

Briefing for Elected Representatives

A newsletter from Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

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19 March 2021

Hip replacement? Knee operation? Ankle procedure?

Orthopaedic Surgery has been running at a reduced capacity due to the pandemic and we are prioritising patients in most clinical need.

The only patients that we have capacity to treat at present are those deemed to require surgery within 4 weeks or risk irreversible damage or harm. These patients are identified from consultant waiting lists and then approved through a surgeon led multidisciplinary team meeting and an ethics committee prior to being listed for surgery.

We are unable to provide an indicative date for elective Orthopaedic surgery to recommence at full capacity but will be contacting patients and ensuring our staff are providing the most updated information as we receive it. As the number of Covid positive patients within our hospital setting decreases, we will be able to establish more elective Orthopaedic theatre lists and create better access for patients waiting for Orthopaedic Surgery. This is currently being reviewed on a weekly basis.



Should your constituent consider their condition has deteriorated, they should contact their GP who will update the Trust accordingly.

How can we help? Here to assist a phone call away



Unsure about a constituent matter that you think relates to the Belfast Trust? Need to know the state of a service and how, or if, it is being impacted by COVID-19?

Save yourself some time by getting in touch with the team. We're only a phone call away if you need some guidance, information, advice or just a friendly hello.

Give us a call any time, Monday to Friday 9am-5pm on
(028) 9504 5888

New web resource aimed at young people

HELP IS HERE
WHEN TIMES
ARE TOUGH.

The Royal Victoria Hospital Emergency Department has launched a new website to help support young people with a wide range of issues they might be experiencing, including mental health, drugs and alcohol, problems at home and bullying.

It is hoped that the website will offer young people the options of accessing support services in their home and community before they reach a crisis point. The site launched a week ago and is already very successful.

[Find out more](#)

Adult Hearing Aid Service

HSC Belfast Health and
Social Care Trust
caring supporting improving together

PLEASE ENSURE YOU INCLUDE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, DOB
& SUMMARY OF PROBLEM ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

- If you have any problems, require batteries or replacement items for your hearing aids please email:
rvaudiology@belfasttrust.hscni.net

- If your hearing aid is faulty, please post it or drop in to:

Audiology Appointments Office
Royal Victoria Hospital
Level 7D EENT Building
Grosvenor Road BT12 6DA

It will be posted it back to you once repaired.

TEXT: you can also contact via text message only: 07385386987

Tel: 028 96151070 - please email or text if you can.



World Social Work Day celebrated in new Trust video



World Social Work Day, with the theme of 'strengthening social solidarity and global connectedness', was celebrated on Tuesday (16 March).

In Belfast Trust we have over 900 Social Workers, working in both hospital settings and across the community. Our Executive Director of Social Work, Carol Diffin, recorded a special message to mark the occasion.

"I would like to say a huge thank you to the Social Workers who work in our Trust, for their hard work, dedication and commitment." she said.

[Watch her message in full](#)