

**Southend Hospital**

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## **Pathology Joint Venture**

Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has entered into a joint venture agreement with Basildon & Thurrock University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Integrated Pathology Partnerships (iPP) for the provision of Pathology Services.

This solution keeps the service in Essex and will be based on a hub and spoke model. This consists of a state of art laboratory hub which will be commissioned to deal with all samples requiring turnaround time greater than 4 hours together with an on-site lab for test with a less than 4 hour turnaround time.

The hub site will be located on the Pipp's Hill trading estate and new logistic runs will be put in place to deliver samples from GPs to the hub. The existing laboratories on the hospital site will be converted to Essential Service laboratory dealing with fast track samples from the Acute wards and Histopathology.

iPP run other Pathology services for the NHS. The new service will maintain CPA, HTA and MHRA regulation and in addition, as the hub laboratory is off site, the service will be CQC registered and monitored

The service to GPs will remain unchanged as seen by them. The service is Consultant led with the Trust consultants remaining with the hospital and will remain available for clinical advice in the normal way.

This will commence no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2014 and the service for sample pickups from GPs will not change. Any changes to services in terms of transformation and improvement will be appropriately planned and discussed prior to implementation. Essential services will remain on the hospital site and will continue to run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Chairman:**  
Alan Tobias

**Chief Executive:**  
Jacqueline Totterdell