

1 March 2023

Treatment Pathways Subsequent to Patient Discharge from Gender Identity Clinic Programmes of Care

- 1. Will it continue to be the case that funding for any necessary post-operative surgical repairs is covered by the funding stream that provided the original treatment?**

Belfast Trust is unable to answer, as this decision will be taken by the commissioners.

- 2. Once an individual has been discharged from the GIC, will the Clinic continue to have a role in providing future care for the person, and if so, what will this role be?**

Patients can be discharged at various points in their transitioning journey, on the understanding they can resume treatment if referred again. Upon referral they will not join the waiting list for a new patient appointment, rather they will be directly allocated to a therapist.

- 3. What procedures are in place to ensure that patients whose surgeries have a 'lifespan' will be able to secure any essential repeat surgery at a future date?**

Patients in receipt of a Gender Recognition Certificate (GRC) who have completed their transition are able to access any essential repeat surgery in the same surgical referral process as a non-trans individual. This would require the patient's GP referring them to the appropriate speciality, e.g. urology or gynaecology, in order for relevant Extra Contractual Referral (ECR) to be made. The surgical providers whom the Trust hold contracts with are the same regardless of referral source.

- 4. Will current arrangements that ensure a GP may, if necessary, directly refer patients back to the surgeon who originally provided treatment via the Unscheduled Aftercare Programs remain in place? If not, what alternative arrangements will be put in place?**

Yes this process will remain in place.