

Dear all

Managing demand to treat COVID-19 (Coronavirus) patients – changes at Halstead Hospital

I trust you are keeping well and safe.

We continue to find ourselves affected by the impact of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. So that we are prepared and can anticipate demand to treat more patients, we are working with our partners to make some temporary changes to the care provided at Halstead Hospital:

- During the coming week we are temporarily relocating all staff and services currently operating from Halstead Hospital, to Braintree Community Hospital.
- We will step-down and discharge existing patients in Halstead Hospital over the coming days and we anticipate this will be complete by the evening of Tuesday 28 April.
- New patients who would have normally attended Halstead Hospital will be referred to Braintree Community Hospital.

Normal services will resume when the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation allows.

As I'm sure you will appreciate, mobilising significant changes like this takes a vast amount of planning and resource and we find ourselves with the additional pressure of having to complete things as quickly as possible. Our partners have made a fantastic contribution, coming together quickly and safely, ensuring everything happens as necessary whilst taking into account the need to be mindful of those residents who live and work nearby.

Patient safety and continuity of care are always our prime focus, so we will look to keep disruption to a minimum and ensure a smooth transition for all patients affected by these temporary changes.

We will keep you informed of progress over the coming weeks and months.

Regards,

Anthony.M.McKeever
Executive Lead Mid and South Essex Health and Care Partnership & Joint Accountable
Officer for the five CCGs (Interim)