

June 16th 2011

## Press Release

### Newly refurbished young persons' assessment room gets vote of approval

The newly refurbished young persons' assessment room at the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases NHS Foundation Trust, Bath, also known as 'the Min' has met with a vote of approval from young people who are patients at the hospital.

The refurbished room was formally opened recently by Charlie Wicks of local furniture company Silcox, Son and Wicks. The company donated £1500 worth of furniture including lime green and brown spotty tub chairs, dining chairs, an oak table and matching side table and soft furnishings. The company also provided Banksy canvasses to brighten freshly painted walls. The re-painting of the room was funded by a donation of £500 from Colin Clarkson-Short of the Royal Crescent Association. A graffiti design hospital screen was supplied at a greatly reduced cost by Chris Duffy of Duffy London.

Comments from current patients have included:

**"It makes me happy to see a bit of colour. Different, but a good different. What a difference a room makes to the mood."** Roberta, aged 18.

**"I found the room very bright and nicely decorated. What an improvement."** Rida, aged 17.

**"It's really homely."** Ruby, aged 13.

**"It was really nice."** Erin, aged 17.

Children and young people attending the hospital often have complex and long-term conditions, a history of being in and out of hospital and some build up an aversion to traditional 'hospital' environments. The hospital wanted to create a warmer, more homely atmosphere so that a young patient's first experience of an assessment is a positive one. This is especially important if a period of residential treatment is to follow.

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**Photos of the opening event are available on request.**

**Notes for Editors:**

- The RNHRD NHS FT is a national specialist rehabilitation and rheumatology hospital based in Bath. Offering services to adults, children and young people, the trust has expertise in general and complex:
  - rheumatological and musculoskeletal conditions
  - neurological rehabilitation
  - chronic pain management
  - chronic fatigue syndrome/ME
  - [www.rnhrd.nhs.uk](http://www.rnhrd.nhs.uk)