



InSYNC

SPECIAL EDITION

News and updates on the pathology transformation programme for colleagues and service users

26 May 2021

A glimpse of the future - Inside South East London's new pathology hub

Welcome to this very special edition of In SYNC, in which colleagues are invited to enjoy a virtual tour of the new hub laboratory at the heart of our plans to deliver and transform pathology services in South East London.

Filming recently took place at **Friars Bridge Court**, in Blackfriars Road, as members of our transformation team came together in person – in a COVID-compliant way – for the very first time, enjoying networking opportunities as well as tours of a building that will become one of the largest pathology hubs in the UK.

Our video has been carefully put together to take you behind the scenes, bringing to life the vision to create a facility capable of processing around 70 per cent of all pathology activity in the region from 2024.

In the video, our Chief Executive **Mark Dollar** reflects on why Friars Bridge Court was chosen and his excitement about the next chapter of its development, while Programme Director Giles Walsh and Head of Operational Design Nicki Kirkman speak about some of the innovations that will be introduced there, leading to major benefits for colleagues, clinicians, service users and patients.

There is also reaction from colleagues at seeing the hub for the first time, as they share their initial impressions of both the building itself and its stunning location.

Click below to watch this video on Microsoft Stream. Can't view this video? [Click here](#) instead to watch on Vimeo.



Big Conversations



Now you've seen the hub video, it's important that you have the opportunity to make your voice heard. Everyone has a part to play in influencing plans and decisions relating to Friars Bridge Court.

Our 'Big Conversation' events will be focused around key transformation topics at appropriate junctures during the pathology service transformation journey, providing people with the opportunity to ask questions and provide their thoughts and feedback. The first two sessions – to be held virtually – will focus on the new hub laboratory and are open to all Viapath as well as NHS Clinical Pathologist colleagues. Here are the details:

- **Session 1: Tuesday, June 8 - 10:30am to 12pm**
- **Session 2: Thursday, June 10 - 12:30pm to 2pm**

Among the topics up for discussion will be office space design, breakout and training areas, café and refreshment provision, disabled facilities, security, environmental impact, leisure provision and building maintenance.

As breakout discussions will be involved, it is important that colleagues register to attend the sessions so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you plan to attend, please email LetsTalk@viapath.org, specifying whether you plan to be at session one or two.

While there can be no guarantee that every suggestion made about the hub will be incorporated into the final design, all points of view will be listened to carefully as together we seek to create workspaces and facilities that are optimised for everyone's needs.

It would be great to see lots of you getting involved!

[Register now](#)

Open days for colleagues at the new pathology hub



Two open events are to be held at our new hub laboratory in South East London, giving more colleagues the chance to get their first look at the building.

Friars Bridge Court will be open between **4pm and 8pm on June 15 and 16**, with members of the transformation team available to show people around and answer your questions. Informal tours will take place at **4.30pm, 5.15pm, 6pm and 7pm**.

If you are able to attend, you will be required to wear a face covering and abide by social distancing guidelines, to ensure COVID safety standards are maintained at all times.

If you plan to visit, please email LetsTalk@viapath.org so that we have an idea of how many people to expect.

Further open events will be held later in the summer for GPs and primary care colleagues.

The hub is served by a range of public transport options:

By bus:

- Stamford Street – 1 min walk/0.05 miles
- Southwark Station – 1 min walk/0.06 miles
- Southwark Street / Blackfriars Road – 2 min walk/0.11 miles

By train:

- Waterloo East – 3 min walk/0.16 miles
- London Blackfriars – 7 min walk/0.36 miles
- London Waterloo – 7 min walk/0.38 miles

By tube:

- Southwark – 2 min walk/0.09 miles
- Waterloo – 8 min walk/0.42 miles
- Blackfriars – 8 min walk/0.43 miles

The transformation team is looking forward to welcoming you.