

PRESS RELEASE

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Survey Results on New Health Centre at Public Meeting

Feedback from local people on the health perceptions and services relating to Biddulph's new £10 million Primary Care Centre will be one of the key discussion topics at the development's next public meeting.

NHS North Staffordshire and development partners Prima 200 are staging the meeting at Woodhouse Middle School, Woodhouse Lane, Biddulph, on Thursday, 19 November from 6.30pm. Refreshments will be available from 6pm and the meeting is due to finish at approximately 8.00pm.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update of the plans for the project and to discuss the survey feedback.

Tony Bruce, Chief Executive of NHS North Staffordshire, said: "This is a terrific development for the people of Biddulph and we are keen to listen to the views of as many people as possible."

The new facility is being developed under the Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) scheme by Prima 200 and is scheduled for completion in 2011.

Ann Pursey, Chief Executive of Prima 200, added: "We are delighted to play a part in bringing this major investment in improved facilities to the Biddulph community."

ENDS.

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About NHS North Staffordshire

NHS North Staffordshire leads the NHS in North Staffordshire, being responsible for health and healthcare services for more than 210,000 people living in Newcastle and the Staffordshire Moorlands. With an annual budget of £330m, our main role is to commission (or contract) services from health service providers - including all GP practices, dentists, community pharmacists and optometrists in the area as well as acute hospitals and mental health trusts. We are also committed to reducing health inequalities and to improving the health and well-being of local people, e.g. through our health trainer service, stop smoking service and lifestyle risk management programmes. Our provider arm, North Staffordshire Community Healthcare, manages a number of community hospitals and health centres and also provides community nursing and therapy services, district nursing, health visiting, school nursing, speech & language therapy as well as physiotherapy and intermediate care services.

For further details see www.northstaffordshire.nhs.uk

About Prima 200

Prima 200 was established in 2005 and is the Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) Company for the North Staffordshire area. The shareholders of this Public Private Partnership (PPP) are NHS North Staffordshire, NHS Stoke-on-Trent, Community Health Partnerships and Prime LIFT Investments Ltd. Prima 200's purpose is to develop improved facilities necessary to deliver modern, integrated health and social care in the region. Together with strategic partners, Prima 200 works to support an increase in primary care capacity, the provision of more accessible services and to support the integrated working of different agencies. Together with its private sector partner Prime plc it is responsible for the development, design and build of the Biddulph Primary Care Centre. For more information, visit www.prima200.co.uk