

## ***Super Hospital Health and Employment Link (Swiftlink)***

Organisation: **Community Transport Birmingham**

This project provides a direct 'demand responsive' bus link for residents of the King's Norton 3 Estates New Deal for Communities (NDC) area to University Hospital Birmingham (UHB), located on the old Queen Elizabeth site in Harborne, the new Learning Hub and Selly Oak Hospital. The 'super hospital' site will include new mental health facilities as well as a new acute hospital (including outpatient and accident and emergency facilities) and the existing Women's Hospital.

The project removes transport barriers to social inclusion to and from the hospital complex, for staff, patients, students and visitors. This will benefit residents from King's Norton because it has been estimated that 15% of all UHB's missed appointments in 2005/6 were from residents living in the King's Norton area. The transport scheme will therefore benefit those NDC residents attending appointments who do not meet the fairly strict eligibility criteria for hospital transport provision through Patient Transport Services (PTS) – as well as enabling residents to access jobs and training in the NHS.

The service is funded by 3 Estates NDC, UHB and Centro's Social Inclusion Fund and is designed for use by hospital patients and visitors, as well as people needing to get to work or training in the area. The project is funded for one year to provide data for long-term solutions to people's needs.

