

## Work begins on the Burton Dementia Centre of Excellence



Work to create a new dementia centre of excellence in Staffordshire is progressing well.

The multi-million pound flagship centre at Burton is being developed by Symphony – a consortium made up of Accord, Keepmoat and Quattro Architects, and promises to transform care and support for residents and their families.

The Burton dementia centre of excellence, expected to open in 2018, provides a home-like environment where residents will be able to hold family gatherings, keep pets and have access to communal areas and facilities such as a café and hairdressers. Support will be provided as and when residents require, with additional care should individuals conditions change.

Cllr Alan White, Staffordshire County Council’s Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing, said:

*“Dementia is one of the biggest challenges facing the whole country, and it is essential that effective care and support is provided. In Staffordshire, we are moving in the right direction in terms of offering the best possible care for people living with dementia and their families.*

*The dementia centre of excellence in Burton will absolutely transform the way people receive care and support. There has been really positive support for the scheme from the local community, and the new centre demonstrates how the county council is driving forward innovative, high quality dementia care.”*

Staffordshire County Council and Symphony will continue to work closely with residents, families and staff to allow the smooth transfer from Hillfield House in Stretton during 2018.

Maxine Espley, Executive Director of Health, Social Care and Support of the Accord Group, on behalf of the Symphony consortium, said:

*“This is a really exciting partnership deal with Staffordshire County Council and we are delighted to be delivering this dementia centre of excellence. The Accord Group is a leader in dementia excellence and has a successful track record of delivering services for people with dementia.”*

**She added:**

*“The new centre, supported by £945,000 of capital funding from the Homes and Communities Agency, will bring innovative thinking to the design of homes for people with dementia coupled with quality care. It will provide support for people currently living in our residential homes and those living in Staffordshire who may need dementia care in the future. Whilst the Lichfield site is no longer available, the search for a suitable site for a further dementia centre of excellence continues, and both Accord and Staffordshire County Council remain committed to maintaining the existing buildings we have at present.”*

**Karl Tupling, General Manager for the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) in the Midlands, said:**

*“It’s great to be supporting this initiative to help local people in Staffordshire who are living with dementia. This project is an important part of the HCA’s work to support older people through high quality older people’s developments.”*

---

---