

# Your local hospital care is changing - for the better

Over the next five years, there will be some changes to local hospital services in mid and south Essex

These hospitals are Southend, Basildon and Broomfield, near Chelmsford

There will also be changes to community hospitals in Braintree and Orsett.

To find out more about how local health and care services are working together in mid and south Essex, or to get involved:



england.  
midsouthessexstp.nhs.net



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What is **not** changing...  
More care closer to home

More experts on hand, 24 hours a day  
Quicker accident and emergency care

Fewer transport and travel cancellations

# your quick guide

to local hospital changes

# Your local hospital care is changing - for the better

## What is not changing...

All these hospitals will continue to provide the services you use the most. These include outpatient appointments, children's services and planned day surgery.

All three hospitals will continue to provide 24/7 A&E and maternity services. In fact, we are making A&E bigger and better in all three main hospitals.

Our changes will mean faster expert care, fewer delays, more care closer to home.

## More experts on hand, 24 hours a day

We are changing some of our specialist services. These are the services you may only use one or twice in your life. Bringing our expert doctors and nurses into one or two larger teams provides better care.

Here's an example. All three hospitals will continue to treat stroke patients in their A&E department. This will make sure they get early diagnosis and treatment. If a patient needs an extra level of care, there will be a new specialist stroke unit at Basildon Hospital.

## Fewer cancellations

At the moment, we cancel or delay too many planned operations because we use the same beds and wards for emergency and planned operations. Emergency cases take priority.

In future, we will separate the way we run planned and emergency surgery. This means more beds ready for emergencies.

It also means fewer delays, cancellations and infections for planned patients.

For example, planned hip or knee surgery will happen at Braintree Community or Southend hospitals. Emergency surgery will take place at Broomfield and Basildon hospitals.

## More care closer to home

We are investing in four medical centres in Thurrock. These centres will make it easier to have tests and scans or see a GP closer to your home.

There will also be more medical centres in the Basildon and Brentwood area.

When these new services are up and running, Orsett Hospital will close.



## Quicker accident and emergency care

We will improve all three A&Es at Southend, Basildon and Broomfield hospitals. Dedicated units will look after children and older people when they arrive.

Other units will be ready for people who need emergency medical treatment or surgery.

This will provide the right specialist care, tests and treatment faster.

This means you are much more likely to leave hospital without having to stay in overnight.

## Transport and travel

We know that you want the best care from the NHS, even if this means travelling further sometimes.

We know that transport and travel is a concern for many patients, families and carers. We are working with local councils, transport providers and other organisations to get this right.