding villages has seen large, sprawling housing developments in recent years, leading to a gradual decline in important environmental factors and I therefore don't agree that yet more housing is required and the assigned area would be better utilised and earmarked for potential future medical care - as a locally born resident, there is now an abundance of rental and other available properties compared to previous years. It is difficult to accept that this naturally beautiful Jurassic Coast we are privileged to live in wouldn't be a huge magnet in itself given also, the enlarged and improved medical facilities which would attract key personnel to the area. It could be said that medical staff on completion of their training have genuinely expressed a wish to remain at DCH, but no vacancies in which to do so!!!	3/1/2022 12:31 PM
38	As part of the chemotherapy refurbishment it would be ideal to locate the haematology secretaries out of the clinical area, they are noisy and inappropriate for the cancer environment	3/1/2022 12:01 PM

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and moving them would free up their room enabling other senior staff to have an office space, especially with Covid as we have four senior staff members currently sharing one office with frequent visits from other staff members to collect paperwork from the printer.

39	Suggested plan does a good job at clinically planning for the future for example higher patient numbers however it does not plan at all for increased travel to and from the hospital for patients or staff. Parking is the single most important item yet to be considered, doubling current capacity would only accommodate staff and patients/visitor numbers now, when planning for the future this should be increased again. This hospital serves many surrounding rural areas where public transport is limited or non-existent, this means that staff and visitors alike do (and always will) rely on parking on site. Residential roads surrounding the hospital are also full to capacity and plagued by vandalism, as well as the narrow streets being difficult pass oncoming traffic, causing traffic jams and potential accidents. This issue requires some careful thought and practical solutions.	2/28/2022 5:57 PM
40	Look after your band 2 staff much better. They are dedicated but poorly paid	2/28/2022 4:29 PM
41	Better planning for transitioning period would be beneficial to ensure patient safety during intervening structural phases	2/28/2022 2:42 PM
42	With all the new housing developments in the area the hospital is in great need of expanding.	2/28/2022 2:38 PM
43	The 20 minute short term parking bays are useful for patients and more of these would be useful. Also loading bays for staff would be a great.	2/28/2022 2:25 PM
44	I do not feel that there is enough consideration being given to the lack of single accommodation. Many people we attract to work at the Trust are overseas nurses who have no homes for 12 months and then want to live further away and we should be approaching the key person accommodation with this in mind. The accommodation there should be viewed as a temporary solution not permanent and we should therefore be aiming to maximise the space available. It is our lower paid staff who are struggling to find accommodation and we are not catering for their needs as much as we could and the call for such a limited amount of housing does not really resolve the problem.	2/28/2022 9:27 AM
45	So excited by these plans & that the development that is so badly needed is finally happening!	2/28/2022 9:24 AM
46	is it sensible to have housing directly adjacent to the main hospital? the site is small and there is little scope for future development of clinical space that could connect easily with the main hospital	2/28/2022 9:11 AM
47	Please incorporate a 'changing places' facility for those who need specialist equipment and a larger space to be able to go to the toilet in a dignified and safe way	2/28/2022 8:52 AM
48	I am very excited to see how the hospital develops with these planned works. The car park and ED/CCU expansions are very much needed. I do worry as I am sure many others do about the increasing demand on bed capacity. I feel like freeing up clinical space to increase bed capacity is vital. The new level 2 area above the current disabled car park is a huge space and would be ideal for a new ward or 2...? Expansion of trauma or new ortho elective ward as ortho elective and also fractured hips bring in income to the trust.	2/27/2022 12:47 PM
49	Major expansion projects are only viable if the whole of the hospitals support infrastructures are also expanded and improved. Are there plans for this ie more porters, housekeeping, pathology, IT staff to support the obvious increase in service users. I suspect the support services will not receive the expansion and financial support required.	2/27/2022 12:27 AM
50	Dorchester is getting bigger. The hospital has to move with the times and prepare for a growing and ageing population. If the opportunity (and money) is there to improve and expand we must grab it with both hands. I'm not convinced we need to provide housing though. I would rather see this land saved for even more future development of clinical areas.	2/26/2022 2:33 PM
51	why not be bold and consider having our own interim care agency run by DCHFT staff. Patients that then have no reason to reside could be discharged home whilst waiting for POC from outside care agencies.	2/25/2022 5:32 PM
52	Consideration should be given to whether additional beds / wards are incorporated into the plan. This is being done at other hospitals, supports elective recovery and is a requirement to support the care of the expanding and ageing local population.	2/25/2022 5:05 PM
53	This survey is being sent out after the decisions have already been made. Staff would like to	2/25/2022 4:51 PM

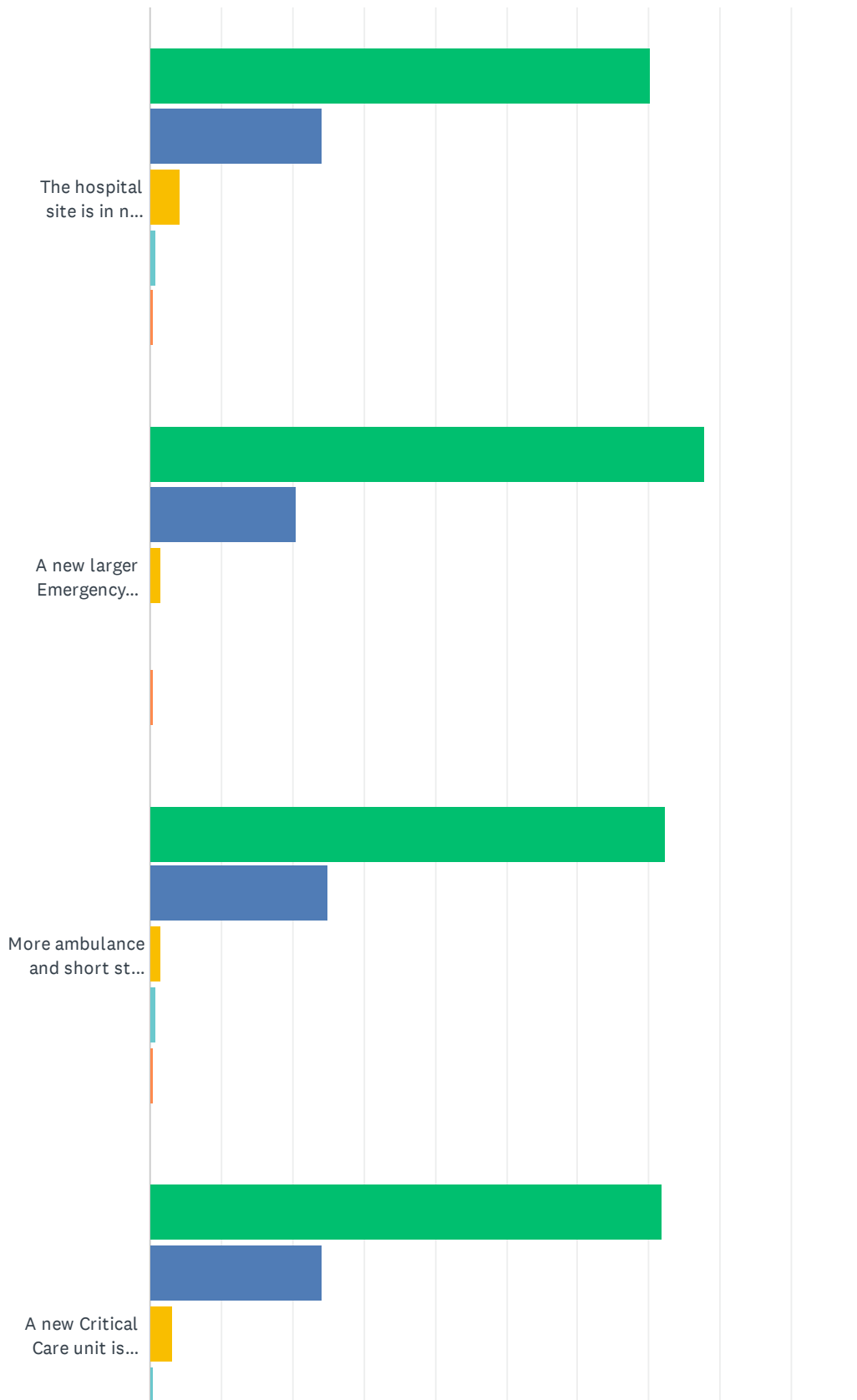
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feel more involved, especially in a clinical respect when things are being built and set up. Otherwise we are left with a building unsuitable needing adaptations. Involve us!!

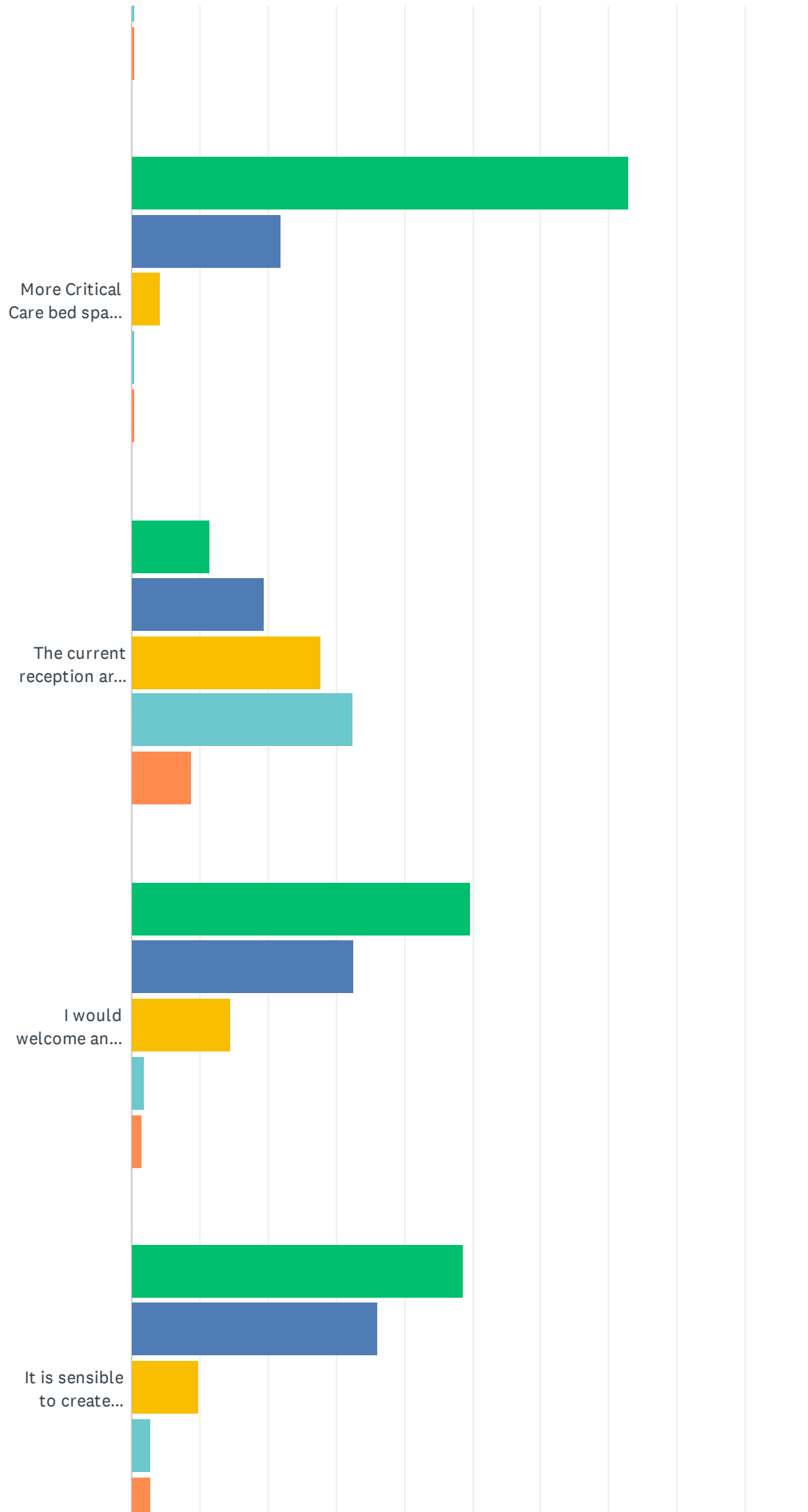
54	The only development to date, the car park is totally out of proportion to the rest of the site and will be a white elephant	2/25/2022 4:36 PM
55	I note that the housing for Key Workers will be rental. Will there be a time limit on these rental agreements, as I would imagine that they will be popular and quickly full. If there is not limit of length of stay, the hospital will quickly be in the same position as before in not having appropriate accommodation for staff	2/25/2022 4:19 PM
56	There needs to be consideration for other depts other than the emergency dept. The impact on the Radiology Dept is immense and it should be acknowledged that the development of ED has had a negative effect on staff in Radiology. Fore example there are now offices which are too small and near impossible to work in affecting the wellbeing of those staff.	2/25/2022 4:14 PM
57	I would welcome considerations in improvement in outdoor spaces for people and wildlife. Fresh air and outdoor spaces are so good for mental health. There is currently not enough seating spaces / benches outside. Consider planting more trees. Consider consultation with local wildlife groups to help provide a more wildlife friendly site e.g. appropriate planting, wildlife boxes. New artwork outside the hospital?	2/25/2022 4:12 PM

Q5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

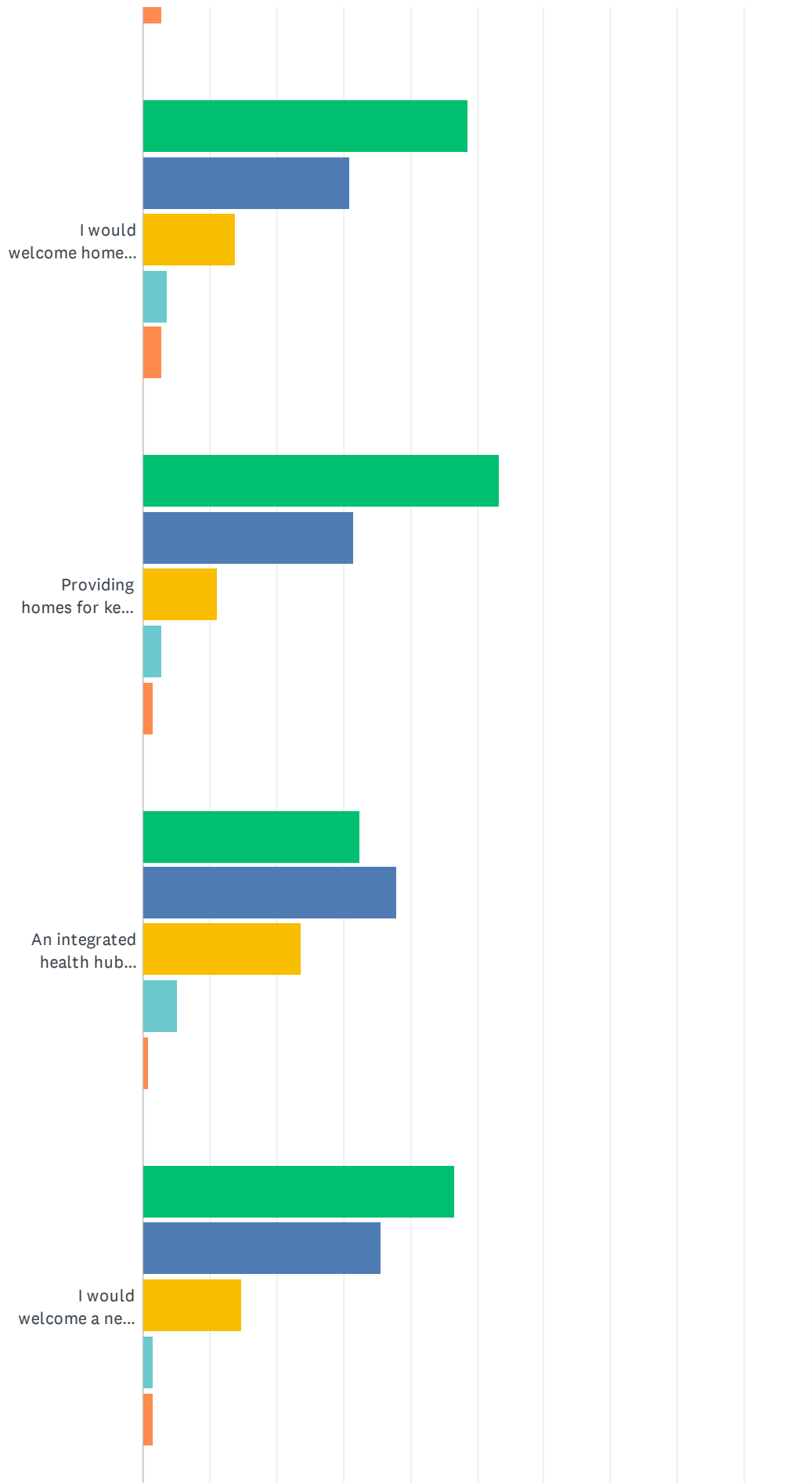
Answered: 216 Skipped: 160



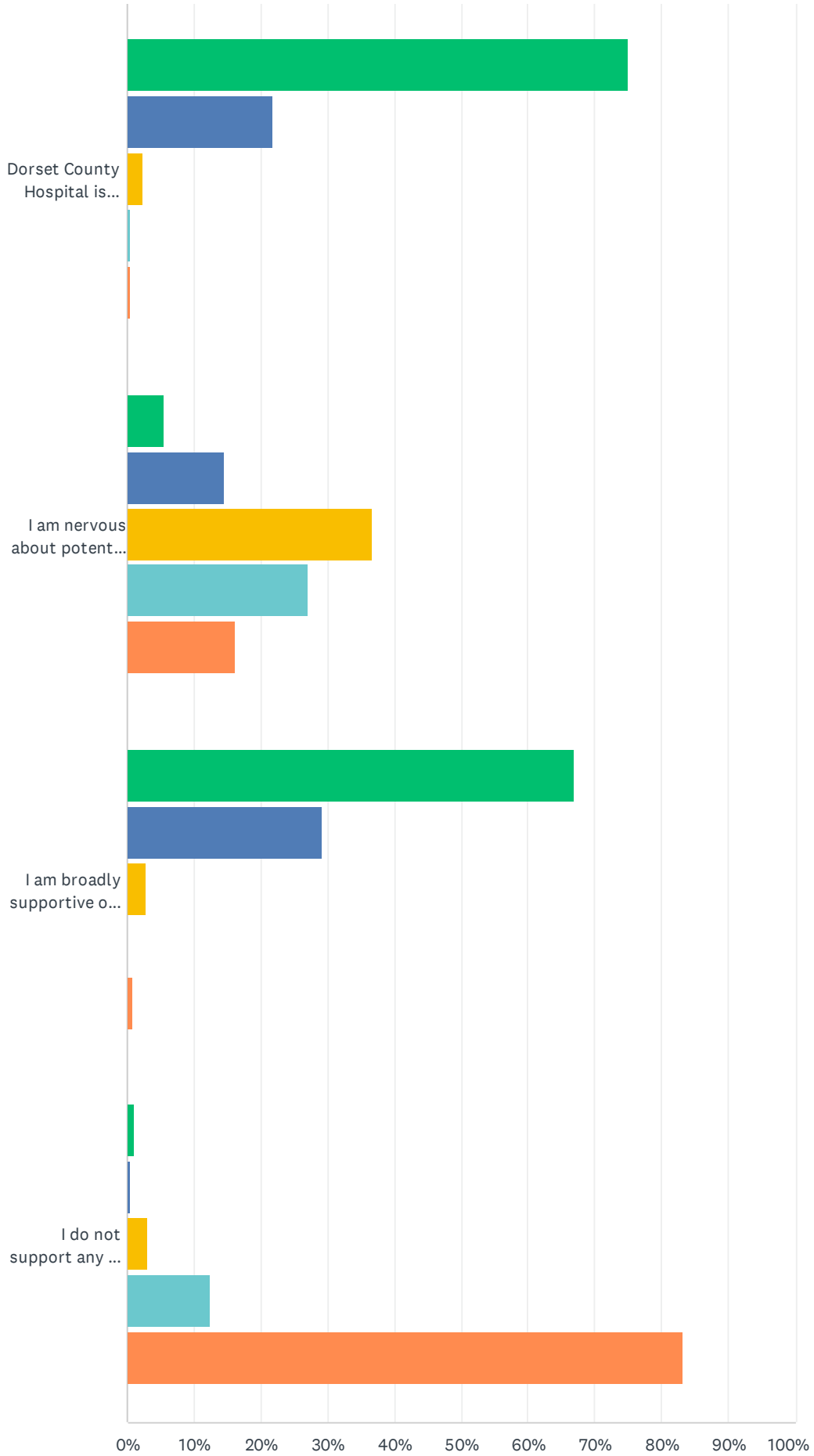
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	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The hospital site is in need of improvement.	70.23% 151	24.19% 52	4.19% 9	0.93% 2	0.47% 1	215
A new larger Emergency Department is needed to meet the current and future demands of our population.	77.78% 168	20.37% 44	1.39% 3	0.00% 0	0.46% 1	216
More ambulance and short stay parking near the Emergency Department will improve patient, visitor and staff experience.	72.22% 156	25.00% 54	1.39% 3	0.93% 2	0.46% 1	216
A new Critical Care unit is needed to meet the current and future demands.	71.76% 155	24.07% 52	3.24% 7	0.46% 1	0.46% 1	216
More Critical Care bed spaces will improve Dorset County Hospital.	73.02% 157	21.86% 47	4.19% 9	0.47% 1	0.47% 1	215
The current reception area at DCH is suitable for the hospital and helps patients take a moment to prepare and find their way.	11.57% 25	19.44% 42	27.78% 60	32.41% 70	8.80% 19	216
I would welcome an improved reception area with more seating, signage and increased retail options for patients, staff and visitors.	49.77% 107	32.56% 70	14.42% 31	1.86% 4	1.40% 3	215
It is sensible to create dedicated office space next to the car park to free up space in the hospital for medical use.	48.61% 105	36.11% 78	9.72% 21	2.78% 6	2.78% 6	216
I would welcome homes for key workers on the hospital site.	48.61% 105	31.02% 67	13.89% 30	3.70% 8	2.78% 6	216
Providing homes for key workers will help Dorset County Hospital recruit and retain outstanding staff.	53.24% 115	31.48% 68	11.11% 24	2.78% 6	1.39% 3	216
An integrated health hub (community health facility) is a suitable development for a hospital site.	32.41% 70	37.96% 82	23.61% 51	5.09% 11	0.93% 2	216
I would welcome a new access point being created if it improved traffic flow on Damers Road.	46.76% 101	35.65% 77	14.81% 32	1.39% 3	1.39% 3	216
Dorset County Hospital is right to investigate ways to make the most of the space it has on site.	75.00% 162	21.76% 47	2.31% 5	0.46% 1	0.46% 1	216
I am nervous about potential disruption while the new facilities are being built	5.58% 12	14.42% 31	36.74% 79	26.98% 58	16.28% 35	215
I am broadly supportive of Dorset County Hospital's plans to use government funding to improve its facilities.	66.98% 144	29.30% 63	2.79% 6	0.00% 0	0.93% 2	215
I do not support any new development at Dorset County Hospital	0.99% 2	0.49% 1	2.96% 6	12.32% 25	83.25% 169	203

Q6 If you would like to leave any comments for our consideration, please do so in the box below.

Answered: 99 Skipped: 277

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Woo	3/13/2022 10:17 PM
2	You have far too many Managers.	3/13/2022 7:36 PM
3	DCH is a much respected hospital and needs updating to keep up with current pressures and to be ready for future epidemics. The Pandemic highlighted how the infrastructor needs modernising to maximise capacity where needed. A large hospital will need more staffing across the board and importantly more funding to maintain it's excellent standard of care; and to retain staff across the board.	3/13/2022 9:57 AM
4	When you walk into DCH it always feels friendly & relaxed. Not like a shopping mall.	3/13/2022 9:24 AM
5	I think that definitely this great DCH is in need of improvement. I fully am supporting this project and looking forward to the NEW DCH	3/11/2022 8:27 AM
6	No to retail. Yes to parking for A&E. Yes to better public transport to the site.	3/10/2022 9:28 PM
7	I think we should extend existing services to be recognised as a regional centre of excellence	3/10/2022 8:34 PM
8	Dorset County hospital saved my life any improvements would be welcomed	3/10/2022 5:31 PM
9	I am not sure that key worker accommodation is necessary. Do people want to live so close to work. Perhaps some accommodation for key workers that are on duty would be more helpful.	3/10/2022 3:18 PM
10	I am sure it will only benefit the community to have these improvements even if it means a time of disruption to services. Best of luck and thank you.	3/10/2022 9:55 AM
11	I do hope that parking will be available that doesn't consist of multi story parking. Not all drivers like using them and parking is often tighter in them and more cars are damaged when using them.	3/9/2022 10:17 PM
12	M&S Food would be great!	3/9/2022 9:16 PM
13	I'm pleased that the hospital seems to be moving with the times and that it's taking the time to get views from local people. I am not a resident in the immediate vicinity but my family and friends live off damers Rd and Edward Road and have businesses in these areas. They are also broadly supportive of these proposals for the benefit of the whole of Dorset who recognise this as an essential resource for our rural communities.	3/9/2022 7:02 PM
14	I am an Ex Hospital worker having worked in ED. I am a local resident and a hospital user. Please can the designers consider carefully about putting in low well placed windows. The current ED is badly designed with poor natural light and outlooks. For service users and staff windows and natural light with something too look at are really important for mental health and well-being.	3/9/2022 2:26 PM
15	Any improvement has got to be good for the community and the souriunding area	3/9/2022 2:04 PM
16	As a Paramedic with a magic wand I would love to wave it and see the general public and ambulance attendances separated as all to frequently "drop offs" and "collections" are not quick and the selfish in society manage to obstruct more than one incoming ambulance. A side effect of the ambulances queuing at ED is that paramedics already attending to patients are being drawn into those arriving under their own steam. At times we have become the reference point for all hospital arrivals rather than hospital staff.	3/9/2022 1:52 PM
17	The plans look excellent and would make a significant difference.	3/9/2022 1:21 PM
18	Brilliant Hospital and Staff with a community that's supports it wholeheartedly. It's an asset to our Town and County	3/9/2022 12:13 PM

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19	Is incremental improvement a strategic decision? How long, or large in terms of population and expectation, can the current site last? Have the "benefit in kind" issues with cheap housing been factored in?	3/9/2022 11:00 AM
20	AS A town and Dorset Councillor i strongly welcome this development Cllr David Taylor	3/9/2022 10:47 AM
21	I'm concerned by the new reception area, whilst it could be great, like Southampton and many London Hospitals with a little M&S, stockshop etc.. and I'd welcome that. I'm very concerned about losing those open (not multi-storey) disabled parking bays!	3/7/2022 10:21 PM
22	A source of anxiety for visitors and patients is finding a car park space, so enlarging the space is v.good	3/7/2022 12:44 PM
23	A new reception and entrance would be great and help patients and visitors.	3/7/2022 10:32 AM
24	Dorchester is a growing town. The medical facilities need to reflect this	3/6/2022 1:50 PM
25	Over the last 20 years or so there has been quite an expansion to the population of the town with little regard for our hospital.Let's gets our hospital up to the size deserved by our county town.The bigger the better.Ithink we our very fortunate to have land available to expand on.Let's get on with it.	3/6/2022 10:59 AM
26	It's an excellent, caring, friendly hospital and deserves new investment.	3/4/2022 7:41 PM
27	My main problems with attending the hospital is a confusion over finding my way about. So glad a new car park is on the way	3/4/2022 4:19 PM
28	I am pleased that DCH is being redeveloped for the growing population in West Dorset.	3/4/2022 1:54 PM
29	It is important for the hospital's facilities to be improved so that it doesn't become a backwater, resulting in patients being sent to Poole or Bournemouth.	3/4/2022 10:19 AM
30	DCH is a confusing site with limited access and parking so any improvement is worthwhile. It is good to see management are trying to plan ahead to meet the needs of a growing customer base.	3/4/2022 7:37 AM
31	This hospital is in desperate need of updating and expansion. As a community health professional who uses the hospital as both patient and professional it is not user friendly or making the most of the site it is on. With the exer increasing elderly population in Dorset this facility HAS to have an overhaul to provide high quality gold standard care that we all strive to offer our patients in a pleasant working environment for staff	3/4/2022 7:30 AM
32	Well planned, key worker accommodation definitely needed.	3/4/2022 7:13 AM
33	After the monstrous ugly car park that has emerged I am ambivalent about anything else that happens to be honest. I don't think anyone anticipated it would be so big/tall. Whilst appreciating that car parks are needed this structure dwarfs the hospital itself and completely offends my eye every time I leave my house. Totally out of keeping with the surrounding area.	3/4/2022 6:59 AM
34	The plans sound and look extremely positive and forward looking.	3/3/2022 9:58 PM
35	Environmental concerns seem to have been forgotten with your current development. 54 perfectly healthy trees felled, people who travel to the site on foot are greatly inconvenienced and every plan made puts car travel to hospital as a high priority. I'd like Dorset Council to put some creative transport solutions into any future development plans and consider more sustainable construction methods, priority pedestrian access routes and increase charges for any car coming onto the site.	3/3/2022 9:00 PM
36	We would value improved A&E and ICU provision on the hospital site	3/3/2022 8:14 PM
37	Well done. It is great to see the site being further developed so that critical services can reach their full potential.	3/3/2022 8:05 PM
38	I hope that the new car park will remove some of the worker's cars that line the surrounding streets. Not being able to use your car before 10 am for fear of having nowhere to park when you return is unacceptable and adds to mental health problems. Please consider providing parking on-site for all staff or encourage alternative methods of transport.	3/3/2022 7:34 PM
39	We are very concerned regarding the RED BOUNDARY THAT COMES ACROSS THE DAMERS ROAD CARRIAGEWAY AND PAVEMENT. Are you proposing redesigning the road	3/3/2022 6:05 PM

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layout on Damers Road ? Will this affect the residents parking as it incorporates the ZONE M residents parking area that we and many of our neighbours use daily and pay for annually ? At the meeting of 17/7/2019 in Damers School, we asked the same question then, only to be told nobody had an answer. Please clarify.

40	The absolute priority should be better a and e facilities and more and improved critical care	3/3/2022 5:45 PM
41	Please consider health hubs near the population they serve. This would surely save on travel cost & allow access to people with disability/transport issues. The possibility of housing may allow clinical staff to be recruited who are highly qualified in community issues	3/3/2022 5:37 PM
42	Let's get on with it	3/3/2022 5:12 PM
43	The West Dorset community is increasing in numbers and plans need to be made now to increase hospital provision to cater for future needs. This seems to be a sensible plan to provide emergency and critical care services for the future.	3/3/2022 4:44 PM
44	As a retired ICU clinician I am delighted to hear of these plans. I very much hope that there will be an increase in numbers of appropriately training specialists both medical and nursing commensurate with the increase in specialist beds. Only then will you achieve your aims. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.	3/3/2022 4:28 PM
45	I'm in favour.	3/3/2022 4:23 PM
46	The key worker housing needs addressing to be less idealised and more realistic, looking at eg developments on similar sized plots on Portland where I live. Would be good to get a commercial developers input on the area. Furthermore key worker space allocation is disproportional to the hospital facilities and this isn't great given that health care is the main purpose and not accommodation. Apartments and rooms used to be commonplace for hospital staff, but why do they have to be built on the site and not elsewhere? Has this been explored? Is it good use of space. The hospital,support building is not justified without first determining what it will be used for! It is in a prime location. Given the need for parking is it not possible to combine both, much as happens in shopping centres? The healthcare clinic is a tricky situation as we have our community facilities being closed down, why can these not remain open and dedicate this hospital extension to the counties' needs	3/3/2022 2:36 PM
47	This hospital is amazing and an integral part of the community. It deserves a new lease of life to make it the best it could ever be.	3/3/2022 2:31 PM
48	1. Building design - I have observed across Dorset hospital sites that maintenance is not really funded and prioritised for example gutters not cleared and areas for pigeons and seagulls to nest including roof and multi level car parks. Low maintenance building and finishes with deterrents for pigeon and seagull bird nesting should be considered for hygiene. Smaller garden birds are fine. 2. Waiting areas should be well ventilated and designed to prevent our new normal of increased airborne infection. 3. Signage terminology consistent across the patient journey including GP and care partners ie letters, messages, signage, lift floors and verbal conversations. Local jargon and acronyms can cause confusion and worry.	3/3/2022 2:11 PM
49	I have used the occupational therapy when I had a finger joint replacement. I was shocked by the small room these dedicated professionals were using, is a new larger room to be provided and if not then why not ?	3/3/2022 1:45 PM
50	It's a fabulous hospital and as are the staff	3/3/2022 1:24 PM
51	More dialysis space and parking required or a satellite unit in Weymouth/Portland	3/3/2022 12:41 PM
52	Visited Poole Hospital that is very dated, Dorset County Hospital is better located for the county of Dorset and very comfortable for ill relatives	3/3/2022 12:36 PM
53	From a personal view I don't believe there is any other options available that make as good use of the current footprint as these plans do.	3/3/2022 11:38 AM
54	Has the hospital considered selling the land where the hospital and grounds currently stand for residential development, and then re-invest in new purpose built facilities on the edge of town, i.e. Poundbury?	3/2/2022 5:22 PM
55	The admin building and staff housing doesn't need to be on site and could be locally somewhere else freeing up space past the 25 years which is actually quite short term. The community serves building could also be some where else. Housing off site rather than right	3/2/2022 2:15 PM

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next to the hospital would be far more appealing. Who wants to live at work. If staff housing to some extent for nights does have to be on site flats in a multiple level building similar height to other builds on the site would be a far better use of space with a communal garden. Most government buildings would incorporate some sort of green energy. I hope there will be solar and energy efficient heating. Internally it should be as modular as possible and Covid compliant or easily adapted to Covid compliant. The design is good but not sure about the uncut brick design for maintenance purposes. Birds will perch and poo. Moss etc. I think the Ed should be an extra level with space to grow into so you don't have an issue in 25 years time when your thinking we need to increase the Ed again.

56	Excellent to see substantial investment in our local facility. Hopefully I will not have to travel to Bournemouth Hospital so often.	3/2/2022 11:48 AM
57	Good luck, DCH is in desperate need to grow for the future as the population in Dorset is constantly growing	3/1/2022 11:19 PM
58	I and my family have always had excellent care when we have needed to visit the hospital but the ED needs to be updated for free growing population	3/1/2022 11:13 PM
59	Current provisions not sufficient leading to long delays	3/1/2022 10:42 PM
60	I am astounded that improving the hospital and increasing its capacity did not form an essential part of planning prior to the development of Poundbury, and the plans to build many more homes in Dorchester. Development is long overdue. The failure to forward plan has undoubtedly caused problems for patients and staff.	3/1/2022 10:14 PM
61	I am a retired paediatrician. I wanted a dedicated childrens area for years and delighted to see this in the planning.	3/1/2022 9:28 PM
62	The hospital is desperately busy and under provided for. The staff are amazing despite working in very challenging conditions. I cannot support this plan more strongly and I feel it will provide a much needed legacy for the population in the west of dorset	3/1/2022 9:19 PM
63	What is happening to the helipad? Looking at the plans it seems to be going.	3/1/2022 4:47 PM
64	If you are having extra staff in the health hub will this have a detrimental effect on the number of parking spaces available to the public	3/1/2022 2:21 PM
65	I hope that the current entrance to ED is improved before new ED complete. There is a need for a receptionist not telephone system, lots of negative comments and better confidential areas for patients arriving as well as quicker triaging. Patients left alone for long periods.	3/1/2022 2:13 PM
66	I hope you will be able to explore possible "green" options such as solar roof panels, recycling rainwater run-off etc. It would be a shame to miss such an opportunity.	3/1/2022 2:11 PM
67	I twice recently had to collect friend from 'somewhere' at the hospital. One directed me to 'The Pencils' (fat help from the road!) and one could have been anywhere so I ended up in the Discharge lounge where there was no record of her to be discharged and no official help anywhere, Auxiliaries were friendly and got me past the Do Not Enter signs. All very shambolic and already a building site. Needs urgent improvement for the sake of clinical cleanliness never mind frayed visitor and patient nerves.	3/1/2022 1:04 PM
68	I would just like to note that clinical care at the hospital is of a very high standard, but the current facilities make this challenging. The hospital serves a wide rural area with limited public transport, or in my case none. The new carpark is very welcome, but please can it be pay on exit as we have no control over how long we stay in the hospital and appointments/tests are often delayed causing concern about parking tickets.	3/1/2022 12:04 PM
69	Improving acute and ambulatory services for the area is vital due to the population expansion and I fully support it. There are a number of areas I am interested to know more about though. I assume that changes in models of care due to the increasing use of technology have been built in to the planning e.g with an increase in the volume of telehealth appointments for outpatients it maybe helpful to build in a telehealth hub to encourage and facilitate this. With regard to office space for staff, again it would be helpful to consider the benefits of hybrid / remote working for these workers to reduce the footprint of admin space in the new build.	3/1/2022 11:09 AM
70	An improved entrance and reception area would be fantastic. It's currently hard to navigate your way around the hospital.	3/1/2022 9:47 AM

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71	.	2/28/2022 9:58 PM
72	Please keep moving forward	2/28/2022 9:56 PM
73	With the amount of new houses being built in and around Dorchester the hospital is far too small to cope.	2/28/2022 7:28 PM
74	It would be fantastic to use this opportunity to champion lifestyle medicine, including nutrition. Serving more plant based dishes yo patients to aid recovery. Take a look at The Plant Based Health Professionals.	2/28/2022 7:18 PM
75	No answer	2/28/2022 7:02 PM
76	This is a great opportunity for this hospital to grow and keep up with the ever increasing influx of people wishing to move to this part of Dorset especially since the pandemic with people moving from the cities for a better life. My only concern would be the often negative veiw of the local council planners? Let's not loose this great opportunity.	2/28/2022 6:21 PM
77	Press on!	2/28/2022 5:55 PM
78	It will be using an excellent and rare opportunity to add to the already good facilities for health care for those of us in Dorchester and the surrounding villages,	2/28/2022 5:40 PM
79	I am not sure that the housing option would help the right people. and then it would not be fair that some people are able to make use of the housing option and others are not able to.	2/28/2022 4:46 PM
80	I hope you are going to face the new multi-storey car park with something acceptable to the area. Wrought iron railings and brickwork come to mind! Also paint for the new concrete towers!	2/28/2022 4:16 PM
81	Good luck with this project	2/28/2022 3:48 PM
82	Will I still be alive when all this development is completed? I'm 75 now, still it's good for the future.	2/28/2022 3:48 PM
83	I hope that you can find enough staff to fill every job position, as the staff shortage causes such a lot of EXTRA STRESS, on already overworked staff.	2/28/2022 3:39 PM
84	So long as disabled patients and visitors are given accessible access and decent pathways and signage around the hospital- sadly lacking at the moment for new patients that have moved to Dorset and are used to a trauma hospital in south west London.	2/28/2022 3:30 PM
85	There appears to be only one entrance / exit for non ed visits. Will this not cause more congestion along Williams Ave? I would have thought a separate entrance & exit on different roads would have eased congestion. You only have to look at Bournemouth Hospital to see the chaos around the area with only one entrance / exit. No consideration seem to have been given to those of us who have to travel by bus. Just a stop with limited seating on Bridport Road with a long walk for services into Dorchester on the other side with no crossing. Could you not talk to the local bus companies and come up with an area near reception for bus services? (As Bournemouth has)	2/28/2022 3:11 PM
86	It surprises me to see that your company Prime states that private health insurance is one of the perks you use to attract employees. I hope that you realise how important our NHS is to the people of Dorset as a free at the point of use, publicly owned and accountable health service. We do not want to see our NHS in Dorset become the poor relation to private health services. What will the Hospital Support office space be used for?	2/28/2022 2:55 PM
87	Your proposals have been given careful consideration for the benefit of patients, visitors and staff. The staff accommodation is, in my view, a big asset to the staff and hospital and hopefully will make it easier to recruit new staff members across the entire site. My one concern is locating the landing pad on top of critical care. What plans are there for reducing noise disturbance to patients in the unit ? Overall these plans will make DCH a major hospital for Dorset with superb facilities. Well done.	2/28/2022 2:00 PM
88	Are there going to be more bed spaces on wards, which I think is needed.	2/28/2022 1:46 PM
89	I have been both a patient and visitor to DCH and look forward to the new arrangements in the future.	2/28/2022 1:07 PM
90	I believe all the proposed plans for the hospital will be able to bring it up to date, and will	2/28/2022 12:58 PM

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	hopefully provide equipment and service which will benefit the local community	
91	Would be nice if they could provide a way for staff to park at the hospital.As someone who lives close to hospital it is a nightmare parking in the street I live in due to hospital staff parking here	2/28/2022 12:17 PM
92	I would like to see the inpatient care of Forston Clinic both Melstock house and Waterston ward, lineden unit, Glendenning unit and Westhaven moved into DCH grounds Thus all mental health services provided in one central place rather than spaced all over Dorset	2/28/2022 11:34 AM
93	If financially possible, get everything done in as quickly as you can, in order to minimise the period of disruption to patients and staff.	2/28/2022 11:23 AM
94	Would this development provide a wider range of care like a vascular surgical unit for simple surgery or would patients still need to go to Bournemouth, would clinics be held on the hospital site or continue to use places like south walks. When is hopefully going to be completed.	2/28/2022 9:30 AM
95	It is about time this site received a large investment to significantly increase capacity and capability. As a local resident within a 5 minute walk to the hospital, you have my full support.	2/28/2022 9:06 AM
96	Will the current staff car park be turned into homes for key workers and if so how storey will the building have?	2/27/2022 5:50 PM
97	Delighted that you are engaging with the community at an early stage, thank you.	2/27/2022 1:39 PM
98	Whilst I agree the hospital needs improvement and a better use of its current space, as a local resident I have serious concerns about the height and imposing nature of the new buildings, given the size and expanse of the new car park. it is very important that local residents are kept informed and that there is a 3D model of the planned buildings for members of the public to view , with time to feedback comments ahead of any planning decisions. We also live here and whilst supporting the NHS it is also our local neighbourhood and we have every right to be consulted on the planning and to be kept informed of what is happening.	2/27/2022 11:53 AM
99	As a resident living opposite nurses accommodation I worry about what will happen to this if more accommodation is built on the hospital site, will this be sold & the site redeveloped? Also, I find it hard to see how traffic will not increase in an already very busy area, particularly at rush hour/ school drop off time when the size of facilities are increasing, there will be people now living on the hospital site & the possible creation of a new community health hub. As a resident, I find this concerning. Of course I can see the need & benefit of improving the hospital facilities but I don't want that to be at the expense of local residents who already struggle to maneuver around the area at peak times.	2/25/2022 7:36 PM