

Hospital will lead the way

THE Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust will be among leaders of health innovation taking part in the international Giant Health Event 2019.

Staff members of the Harlow hospital will attend the second day of the two-day festival health tech innovation event at Chelsea Football Club on Wednesday, October 16.

Deputy director of quality improvement, Robert Ayers, will be among experts speaking at the event to thousands of passionate innovators wanting to improve healthcare.

The hospital's work has gained recognition at the Academy's yearly awards, with the Trust winning Champion Trust of the Year for the past two years (2017 and 2018).

To view the healthcare improvements at Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust, visit: <https://fabnhsstuff.net/campaigns/fabchange19-october-16th-2019>

Teenagers work together to save the NHS money and time



Academy students from Harlow help out Princess Alexandra Hospital's Event in the Tent

A group of teenagers have helped Princess Alexandra Hospital to complete a quality improvement project that aims to improve patient outcomes.

Princess Alexandra Hospital invited year 11 students from BMAT STEM Academy, on Velizy Avenue, Harlow, to assist staff with the health programme as their internship week.

The six students - Georgia Sims, Lucy Cox, Ronnie Witcomb, Katie Mossey, Ruby Ayres and Mathys Koa looked at ways to save the NHS money and time.

Following a presentation of their work to hospital staff, the students were invited to take part in a larger Event in The Tent event.

Paul Andrew, assistant head and science teacher, said: "This event is part of a drive by Princess Alexandra Hospital to improve their care and quality grading, where the emphasis is on working with all hospital staff to look at ways of improving patient outcome."

"The students were invited to present their projects alongside doctors, nurses, midwives, porters and consultants and explained their recommendations to improve patient care to a wide range of hospital staff."

Natural habitats will be protected

County council reveal plans for the environment

By Piers Meyler

PLANNING applications will be scrutinised much more vigorously to protect natural habitats by Essex County Council highway officers.

Essex County Council has revealed plans to tackle climate change, including embarking on a £1 million tree project and setting up a cross-party Essex Climate Change Commission.

Central to the plans to improve Essex's green credentials is a tree planting scheme known as the Essex Forest Initiative, that will include planting 375,000 trees across Essex over the next five years, equivalent to the size of 210 football pitches.

This is expected to capture 60,000 tonnes of carbon.

Kevin Bentley, cabinet member for highways, said in answer to questions over highway scrutiny with regard to loss of habitat: "We must be much tougher on developers in that situation and I would expect local authorities to be equally as tough as well."

On October 8, the council announced plans to set up a working group and formally inaugurate an independent, cross-party Essex Climate Change Commission, which will meet for the first time later this year and be made up, not only of members, but of experts in the field as well.

Council leader Cllr David Finch announced a budget of £250,000 which will be assigned to the group to fund initiatives such as changing procurement rules to require suppliers to adopt more stringent sustainable practices.

The group will also look to change how to enable walking, cycling and public transport as a priority and how to get to having zero avoidable waste by 2050.

Cllr Finch also wants to ensure the council has zero avoidable waste by 2050 and hopes the commission can achieve the government's target on net zero carbon sooner than 2050.

Cllr Bentley added that when there is a requirement for removal of hedgerows and the necessity for replacement, this is a matter for the local planning authority to consider.

However he clarified that Essex County Council as the highways authority would not just require a condition to provide clear to ground level visibility

plays appropriate for the speed of vehicles at that specific location, but also stricter conditions around the protection of habitats which he added had not been in place previously.

"That's how it has been done. It will not be done in the future," said Cllr Bentley.

"You can all expect much more robust responses from Highways."

"It is up to the local planning authority to decide whether they wish to accept that or not."

"We have no vote, but the very effect that housing applications - and I am not against housing, we need housing - could have a detrimental affect on the environment and the hinterland and of that area, for infrastructure, and by that I mean all infrastructure including drainage, has to be looked at."

"And we must be much tougher on developers in that situation and I would expect local authorities to be equally as tough as well."



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