



## Whipps Cross Redevelopment

### Statement from Waltham Forest Save Our NHS

We welcome and support the redevelopment of Whipps Cross hospital.

Over the next decade the overall population served by Whipps Cross hospital is due to grow by 11%. The number of people aged over 65 is expected to increase by 25%

The 2016 comprehensive plan for transforming health services in line with modern advances in medicine, care and technology (covering Waltham Forest, Newham and Tower Hamlets) stated that if every initiative in the plan was completely delivered, and achieved its expected outcomes, an additional 240 acute hospital beds would be needed. But the outcomes expected from that 2016 plan have not, largely, been achieved.

AND YET Barts Health Trust are currently planning to build a new hospital to replace Whipps Cross which has fewer beds than the current hospital. Instead they intend to:

- massively increase the number of day surgery cases, and same day emergency cases.
- massively increase skype consultations
- whilst making Whipps Cross become the main centre for surgery for older people from not just Waltham Forest, but Newham and Tower Hamlets as well.

They have produced no evidence to show that this is possible.

### We call upon Barts Health Trust:

1. To **plan the capacity and size of the new hospital based on the hard evidence of need**, rather than driven by the limited capital funding being offered by the government.
2. To **increase the number of acute beds and capacity of the new hospital** to meet the needs of our growing population, and increasingly aged population.
3. To **produce robust evidence, based on data available in the last 5 years**, to justify any proposed changes in bed numbers and useage, rather than relying on aspirational thinking from clinicians unsupported by evidence.
4. To retain sufficient land in NHS ownership to **allow for significant expansion of the hospital and step-down beds** for the ever increasing population of over 80s. Do NOT maximise the sell-off of land to developers, overdevelop the site and leave no space for expansion in future years. No-one can predict the future perfectly, but the land, once sold, will never come back as a public asset.
5. To plan NOW, at this early stage, for a **net zero carbon hospital**. This needs to be done NOW, at masterplanning stage, taking into account the space that may be needed to build in sustainable energy sources, building layout for utilising natural light and ventilation, and taking account of any extra capital investment in sustainable building design, offset against savings in ongoing revenue costs.
6. To utilise the extra public land available to build **significant amounts of keyworker housing for staff**, to utilise this public asset for public good of the hospital and help resolve staffing shortages.
7. To **Hold the Redevelopment Board meetings in public**, allowing time for questions from the public – in the same way as Trust Board meetings are held - adopting a principle of full transparency and public accountability.