

Work on the £163 million project to deliver the new Baird Family Hospital and ANCHOR Centre in 2021, in Aberdeen, took a major step forwards on 1 February 2018.

The NHS Grampian Board approved the outline business case for the two facilities, a significant milestone that will allow the project to be formally considered by the Capital Investment Group, Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorate, later this month.

The new facilities will help modernise patient care and facilities at the Foresterhill Health Campus, which is Europe's biggest healthcare site, and is part of NHS Grampian's £300 million investment in new or upgraded facilities across the North East.

Jackie Bremner, who is Project Director, said: "This is a very exciting and important milestone which will allow the project to move one step closer to becoming a reality. It is also the result of 3 years of hard work for hundreds of people including clinical staff, patients, members of the public, designers and construction colleagues.

"It is starting to feel real now - in a year or so these magnificent new facilities, which will benefit patients and their families for many years to come, will have begun to take shape."

She continued: "Over the next few months work to develop the detailed design and construction plans with our construction partner GRAHAM Construction and their design team will be completed ready for the main construction programme to commence in the spring of 2018.

"Clinical staff, patients and members of the public have been involved from the outset and we hope they will continue to help us shape the design of facilities and services over the life of the project."

She also said that services in a number of existing buildings are relocating elsewhere on the Foresterhill Health Campus to allow these facilities to be built.

"In advance of the main construction works, which should begin in the spring of 2019, preparatory work to demolish existing buildings, road realignment and a range of service diversions is expected to begin in the autumn."

The services delivered from the Eye Out-patient Department are relocating to refurbished accommodation in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (ARI) in the summer of 2018.

The Foresterhill Health Centre is moving to a new purpose built health centre to the west of the Campus, being developed by hubCo and due to open in the spring of 2018.

The breast screening service moved last month into temporary accommodation in ARI until they move into their new accommodation in the Baird Family Hospital in 2021.

Jackie added: "These moves, along with the development of the Baird Family Hospital and the ANCHOR Centre, will change the Westburn Road face of the Foresterhill Health Campus in Aberdeen and support the delivery of modern, high quality health services for the people of Grampian and the north of Scotland for many years to come."

Prof. Mike Greaves, Senior Vice Principal Aberdeen University and Clinical Lead for the ANCHOR said: "The ANCHOR Centre will provide state-of-the-art comprehensive facilities for the delivery of holistic care to the highest standards, as well as promoting much needed research into new treatments for the ultimate benefit of patients with malignancy and other diseases of the blood and bone marrow."

Dr Mike Munro, Consultant Neonatologist, Clinical Lead, The Baird Family Hospital said: "The Baird clinical team are delighted that the Board has approved the OBC. Whilst our existing facilities have served us well, the Baird Family Hospital will truly be a "step up", allowing us to deliver state of the art clinical services to our area for many years to come. In the meantime the clinical team will not let up in delivering the planning and innovation required to ensure that the Baird Family Hospital is a success."

Gary Holmes, Scottish Managing Director for GRAHAM Construction, said: "We are privileged to be working with NHS Grampian and its stakeholders in the development of the Foresterhill Health Campus and in equipping it to offer the highest quality of care to the region for years to come. This is a major step forward."

Note to editors:

Project Profiles:

The Baird Family Hospital

The new hospital will provide maternity, gynaecology, breast screening and breast symptomatic services. It will also include a neonatal unit, centre for reproductive medicine, an operating theatre suite, Community Maternity Unit (CMU) and research and teaching facilities.

The Baird Family Hospital is named after the Baird family in recognition of the contribution they've made to health in Aberdeen and elsewhere in Scotland. It will replace the existing Aberdeen Maternity Hospital which will be demolished when service relocate to the new hospital in 2021.

The ANCHOR Centre

The development of a new centre which will provide out-patient and day-patient investigation and treatment services for patients with cancer and for patients with blood and bone marrow disorders, including non-cancerous conditions as well as cancers.

The centre will also include an aseptic pharmacy suite and research and teaching facilities. The ANCHOR Centre will be collocated with the new Radiotherapy Centre which opened in 2013. ANCHOR (Aberdeen and North Centre for Haematology, Oncology and Radiotherapy) is a well-respected and highly regarded 'brand', established in the North of Scotland for almost two decades.

Pictures: Artist's impressions of The Baird Family Hospital (left, seen from Foresterhill Road), and The ANCHOR Centre (right, attached to the existing Radiotherapy Centre).

