We are very pleased to welcome you to this event today.

These information boards will take you through our proposal for the development of a new neuroscience research facility at the John Radcliffe Hospital site, Headley Way, Oxford.

The new building, supported by funding from the Wolfson Foundation and the Wellcome Trust, is intended to provide purpose-built facilities for the Wolfson Centre for the Prevention of Stroke and Dementia (CPSD), as well as providing additional research and desk space for the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging (WIN), formerly the Oxford Centre for Functional MRI of the Brain (FMRIB). Both of these organisations are units of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences, part of the University of Oxford’s Medical Sciences Division.

When the development is complete, it will create the UK’s first dedicated centre for stroke and dementia research and will help to maintain the University’s position as a world leader not only in the research it undertakes, but also in the quality of teaching it provides.

A planning application is expected to be submitted to Oxford City Council in July 2017 to take forward the development of this new facility with construction to begin in early 2018.

This event will show you:

- The site area and location
- Proposed layout, landscaping and traffic and transport strategy
- The proposed accessibility, sustainability, building design and materiality
- The proposed timeline

We are inviting you to view the proposal and talk with members of the University and project team who are available to answer any queries you might have.

Your views

We welcome your feedback on the proposal. Please submit any comments to us either in hard copy or by email at: public.consultation@admin.ox.ac.uk by 15 May 2017.

The information can be found online at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/news

Thank you for attending.
About us

The new Centre will be part of the University’s Medical Sciences Division (MSD). The Division is an internationally recognised centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching within the University. Over 5,500 academics, researchers, NHS clinicians and GPs, and administrative staff, 1,400 graduate and 1,600 undergraduate students, contribute to our research, teaching and clinical work. Oxford has a strong track record in using its research to inform clinical practice and has been very successful in technology transfer and business development.

We have many teaching and research partnerships with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust), industry, medical organisations and charities in the UK and across the world.

Our relationship with the Trust

The University has been working with the NHS in the Thames Valley region for many years. We have a long-established relationship with the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, and in 2013 we signed a Joint Working Agreement with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. We are involved in the Oxford Academic Health Science Centre and the Oxford Academic Health Sciences Network (AHSN) which allows us to bring together industrial, scientific and academic partners to address some of the greatest health challenges of the 21st century.

These partnerships offer many benefits:

- Patients receive high-quality care underpinned by world-leading research, often delivered by jointly appointed academic clinicians in co-funded and co-managed specialist units;
- Our medical students gain experience in one of the leading medical centres in the UK, which serves over three million people in the local area in addition to many more national and international patients who are referred to specialist units;
- The establishment of the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre and the Biomedical Research Unit has led to improvements in healthcare and medical innovations.

Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences

The Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences (NDCN) at the University of Oxford is one of the leading and largest clinical neuroscience departments in Europe. It has a multidisciplinary workforce of close to 500 people. Scientists and health professionals work together to take what we learn in the laboratory and apply it in the clinical setting.

The Department comprises five divisions, some of which have a long history spanning 75 years. All divisions (Neuroimaging, Ophthalmology, Anaesthetics, Neurology, and Stroke and Dementia) have made important discoveries about how the brain works and developed treatments that directly benefit patients. Major breakthroughs include the discovery of a type of cell in the eye which helps regulate our body clock; new techniques to image the human brain; devices to make anaesthesia safer; how to treat and prevent major stroke, novel treatments for chronic neurological conditions and eye disorders, and using our improved understanding of how people experience acute and chronic pain to identify new ways of managing it.

Most of our staff are currently housed in the West Wing and the Oxford Centre for Functional MRI of the Brain (FMRIB) building at the John Radcliffe Hospital. The West Wing also includes the inpatient and outpatient facilities for the clinical departments of Neurology, Neurosurgery, Anaesthetics, Ophthalmology and Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT). This provides the perfect setting to share facilities, expertise and knowledge, as well as realise our goal of applying our learning in clinical practice.
Wolfson Centre for the Prevention of Stroke and Dementia (CPSD)

The Wolfson Centre for the Prevention of Stroke and Dementia is an expansion of the Stroke Prevention Research Unit, which was founded in 2000 and has become one of the most productive stroke research groups in the world.

Our research has led to major changes in clinical practice. Some strokes are due to narrowings in the arteries in the neck, and we have helped to improve their prevention. We have substantially reduced the risk of major stroke by promoting emergency treatment after minor warning events. We have shown how variations in blood pressure can cause stroke and dementia, and how current blood pressure drugs have quite different effects on variability. Our group was the first to prove that aspirin reduces the risk and spread of cancer as well as preventing heart attacks and strokes.

CPSD will comprise the front two thirds of the proposed new building. The facility will house clinical testing and analysis facilities, and laboratories, as well as providing a base for the unique Oxford Vascular Study. This expansion will ensure that our research goes from strength to strength over the next 20 years. We will continue to improve the prevention of stroke and dementia by using existing strategies more effectively and innovative technologies more widely.

Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging (WIN)

Researchers at the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging (formerly FMRIB) are using cutting-edge MRI scanning technology and powerful computational methods to study the human brain in health and disease.

The Centre brings together neuroscientists and people with a background in physics or image processing. They use their combined expertise to understand how the brain works, and investigate the underlying causes of conditions such as dementia, psychiatric disorders and vascular disease. One of the Centre's major achievements has been to develop one of the world's most popular software tools for analysing brain images, which is used in over 1,000 laboratories across the world.

The proposed new building will house a number of research groups, such as those investigating how the brain recovers after damage and how the brain processes pain. It will also provide space for researchers from across the whole Centre to meet, share ideas and train new researchers.

Moving some researchers out of our current building at the hospital site will also allow us to improve the reception and patient consultation spaces in our existing facility, which is where all scanning will continue to take place. This will make for a better experience for the hundreds of research participants who are scanned in our MRI facilities every year.

Professor Peter Rothwell

The Centre is led by Professor Peter Rothwell. He is Professor of Clinical Neurology and focuses his research on the causes of stroke and improving the prevention of stroke. He is also interested more generally in how best to apply the results of research to clinical decisions with individual patients in routine clinical practice. His research group won the Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2013 for outstanding work in preventive medicine.

Professor Heidi Johansen-Berg

The Centre is led by Professor Heidi Johansen-Berg. She is the Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience and heads the Plasticity Group at WIN which focuses on how the brain changes with learning, experience, and damage. As well as shedding light on how the healthy brain responds to change, this work also has implications for understanding and treating disease.
The site forms part of the John Radcliffe Hospital complex and is located off Headley Way in Headington. Situated to the rear of the hospital grounds behind the West Wing, the site slopes from south-east to north-west and is currently occupied by contractors' cabins and Hospital staff parking. To the south and west, views of the site are shielded by taller buildings and to the north of the site lies the Old Headington Cemetery and the boundary of the Old Headington Conservation Area.

The proposed design aims to:

- Remain sensitive to the heritage of the environment;
- Contribute positively to the Hospital setting;
- Adhere to rigorous sustainability requirements;
- Provide a bespoke facility to meet the departments’ needs which is consistent with the allocation of the whole Hospital Site in Oxford City Council’s Sites and Housing Plan 2012-2026.

The Neuroimaging (WIN) team is currently located in the FMRIB building at the hospital site south west of Carpark 1 and the proposed site. The location of the proposed new facility is close to the existing facility. Improved access will be provided as part of this development to provide a direct route between the two facilities for WIN.

The proposed building is set back from the cemetery and residential area opposite and will be screened by the existing hedging. Soft landscaping will be incorporated to provide a green transition to the neighbouring area.

Plan of the John Radcliffe Hospital showing the current location of the WIN team in yellow and the proposed new neuroscience research site in red.
A key design objective for the new neuroscience research facility is to create a contemporary and timeless look that complements the local setting.

The design is for a three-storey building, approximately 15m in height, with a simple rectangular plan. The façade combines solid masonry walls and windows which are arranged to relate to the position of the sun and context as well as the internal building layout.

Natural ventilation is provided through vertical ventilation louvres that are incorporated into the window design. This ventilation also provides an effective night purge system which relates to the sustainability strategy for naturally heating and cooling of the building.

The windows are simple fixed glazing that provides security and allows daylight into the building, which is important for the comfort of the occupants. The variation in the positioning of these windows articulates the façade.

The main material will be masonry cladding in an earthy tone that will complement the surrounding landscape and the residential area. It will be combined with timber cladding positioned to indicate entry points and provide further warmth to the façade.
Proposed building use

The functional requirements of the proposed new neuroscience research facility are a mixture of clinical research stations, imaging analysis rooms, seminar rooms, research assessment rooms and wet and dry research laboratories.

The proposed building is laid out over three floors with some plant equipment located on the rooftop. The total gross floor area including plant is approximately 1,950sqm. Due to the fall of the site the ground floor becomes a partial basement with its floor area below ground level at the south eastern end of the site.

The below images indicate some of the proposed internal spaces.
Sustainability and landscape

Landscape

The design team has worked in collaboration with the University to develop the landscape concept. The landscaping will seek to provide colourful and fragrant planting which will also incorporate seating for staff and visitors to enjoy.

The majority of the soft landscaping is set towards the north and north east boundary to provide a green edge to adjacent cemetery and residential properties. The introduction of planting to the south west boundary along the road which will aim to prevent vehicles climbing the kerb and parking there.

Sustainability

The sustainability strategy for this building, and for the University estate as a whole, is to deliver buildings that prioritise passive design. This minimises the need for mechanical heating and cooling systems, and maximises on-site energy generation with a view to reducing overall energy demand and carbon emissions.

It has been the University's policy since 2009 that all major new buildings and refurbishments achieve a BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) 'Excellent' rating. This is an internationally recognised environmental building standard and the University has growing expertise in delivering buildings to this standard.

To ensure optimum efficiency, the design will maximise opportunities to control the internal environment passively. The design incorporates: operable louvres into the façade combined with exposed concrete soffits to help maintain constant internal temperatures naturally; uses high performance glazing; and solid walls with integrated sunshading to shade the interiors from excessive heat gains.

The building fabric will be of a high performance specification and levels of air-tightness will be significantly in excess of legislative compliance to minimise heat loss and heating demand.

The roof-level plant equipment is enclosed within a screen to provide acoustic treatment to reduce noise transmission.
Access and transport

The proposed development will accommodate up to 140 staff. The Centre for the Prevention of Stroke and Dementia will be visited by members of the public who will be participating in research and clinical trials. Visitor parking is provided on a pay and display basis. The Hospital Trust is currently considering options for improving visitor parking and reducing congestion by improving traffic management on the site as shown on the plans below.

Public transport

The JR Hospital site is well served by direct bus services, namely services 10/14/14A operated by Stagecoach, and by services 13/X13 operated by the Oxford Bus Company. It is also well linked to the Thornhill and Water Eaton Park and Ride sites by services 700 and 800. The University also operates a shuttle bus service between their Oxford campuses.

Cycle access and parking

Cycling is a popular mode of travel for staff and the University’s 2016 Travel Survey showed that 30% of staff travelled by bicycle. Cycle parking will be provided at the University’s required ratio of 1 space per 2.8 staff which exceeds the best practice BREEAM and Oxford City Council’s requirements. The development will provide 62 covered cycle parking spaces and 20 open spaces, giving a total of 82 spaces. Three staff showers are proposed, one accessible shower on the ground floor and separate male and female showers on the first floor.

Travel planning

The travel survey shows that more than 63% of our staff travel to the site other than by car. Staff parking is controlled through the Trust’s permit system and no new permits will be issued with this proposal. Additional staff will need to travel by non-car modes or through increased car sharing.

The University will operate a travel plan covering the proposed development. The University has for some years implemented a series of sustainable transport measures, including:

- Personalised transport planning;
- Interest-free loans for purchasing public transport season tickets (bus, rail and park and ride), discounts of 10% on 13-week and 52-week bus passes;
- Membership of the East scheme offering 15% discounts on Great Western rail travel;
- A University-specific car share scheme;
- Interest-free loans for cycle purchase and a range of discounts negotiated at local cycle suppliers;
- Discounted OXONBIKE membership and other cycle incentives;
Pedestrian access

A Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant pedestrian route will be provided from the main entrance of the proposed new building across to the existing footway of the southern side of the access road and into Car Park 1 by means of a zebra crossing. A second pedestrian route is proposed to the south east of the development site by means of an additional zebra crossing.

Car parking and deliveries

The development will include the re-provision of parking spaces serving the John Radcliffe Hospital complex, including two new blue badge holder spaces and improved pedestrian access.

A lay-by to accommodate delivery vehicles will also provide a drop off/pick up point on the northern side of the building.

Construction considerations

The University is a Client Partner of the prestigious Considerate Constructors’ Scheme. The scheme aims to improve the image of the construction industry by promoting and achieving best practice set out under its code.

Members must adhere to the five codes of practice which relate to: the appearance and management of sites; respect for the community; giving consideration to impact of activity on neighbours and public; attaining the highest level of safety performance and valuing their workforce.

Our contractor will be a part of the Considerate Constructors’ scheme.
## Next steps

**2017**

**April**
- Public consultation on 28 and 29 April

**May**
- Feedback following public consultation to be reviewed by the University
- Presentation of scheme to Oxford Design Review Panel (ODRP)
- Review of ODRP feedback

**June**
- Final consultation with Oxford City Council in advance of submission of full planning application

**July**
- Submission of full planning application to Oxford City Council

**October/ November**
- Planning application decision to be determined by East Area Planning Committee

**2018**

**January/ February**
- Proposed start of construction works

**2019**

**March**
- Practical completion of development