

Restoring X-Ray Services in Stonehaven: A Community Council Discussion Document

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Background

The X-ray machine at Stonehaven Hospital has been declared beyond economical repair. Due to current NHS budget constraints, there are no immediate plans to replace it, meaning patients requiring diagnostic imaging must now travel to Aberdeen. Or a restricted mobile service may be planned but the picture, as yet, is unclear.

This change disproportionately affects:

- Elderly and mobility-limited patients
- Those without access to private transport
- Individuals requiring urgent or repeat imaging

Highly Speculative Budget Overview

The following figures are estimates only, based on typical NHS procurement and operational costs for small hospital imaging services.

Capital Costs (One-Time Investment)

- Digital X-ray system (DR): £120,000
- Installation & site preparation: £30,000
- IT integration (PACS/RIS): £15,000
- Staff training: £5,000

Total Capital Estimate: £170,000

Annual Revenue Costs (Ongoing)

- Radiographer salary: £45,000
- Maintenance contract: £15,000
- Software licensing & updates: £7,000
- Consumables: £3,000
- Utilities & insurance: £5,000
- Admin & reporting support: £5,000

Total Annual Running Cost: £80,000

These figures are speculative and intended to guide discussion—not to represent formal NHS estimates.