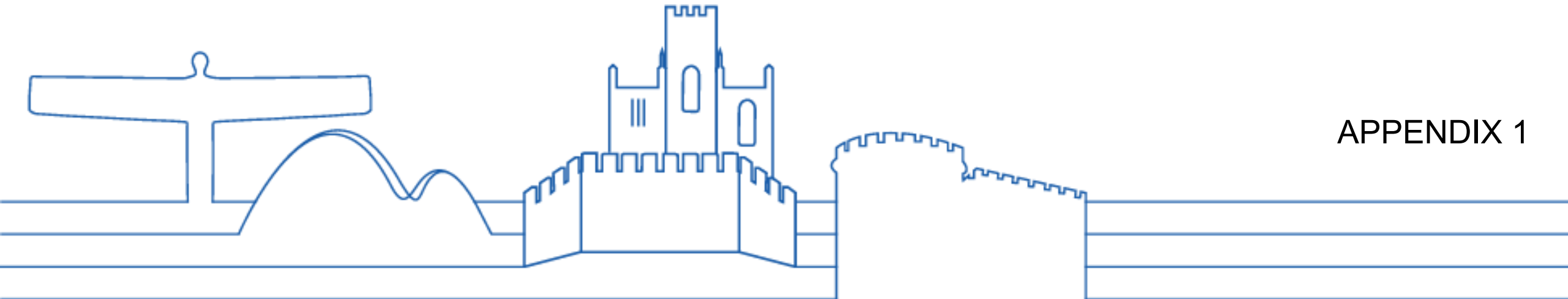


Community diagnostic centres



APPENDIX 1

Background

- Demand for almost all diagnostic services in England was growing before the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing challenges.
- A key recommendation of the Richards' Review of NHS diagnostic services was the development of community diagnostic centres (CDCs) to provide separate, dedicated locations for carrying out elective diagnostic procedures.
- CDCs will provide a broad range of elective diagnostics away from acute facilities. In some cases, patients may be able to have multiple tests at the same visit.
- All CDCs must meet key minimum requirements, including delivering specified diagnostic tests.

What are they?




One stop shops for health checks, scans and tests in the heart of local communities.

“Community diagnostic centres will deliver additional, digitally connected, diagnostic capacity in England, providing all patients with a co-ordinated set of diagnostic tests in the community, in as few visits as possible, enabling an accurate and fast diagnosis on a range of a clinical pathways.”

NHS England and NHS Improvement

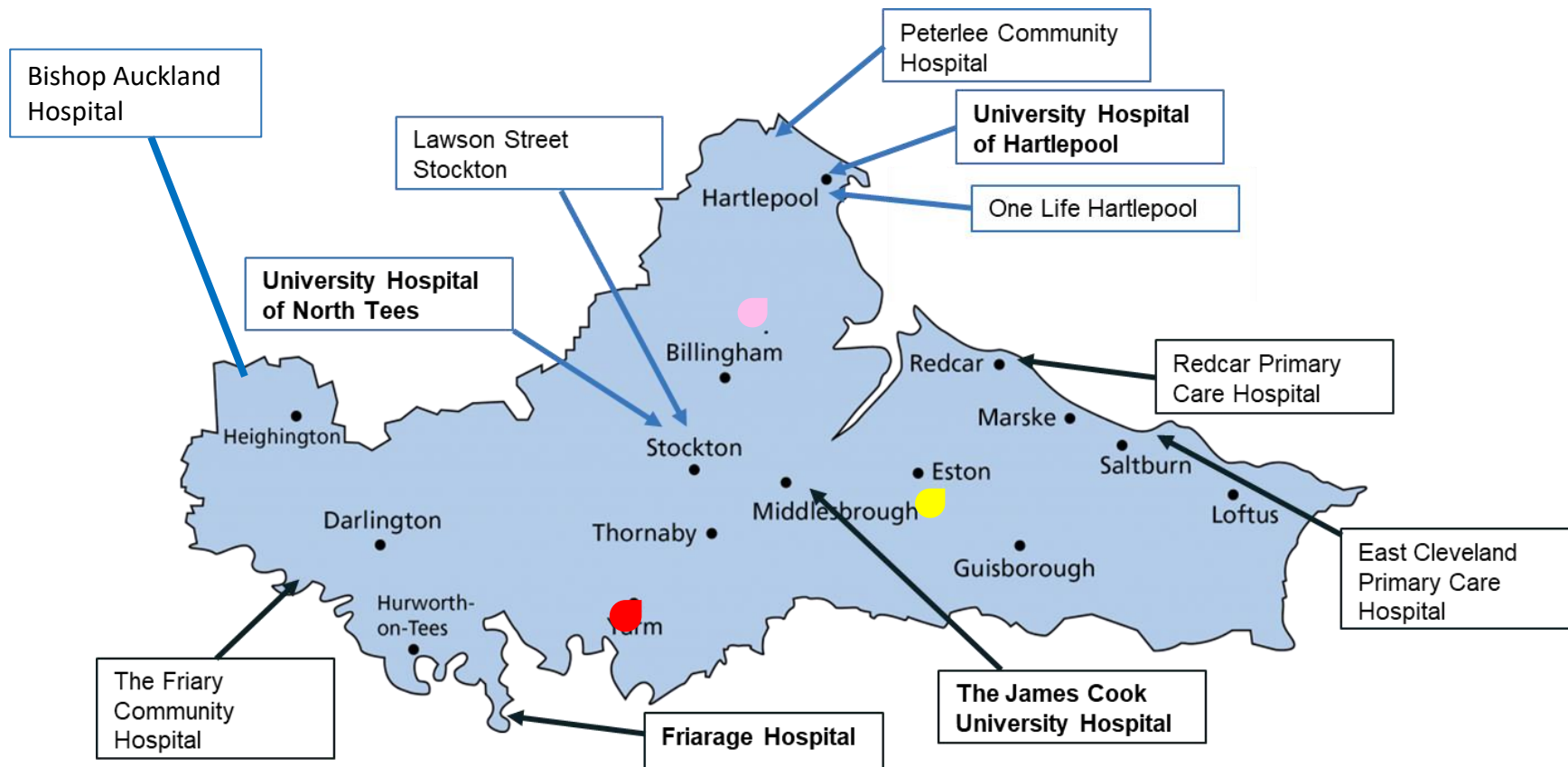
Key objectives:

- improved population health outcomes
- increased diagnostic capacity
- improved productivity and efficiency
- reduced health inequalities
- improved patient experience
- support for the integration of primary, community and secondary care

Archetype	Description
 <p>Standard model</p>	<p>A standard CDC provides at least the minimum diagnostic tests outlined in this guidance (see Table 1). It may also provide any other suitable diagnostic tests that are deemed to be a priority locally.</p>
 <p>Large model</p>	<p>A large CDC must meet all the requirements of a standard CDC. It must also offer endoscopy and/or any other services/tests required locally (eg ophthalmology, audiology, health checks and screening services).</p> <p>It also provides other components of the diagnostic pathway (such as outpatient consultations) and co-located services (eg radiology). Scalability is an important feature of a large CDC, eg centres may have multiple scanners to improve efficiency/effectiveness.</p>
 <p>Hub and spoke model</p>	<p>The central 'hub' must provide at least the minimum diagnostic tests outlined in this guidance, as per requirements for a standard CDC. CDC 'spokes' provide extra capacity for specific tests or to reach certain populations through a satellite location. They may also help integrate CDC models with other expansions in community diagnostics (eg primary care diagnostic services).</p>

Diagnostic centre locations

Tees Valley and Durham and Darlington



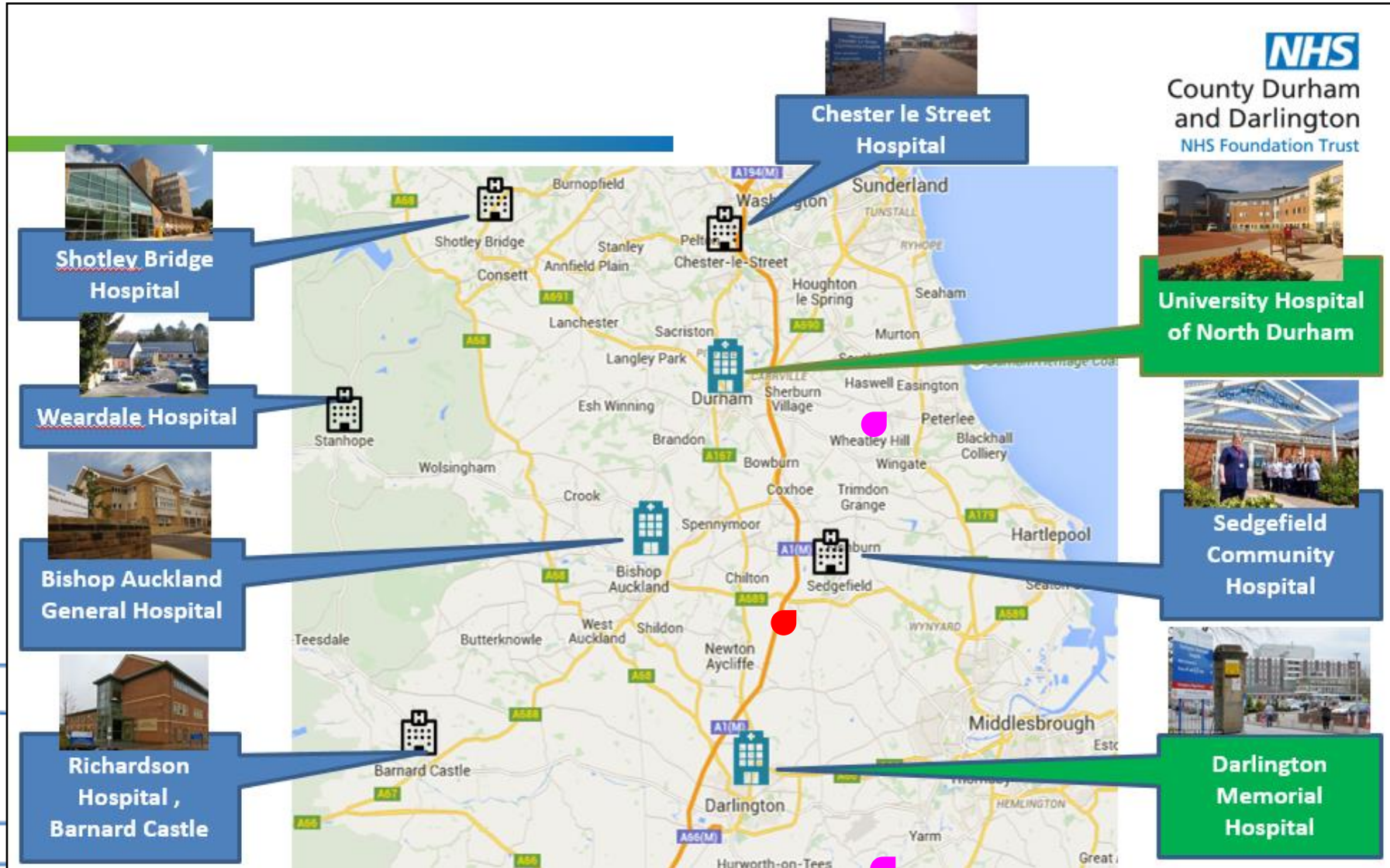
Key

- CDC Hub
- South Tees Spoke Sites
- North Tees and Hartlepool Spoke Sites

County Durham and Darlington NHS FT



North East and North Cumbria



Key facts and figures

Tees Valley

- The spoke sites have been operational since September 2021, and in the first 18 months have already delivered an additional 80,000 diagnostic tests (Radiology, Cardiology and Respiratory services) for the population across Tees Valley.
- The central Stockton hub will be a newly built facility, attracting £25m capital investment and is scheduled to open in July 2024, creating around 130 new jobs in the area by 2026/27 across the Tees Valley and surrounding areas.
- It will offer a range of diagnostic tests across a number of pathways including radiology, cardiology and phlebotomy.
- Collectively from 2024/25 the Tees Valley CDC is planned to deliver an additional 150,000 diagnostic tests annually, with further growth planned from 2026/27 (based on demand).
- The CDC will operate on a 'referral only' basis from primary and secondary care services.



Key facts and figures

Tees Valley

Tees Valley have proposed to develop a Hub-and-Spoke model. CDC 'spokes' provide further capacity to healthcare 'hubs' for specific tests through a satellite location, mobile unit or pop-up.

At a local level, Tees Valley has some of the most deprived areas in the nation for both health and economic outcomes. Combined with an aging population and diagnostics demand forecast to increase in the coming years, supporting the proposal of the Tees Valley CDC, which aims to improve access to diagnostics services and generate investment in the area. The lead organisation delivering this scheme is Tees Valley ICP Diagnostics Collaborative, a joint collaboration between North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The CDC will conform to the hub and spoke design archetype.

The timeline for the hub and spoke sites to be complete is as follows:

Hartlepool University Hospital – Already up and running

Lawson Street – In the final stages of development

Friarage Hospital – Construction work is in full flow, with an estimated delivery time of August 2023

Redcar Primary Care Hospital – RIBA stage 4 design is near completion, estimated construction work to begin August 2023 for a 6 month period

CDC Hub site – Demolition of site is in progress, with construction work estimated to begin later this summer

County Durham and Darlington

- Three Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs) in County Durham and Darlington were approved as Early Adopters in 2021/22: Bishop Auckland CDC, Darlington Memorial Hospital CDC and University Hospital of North Durham CDC.
- The area covered is some 1,205 square miles across an urban and rural geography. Working together as part of the NENC digital road map, the aim is to offer patients access to the nearest or soonest appointment at a location of their choice, effectively utilising available diagnostic assets.
- From 1 April 2022, Darlington and County Durham CDCs operated as a hub and spoke model, centred at Bishop Auckland (as hub) and with Darlington Memorial Hospital and University Hospital of North Durham acting as spokes.
- In January 2023, the National CDC Programme decided to de-list CDC at acute sites, affecting those CDCs at DMH and UHND.
- From April 2023, Bishop Auckland CDC will operate as a large archetype. Diagnostic capacity has increased on this site. Utilising the large archetype will enable local access to a suite of diagnostic services across local communities, strengthening patient experience and creating a more personalised experience.
- The primary objective is to provide patients with access to a comprehensive range of diagnostics in the fewest number of visits by including all minimum CDC testing modalities at Bishop Auckland.
- **GPs** will retain direct access to CT and MRI referrals at DMH and UHND.

Engagement and involvement

Patients and their families:

- Ensure that patients are engaged in the development of the CDC services
- Understand their own relationships with services currently, and what they might look like in the future.

General Public:

- To keep the population informed about how they will access the services (transport links, parking facilities etc.)
- Use the CDC as a showcase to help attract young people into the healthcare professions
- To keep the 'levelling up' narrative high
- Diagnostics to be delivered as standard to encourage aspirant population health.

Questions and comments