



NEWS RELEASE

Date: Monday 19 April 2010

TURF CUTTING MARKS START OF NEW GP SURGERY DEVELOPMENT FOR BRIDGWATER

Doctors, staff and patients from a Bridgwater GP surgery came together this week to cut the first turf and mark the start of construction of a brand new GP surgery for the town.

The new surgery, which is being developed by the Brent House Surgery in collaboration with architects and developers Ashley House plc, is located on land adjacent to Eastover Park on Cranleigh Gardens.

When completed in early 2011, the new surgery will serve over 7,600 patients and promises to offer patients a family friendly service with easy access to a team of highly trained health professionals. This will include family doctors and a team of nurses, supported by district nurses, health visitors and reception staff.

At a turf cutting ceremony held on Monday 19th April, Brent House Surgery's Practice Manager, Alison Lee, said: "It's been a long time in the planning, but we are all thrilled to see construction start on this new, purpose built surgery. These new premises will provide modern healthcare services to our patients in a vastly improved environment."

Marc Kerridge, Ashley House Development Manager, said: "As a company Ashley House plc prides itself on having considerable experience in delivering high quality health facilities. We have hugely enjoyed working with Brent House Surgery, NHS Somerset and Sedgemoor District Council for the last three years. Having planned and designed the new medical centre we are delighted to see the development get underway and look forward to it being used and enjoyed by the local community."

David Slack, Director of Primary Care Services with NHS Somerset, commended the work of the practice and its developers, saying: "This is a very exciting development for patients and the practice. Your family doctor is still the main provider of people's day to day healthcare and it is therefore important that local facilities are modern and big enough to meet the ever growing health needs and demands of patients."

Ends

For further details contact:

Mark Marston, Marketing Manager, Ashley House plc. Telephone; 01628 600340

More 1 of 2

Continues ... Turf cutting marks start of new GP surgery development for Bridgwater.

Note for Editors

PHOTO ATTACHED (left to right)

(back row) Marc Kerridge, (Ashley House plc), Ian Shrimpton (Ashley House plc), Tim Mander, (Strategic Property Manager, Sedgemoor District Council), Alison Lee, (Practice Manager), Dr Andy Soltys, Dr Shona Gilmour-white, Dr Jon Upton, Dr Ananda Pal, Alan Kitch (member of the Patient Participation Group - PPG), David Ward (Primary Care Commissioning Manger, NHS Somerset)

(Front Row)

Jean Rawlinson (chair of the PPG), Edwina Vickery, (Lead District Nurse) Margaret O'Callaghan, Dianne Mitchell (Member of PPG) and Catriona Topliss (Deputy Practice Manager)

