

Belfast Trust Winter Plan 2025/26

Reducing Ambulance off load Times

- Building capacity for care in people's own homes
- Provide additional support to healthcare within Care Homes
- New Rapid Emergency & Acute Care Therapy Team in ED
- Expand SDEC (Same Day Emergency Care)
- New Hepatology Hot Clinic
- Phone First
- Improved weekend alternative pathways - Adults and Children
- Remodel for patient-centred palliative and end of life care
- Skill-mix reform in our Primary Care Out of Hours service
- Enhanced capacity with Hospital at Home service

Reducing Time in Emergency Departments

- Provide alternatives to ED e.g. Urgent Care Centre, Acute Medical Assessment unit and Acute Frailty Assessment Unit
- Consideration for virtual clinics, rapid access arrangements, service helplines and patient initiated follow-up.
- PATH (Psychiatric Assessment and Treatment Hub)
- ED transfer teams
- Mental Health Liaison service
- Expanded number of fracture theatre lists
- Direct access clinics within RBHSC

Timely Hospital Discharge

- Increase number of social workers (x 2 posts) who support discharge planning
- Provide enhanced support within Discharge hub
- Aim to provide Discharge co-ordinators for most medical specialties
- Appoint a second Trust Assessor
- Twilight service for NISTAR
- Improving capacity across blocked Care Home beds provision

Protecting Elective Care

- Consideration for admission on day of surgery
- Enhance the use of the Mater Elective Overnight Stay Centre
- Use of the regional Elective Care Centres
- Continue working regionally to reduce length of stay and address waiting lists
- Continue partnership working with the Independent Sector

Key Enablers

- Protecting and Promoting Staff Health and Wellbeing
- Digital Solutions
- Leadership
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Funding
- People

