



Department
of Health &
Social Care

From the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

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Alwen Williams
Group CEO
Barts Health NHS Trust

09 October 2019

Dear Alwen,

New NHS Capital Funding – Barts Health NHS Trust

On Sunday, I announced the next stage in our strategic investment in the NHS, with the *Health Infrastructure Plan* to ensure that our health infrastructure is fit-for-purpose for decades to come. The Prime Minister set out on Wednesday his plan that “in the next ten years we will build 40 new hospitals in the biggest investment in hospital infrastructure for a generation.” As a step towards this, we have committed funding for 6 new hospitals as well as seed funding to support the initial stage of a further 34 building projects.

I am delighted to inform you that your major scheme is one of the six that will form the first £2.7 billion phase of the major hospital rebuilds. I am therefore giving the full go ahead now, subject to business case approvals, for your Whipps Cross University Hospital Scheme, to deliver a brand new hospital, providing a range of patient services including emergency, and maternity.

The announcement is alongside a second phase of schemes where a further 21 projects, comprising 34 hospitals, will now be able to commence the next stage of development of their plans, a further £200m investment to update or replace diagnostic equipment, and our plans for a new capital system for ensuring funding reaches the frontline when and where it is needed, with national infrastructure to support this, and clear accountability for how it is spent. These plans include proposals for assisting Trusts, including allowing some access to early funding and streamlining the business case process. Other projects will be able to bid into HIP2 and other future waves too.

As part of our rolling investment programme, I have confirmed that there will be future phases of HIP, with opportunities for the NHS to put forward further new hospital projects.

All this comes on top of the extra £33.9 billion a year we're putting into the NHS by 2023-24 to secure its long term future and support the NHS Long Term Plan. In addition, I announced in the summer a further £2.1 billion increase in NHS capital including £250m to assist the NHS to become a world leader in artificial intelligence and health research.

I am delighted to be taking these steps to help ensure that the critical health infrastructure is fit for the future and enables the NHS to provide better quality of care for patients.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

MATT HANCOCK