

Rugby Health and Care Improvement Forum (RHCIF) is a small group of retired former NHS and Social care professionals.

The group first met in March 2017 and has since met monthly with the aim of monitoring health and social care issues in Rugby; the group's values and position statement are set out below as **Appendix 1**. The group has no political position.

RHCIF has met Rugby's MP, regularly corresponds with him and also with the chairperson on the Parliamentary Health Select Committee; RHCIF has also met and corresponded with the Parliamentary candidates for the Labour and Liberal Democrat Parties. Other meetings have been arranged with NHS senior officers such as the UHCW Chief Strategy Officer, the CCG Chairperson, CCG Clinical Director and the Primary Care Networks lead officer plus the Manager of the Hospital of St. Cross.

The group's members represent a wide spectrum of professions with several doctors, a former national Chief Dental Officer, a local Pharmacist, a former Laboratory Scientific Officer, a couple of former NHS managers (mostly now retired) and a former Senior Social Worker. A recent new member is the Chairman of the Friends of St. Cross.

As well as meeting key officers RHCIF has written a number of articles for the Rugby Advertiser and the Rugby Register as well as submitting various letters for publication.

The group monitor the services at the Hospital of St. Cross and regularly consider issues such as the population growth in and around Rugby and its effects on NHS services across the board and on Social Care needs. RHCIF is also a member of the Rugby Health Forum, the link between the UHCW NHS Trust and local people.

The group has also had the pleasure of an escorted visit to St. Cross to see for itself the variety of services now available at the Barby Road site. A visit has also been made to the Houlton housing development where discussions were held with the developers over the implications of the new housing for the NHS in particular. A Ministerial meeting has been arranged via Mark Pawsey MP but is currently deferred because of the Covid 19 pandemic.

APPENDIX 1

Rugby Health and Care Improvement Forum

Position statements define what we agree to communicate individually on behalf of, and collectively as a group.

They should underpin our cohesion, credibility, and communication. They should guide our creativity to develop and spread our message.

Our Values

1. We believe in the founding principles of the NHS: a universally available tax-funded service, where access is based on need and not the ability to pay.
2. We believe a political cross-party approach with a robust 10-year plan is the best way to improve the NHS and provide stability.
3. Our primary focus will be on the borough of Rugby, to help improve local health services and social care, which in turn contribute to the wider NHS.
4. We are an apolitical group, willing to work with all those lobbying for, and delivering, better Health and Social care.

Our Position Statements

1. NHS funding must meet the needs of an increasing and ageing population.
2. Urgent local change is needed to prevent another winter of crisis in the NHS.
3. Local system improvement needs better information, the appropriate deployment of resources, effective local system leadership, and interagency collaboration and reporting arrangements.
4. The NHS must learn from its past mistakes (such as the internal market, the PFI initiative, and Mid-Staffordshire) and their consequences, in order to effect change and improvement.