

**TRUST BOARD  
SUBMISSION TEMPLATE**

<b>MEETING</b>	<b>Trust Board</b>	<b>Ref No. 5.2a</b>
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Mental Health &amp; Intellectual Disability</b>	<b>Date: 3 March 2022</b>
<b>Learning Disability Services – Muckamore Abbey Hospital</b>		
<b>Purpose</b>	This paper provides an update in respect of Learning Disability Services including Muckamore Abbey Hospital	
<b>Corporate Objective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety and Quality</li> </ul>	
<b>Key areas for consideration</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patient Numbers and Resettlement</li> <li>2. Carer and Family Involvement</li> <li>3. Strategic Developments</li> <li>4. Leadership and Governance Review Recommendations</li> <li>5. Department of Health Audit of Adult Safeguarding</li> <li>6. RQIA Inspection</li> </ol>	
<b>Recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Information</li> </ul>	

**Briefing for Trust Board  
February 2022**

**Learning Disability Services**

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of issues pertaining to Learning Disability services inclusive of Muckamore Abbey Hospital

**1. MUCKAMORE ABBEY HOSPITAL**

**1.1 Patient Numbers and Resettlement**

As at **9 February** 2022, there are 39 patients in residence in the Hospital with 3 patients on trial resettlement. One patient remains on extended home leave.

**Table 1: Inpatients (inclusive of patients on home leave) and Patients on Trial Resettlement**

Trust of Residence	Number of Inpatients	Number of Patients on Trial Resettlement
Northern HSC Trust	16	0
Belfast HSC Trust	14	2
South Eastern HSC Trust	8	0
Southern HSC Trust	1	0
Western HSC Trust	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>

Of the patients on site only 3 currently is requiring active treatment - all other patients are delayed discharges.

A new patient was admitted on 14th January 2022 following multiple discussions within the Trust and with HSCB, DOH and RQIA colleagues. The individual had been detained in the community with a renewal of his detention order occurring on 6 occasions because a bed could not be found regionally. Mutual aid from other Trusts was requested. This individual requires 2:1 care equating to 11 staff. To date the following support has been provided:

Week Ending	Level of Obs	Additional Staff (WTE)	Belfast Trust	Northern Trust	South Eastern Trust	Southern Trust	Western Trust
23.01.22	2:1	9	8.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
30.01.22	2:1	9	8.36	0.0	0.64	0.0	0.0
06.02.22	2:1	9	9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
13.02.22	2:1	9	9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

## **1.2 Patient Safety**

The most recent **Safety Report, Report No 152**, week ending 9 February 2022 is enclosed. This weekly Safety Report sets out performance against a range of patient safety metrics. This report is reviewed by the senior management team in Muckamore Abbey Hospital and shared with the multi-disciplinary team. There is also a weekly Live Governance call for all ward areas to feedback on the previous week's incidents, adult safeguarding referrals and any other governance issues.

As noted above there has been both recent discharges and recent admissions to Muckamore, since this report was produced. 1 male patient was admitted to hospital due to detention under the mental health order.

**Muckamore will not be able to accept any further patients to any ward without further discharges occurring, including Regional Forensics.**

## **1.3 Staffing**

### **1.3.1 Nurse Staffing**

Current nurse staffing levels, with the combination of substantive nursing staff, long-term agency staff and nurse bank staff, are currently providing staffing levels in line with the nursing model. This remains under regular review given the inherent vulnerability of the workforce which comprises 75% agency registrant nursing staff. Nurse staffing levels are reviewed daily on site, and are reported weekly across the senior management team and to the Department of Health. The most recent staffing position of w/c 7 February 2022 can be found in **Appendix 1**.

As at 31 January 2022, there are 83 members of nursing staff who have had a decision to precautionary suspend. There are currently 72 staff remaining on precautionary suspension, 32 are registrants and 40 are non-registrants and of these 14 registrants and 26 non registrants hold substantive posts in Muckamore.

There are 67 staff who have protection plans in place (supervision and training). Of these 67, 34 hold substantive posts in Muckamore, 15 of whom are registrants and 19 of whom are non-registrants. The total number of staff who have been arrested associated with Muckamore Abbey Hospital increased to 28.

A meeting took place on 15 February 2022 with Mrs Linda Kelly CNO and colleagues from DOH, Miss Brenda Creaney and colleagues from BHSC to confirm the support of Professor Owen Barr, Professor of Nursing and Intellectual Disabilities at University of Ulster. Professor Barr was in attendance as well. Terms of reference in relation to nursing assurance and support required will be shared once finalised.

### **1.3.2 Medical Staffing**

The small team of 2.5wte Consultant Psychiatry team providing input to Muckamore Abbey Hospital continues to represent a vulnerability for the service. The recruitment exercise for

the Clinical Director was successful and the candidate took up post with effect from the 30<sup>th</sup> August. There remains a long-term vacancy in respect of the Chair of Division position.

### **1.3.3 Adult Safeguarding Staffing**

Staffing levels in the Adult Safeguarding service supporting Muckamore Abbey Hospital have been added to the service's risk register. Staffing levels represent a risk to service effectiveness and responsiveness because of sick leave and vacancies. In addition, due to an increase in the volume and complexity of the workload across learning disability services and into the historic team in recent months, additional funding is required to expand the workforce.

A recruitment exercise was completed for the Service Manager post for Adult Safeguarding and community teams. The successful candidate has commenced in that post. In addition a further temporary Adult Safeguarding lead was advertised and recruited, with the successful candidate commenced in that post.

A paper outlining the required additional investment was tabled at Executive Team in July 2021 and a decision made that funding should first be sought from the Department of Health. DOH colleagues have advised that this discussion should take place with HSCB and a meeting with senior staff in HSCB had been scheduled for September 2021 to discuss. Unfortunately this required postponement and a date has yet to be agreed.

### **1.4 Covid-19**

The Covid-19 situation has stabilized on the MAH site with, 2 wards outbreak now closed. The situation is kept under review, and there is close consultation with Occupational Health (OH) and Infection Prevention Control (IPC). The support from OH and IPC has been invaluable. A further outbreak in Sixmile was confirmed on 14 February 2022 with appropriate action continuing.

The Muckamore Abbey Site continues to take part in the NHS Lantern screening exercise for all staff on a twice weekly basis.

## **2. CARER AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT**

There are a range of ongoing initiatives to enhance the involvement of our carers and families in learning disability services. An update on some of these is included below.

### **Introduction of Real Time Patient Feedback**

Real time patient feedback visits have been interrupted due to the Covid-19 Outbreaks. A partial report was completed in January. The team continue to be appraised of the situation and we are hopeful that this can restart in February.

The patient experience team have continued to complete the monthly Medication Safety Thermometer Reports.

### **Carer Engagement and Involvement**

The Carer Involvement and PPI Lead for Adult Learning Disability is continuing to develop her networks and links with staff, service users, families and stakeholders. The last meeting was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January, however representation from Carers continues to be low. Individual contact has been made with various families as part of trying to understand what other steps may be taken to improve the attendance.

### **Advocacy Review**

Terms of Reference for the proposed Advocacy Review have been agreed with HSC Trusts, HSCB and the Trust's advocacy providers. The HSC Leadership Centre have secured two reviewers and initial meetings have taken place agreeing the scope of the project with the reviewers, and determining the interested parties and support to that group from the service. The review is expected to complete in three months.

## **3. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS**

### **Admissions Pathway**

The NHSCT have had funding approved to open a 3-bedded assessment and treatment inpatient Learning Disability unit in Holywell for their own patients and any from South Eastern HSC Trust requiring assessment and treatment. Our Interim Divisional Nurse for Learning Disability is a member on the Implementation Group and has been maintaining a risk assessment in respect of any likely impact of NHSCT recruitment on the workforce in Muckamore. The original September 2021 timeframe for opening will be delayed due to estates issues; it is anticipated that the ward will now open in March or April 2022. It has now been established that 4 of the BHSCT Muckamore Abbey substantive staff have been offered posts within NHSCT. A number of these staff would be senior on site and this does represent an added risk to stability.

### **On Site Option for Resettlement**

The Steering Group, chaired by the Interim Director and with representation from SEHSCT, NHSCT, RQIA and HSCB has been established and has now had 5 meetings. All families have been informed of the proposal for an on-site option for resettlement.

A feasibility study is planned which is being coordinated by the Planning and Redevelopment Team.

### **Resettlement Plans for Patients Workshop**

A meeting was held on 4 February 2022 with DOH, HSCB and Directors from BHSCT, NHSCT and SEHSCT and the purpose was to urgently focus on the resettlement of the patients who

are delayed on MAH for some considerable time. A further workshop is arranged for 17 February to consider the options.

The Resettlement Review commissioned by DOH and being undertaken by Mrs Bria Mongan and Mr Ian Sutherland is expected to complete in March 2022.

**East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) Peer support**

Mr Hagan has made an approach to ELFT colleagues to reestablish peer support. Initial communication has been received and confirmation of support is awaited.

**Appendix 1**

**Nursing Position W/C 7 February 2022**

Ward	Inpatients	Trial Leave	Total	Plan Nursing wte	BHSCT Staff Available wte	Agency Block booking	Other Backfill (bank/add hours/OT)	Variance after Backfill	% achieved against plan
Cranfield 1	8	1	9	35.28	7.52	22.8	2.12	-2.84	91.95
Cranfield 2	8	0	8	45.17	7.52	30.9	2.85	-3.90	91.36
Donegore	5	0	5	26.51	13.68	9.5	2.34	-0.99	96.28
Killead	8	1	9	41.44	12.94	20.7	4.34	-3.46	91.65
Sixmile	9	3	12	36.03	9.33	28.9	3.78	5.98	116.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>184.43</b>	<b>50.99</b>	<b>112.80</b>	<b>15.43</b>	<b>-5.21</b>	<b>97.18</b>

We do not count those staff who are on sick leave, maternity leave or annual leave. These are detailed on the table below.

Sick Leave			Maternity Leave			Annual Leave		
Reg	Non Reg	Total	Reg	Non Reg	Total	Reg	Non Reg	Total
5.71	19.35	25.06	2.00	5.22	7.22	1.80	11.55	13.35

There are also the equivalent 6.49 wte band 3 senior nurse assistants who were on OU study leave this week not counted in the available numbers