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**From:**

**Sent:**

10 March 2019 14:15

**To:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HVCCG, Communications

**Subject:**

(NHS HERTS VALLEYS CCG)

£700-750 million - If WHHT "new hospital" expert advisors are right, I doubt whether the UK will ever see another major new hospital built!

**Attachments:**

MMH OBC2.pdf; MMH OBC1.pdf; WHHT cost methodology - new build hospital .pdf

**Categories:**

In log

Dear Mr Dalton, CEO NHS Improvement, Mr Stevens, CEO NHS England and West Herts local MPs

WHHT/HVCCG have now presented their cost estimates for a new hospital incorporating either a single site or two site layout for Emergency care and planned care.

WHHT have said that they will only have a spending limit equal to their annual turnover of approximately £350 million.

The Trust's experts have developed estate sizing and cost estimates as follows -

Two site (Emergency greenfield, Planned care at WGH) - £745 million (£357m build, £388m other costs)

Single site Greenfield - £694 million (£341m build, £353m other costs)

Single site WGH - £696 million (£331m build, £365m other costs)

This is the evidence that the Trust have used to rule out evaluating further a new A&E Hospital for West Herts.

West Herts Hospital Trust did not identify on which specific site, from their site search results, these cost estimates applied to, so we don't know if the infrastructure costs could be shared with a new housing or retail development!

NO cost estimates were provided for their redevelopment options or new planned care centre. This raises serious questions as to why such important information has not yet be disclosed given the current state of the three West Herts hospital sites and their decision to rule out a new A&E Hospital!

Unsurprisingly, Watford General Hospital is the only site being considered to house West Herts' acute services. (of course, the cost of new road signage and changes to the ordinance survey maps makes this prohibitive despite Vicarage Road being on the outskirts of West Herts)

If WHHT's cost estimates for a new A&E Hospital are correct, it is doubtful that any UK NHS Trust would be able to consider a new A&E Hospital despite the obvious long-term benefits to patients and hospital staff from a new "state of the art" hospital, the lower running costs and the benefits for the environment in design, location and carbon footprint.

But hang on a minute!

There are plans to replace the University hospital of Wales with a new 1000 bed hospital.

There are discussions ongoing to replace Jersey General Hospital with a new hospital because it would cause less disruption, cost less and could provide a better location to have their main hospital.

The New Royal Liverpool hospital is due to be finished next year with 646 beds and even after the demise of Carillion, it is still only expected to cost £475 million (original estimate £335m) despite being left open and a new contractor needing to be engaged.

The Midland Metropolitan, which when finished, would be the largest Emergency only hospital in Europe, with 670 beds will cost around £525 million (original estimate £350m) despite being left open to the elements for 18 months and a new contractor needing to be found.

WHHT's estimates for between £694-£745 million for a new A&E Hospital - what exactly were they being priced for? These cost estimates, to my knowledge, would make it the most expensive UK hospital to have been built - yes more than the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham with over 1200 beds! (£545m 2010)

WHHT cannot present such extravagant cost estimates for new build hospitals without giving the assumptions and specifications used to cost these options.

In my opinion, Watford General Hospital will just become a bottomless pit for public expenditure should the Trust continue down the route they are going. It does not make sense to plough hundreds of millions of pounds into a site with buildings which are so dilapidated they are deemed not "fit for purpose".

I wonder why the cost estimates for redeveloping Watford General Hospital have not been disclosed?

When they do finally disclose the cost estimates for their shortlisted options, these will also include the same types of cost that have been used to rule out the option of building a new A&E Hospital ie Fees, Non work costs, Fixtures, fittings and equipment, Contingency for planning, Optimism bias and vat! - Looks like there won't be much money left for undertaking the redevelopment of the three West Herts hospital sites.

A golden opportunity is being missed to build the new acute services hospital that West Herts so desperately needs in order to cope with such a fast growing and ageing population. (150 000 extra residents in the next 15 years!)

Kind regards



NB - I have attached the capital costs for The Midland Metropolitan Hospital from the Sandwell and West Birmingham hospital Trust's 2014 Outline Business Case and WHHT's slide for costing methodology that I referred to above, for the reader's interest.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)