Press release from **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service** and **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Authority**
Making Derbyshire Safer Together

23 APRIL 2020

FIRE SERVICE TO SUPPORT CHESTERFIELD ROYAL HOSPITAL DELIVERING PRESCRIPTIONS

Earlier this week Firefighters began assisting Chesterfield Royal Hospital (CRH) by delivering vital medications to patient's homes.

Following a request for assistance from CRH, the Service worked with Derbyshire County Council, the Local Resilience Forum and the Fire Brigades Union to put an agreement in place.

Speaking ahead of the new initiative, Station Manager Nathan Stevens said: "We are working alongside our local resilience partners to provide support to our communities and partner organisations during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We already have an agreement in place to deliver vital medication to vulnerable members of the community who can't get out and have no one who can collect their medication for them, and this latest initiative is an extension of that.

"The speed in which we have been able to turn around the request and get a system in place to support the patients of Chesterfield Royal Hospital is testament to everyone involved, all of whom are part of a county wide community response to the pandemic."

Martin Shepherd, Clinical Director, Pharmacy & Therapy Services from Chesterfield Hospital said:
"During the pandemic the hospital pharmacy service is continuing to provide medicines to patients throughout North Derbyshire. To avoid unnecessary journeys to the hospital and to support those patients who are subject to isolation, the department is reliant on the help of other individuals and organisations who have volunteered to deliver medicines directly to

patient's homes. We are particularly grateful of the support being provided by the team at Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service in helping to ensure that patient's receive the medicines that they need."

ENDS