

Good progress is being maintained with the New Hospital Development despite the recent inclement weather. Recent progress has included a further tower crane being erected to assist with the multi storey car park being constructed near the front of the site. The structural concrete frame to all four wings is now complete up to the plant room level and the steel structure to the plant rooms has now also commenced. Roof membranes are being laid.

The interconnecting concrete frame for all four wings along the North Elevation which will accommodate the operating theatres, accident and emergency, imaging departments plus the plant rooms for the associated plant is now clearly visible from the hospital entrance.

Brickwork and blockwork on the lower levels to all four wings is progressing together with the inner skin of the external cladding at all levels plus the window modules are also now being installed.

The various types of drainage are being completed in all areas.

Internally floor screeds are being laid, together with wall partitioning being erected in the weathertight areas.

In most of the wings ventilation ductwork, mechanical and electrical services modules are being erected in addition to cable baskets. In some areas the medical gas installation has commenced, plus main heating pipework and gas pipework runs.

External to the main buildings embankment stabilisation the northern elevation is nearly complete.

A new pump station has been constructed and is fully operational.

The bulk excavation to the multi-storey car park is complete and the foundations are being constructed.

Following the construction of the Tonbridge Road improvements together with the New Hospital Entrance the construction boundary has been located at the back of pavement.

The continued co-operation of all parties during the works is appreciated by the Trust and the contractor Laing O'Rourke during the construction of this major facility as both endeavour to ensure minimal impact during the works particularly with the operation of the existing hospital on the site.