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## £20m centres offer triple health boost

Now patients will have their say on services

By Howard Williamson

PLANNING applications have been lodged for a trio of state of the art Leeds health centres which will cost more than £20m.

Leeds property advisors GVA Grimley have submitted the applications for the three centres which will create the second phase of investment in the city's health service worth £20m.

When complete, it will bring capital investment in improving the delivery of healthcare and social services to £52m.

The buildings will be located in Harehills, Lower Wortley and Wetherby, and are part of the Leeds Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) programme which is a joint venture between the Department of Health, several local organisations and the private sector, to develop local health and social care services throughout the region.

GVA Grimley are now consulting local residents to canvas their views about additional services and community activities that they would like to see in the new centres.

Residents have been invited to attend events to provide information about the new centres.

Mary Crew, principal consultant at GVA Grimley, explained: "These new centres are part of a long-term investment which will help to provide and maintain a wide range of new facilities that will help both the local NHS and Leeds City Council to improve services. "Four similar schemes opened in 2005 in Armley, Woodhouse, Middleton and Dewsbury Road and two more are currently under construction at Beeston and Yeadon. We're now hoping to mirror this success with these latest developments.

Pharmacy

"The new centres will greatly improve healthcare in the area and all three will be strategically positioned close to public transport links which will improve access for many local residents."

The East Leeds Enhanced Primary Care Centre will be built close to existing facilities on Osmondthorpe Lane and will accommodate existing services from East Leeds Clinic, the Shaftesbury Medical Centre and The Garden Surgery. It will also incorporate podiatry, health visiting facilities, midwifery and a pharmacy.

The Lower Wortley Enhanced Primary Care Centre will be built near the centre of Wortley and will accommodate services from Hawthorn Surgery, Butt Lane Surgery and Dixon Lane Medical Centre as well as a new minor surgery suite and pharmacy.

The Wetherby Primary Care Centre will incorporate the Dr Knight Practice and also provide a wide range of additional Community Health Services including speech therapy, podiatry and a pharmacy.

Anyone with views about the plans, or wanting details of the local events, can email mary.

crew@gvagrimley.co.uk or leeds.lift@leedswest-pct.nhs.uk or call 0113 3055832 and request a copy of the consultation document.

*Last Updated:*