

## **Meetings of the BLMK, C&P and H&WE Boards of the ICBs in Common in Public**

**27 March 2026 - 11:00 – 13:00**

MS Teams

### **Item 5: Questions from the Public**

#### **1 question received from Mr. Philip Aylett for Herts and West Essex ICB**

##### **Question**

The cost of the Hemel Health Campus has been estimated at £135m. West Herts Trust Board papers now regularly refer to this as a 'neighbourhood health centre'. My understanding is that such centres would cost a maximum of between £20m and £40m. This project involves the moving of similar services from Hemel Hempstead Hospital a few hundred metres across the street, along with some other consolidation. Why is it likely to be so expensive?

##### **Response to be read out by Sarah Griffiths**

In response to Mr Philip Aylett's question to the Board about the potential costs of the proposed Hemel Health Campus, the ICB recognises both the scale of the challenge and the opportunity for improved healthcare that this project represents.

We acknowledge the challenges presented by the current Hemel Hempstead Hospital estate. The buildings are ageing, inefficient and costly to maintain, and do not readily support modern models of care. A more efficient and accessible health facility with co-located, integrated health services has the potential to deliver clear benefits for patients, staff and the wider system.

Any costings for the proposed Hemel Health Campus are indicative only at Strategic Outline Case stage and reflect the ambition of the proposed model of care. The next stage of the development of the project will need to focus on strengthening the funding and delivery approach, so that the project can move forward with greater certainty. We value the work that has already been undertaken by all organisations involved and remain committed to supporting partners as future funding sources are explored, in line with NHS England requirements.