



Our plan for closing Muckamore Abbey Hospital

How we will respect rights and be fair.

Plan



HSC Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

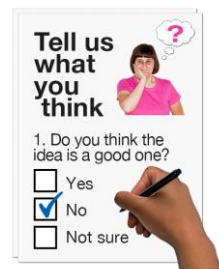
What do you think?



What our plan is



How changes will make a difference to patients carers and staff



Tell us what you think

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Introduction



The Department of Health is closing Muckamore Abbey Hospital. They talked to some patients, carers and families before making this decision.



Belfast Trust have a plan about how to close the hospital.

We talked to some patients, families and staff to help us make this plan.



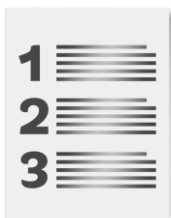
We want everyone living in the hospital to have their own home by the **30th June 2024**.



We have looked at

- the difference closing the hospital will have on patients, families and staff and
- how we will help people with these changes.

This is called an **Equality Impact Assessment**.



Now we want to tell you

- about our plan
- what difference it will make to people and
- how we will support them.



We want to know what you think about our plans.

Please answer our questions at the back and send them back to us by the 1st March 2024.

About Muckamore Abbey Hospital



Muckamore Abbey Hospital cares for people with a learning disability and mental health difficulties.

It is part of the Belfast Trust.



The best way to care for people with a learning disability has changed.



We now know it is better to support people with a learning disability in the community.



In 2017 there were reports that some patients had been hurt by some staff at the hospital.

The police are looking into this.

Some staff were told to stop working at the hospital.



There is a **public Inquiry** into people being hurt at the hospital. This will find out

- what happened and
- try to make sure it does not happen again.

In January 2023 the Department of Health asked people what should happen to the hospital.

In July 2023 they decided the hospital should close.



Our plan



We have 5 Trusts in Northern Ireland. Muckamore Abbey Hospital is used by people from 4 Trusts.



When it closes each Trust will look after their own patients.



We looked at reports to help us make this plan. They told us how we should look after patients.



We know it is important for people to

- have their own space
- be part of a community and
- have activities to do every day.



It is important that people can make decisions about their own lives. For example, where they live and what they do.



We will support patients to move into their own home. This is called **resettlement**.



Our plan is to spend more money on looking after people in their own homes.



We will support patients to find activities to do every day. This is called **day opportunities**.



We will try to make sure people are well looked after and included in their communities.



We will make more **community services** to look after people with a learning disability and mental health difficulties.

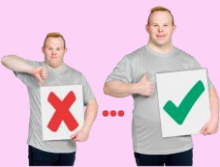
Community services keep people well at home or close to their home. They support people to live independently.

We will try to stop people becoming very unwell. We will give them the support they need earlier.



These changes might be hard for patients and staff.

❖ We promise to support patients to move to their new homes.



❖ We promise to try to make patient's lives better.



❖ We promise to support staff to find jobs and get the training they need to do them.

Resettlement



- We know from experience that we have to
- find the right home for patients and
 - give them time to move in and get used to it

We must talk to patients, their families and carers about resettlement to help us get it right.

How we do resettlement



- ✓ We look at each patient to find out
 - about them
 - what they need to be safe and
 - what they need to live a happy and healthy life.



- ✓ We find them a new home.
Staff from the new home visit them.



- ✓ Patients go on day trips to their new home.
They start to move their things into their home.



- ✓ Patients start to have overnight stays at their new home.



- ✓ Patients move into their new home.
Muckamore Abbey Hospital Staff visit them to check how they are until they are settled.



Families and Carers are told about all stages of resettlement.

What we want care to look like



We want services that

- are person centred



- you can get at the right time, in the right place, from the right staff



- support people to live in the community



- have staff who are well trained



- use money well to give the best care and support possible.



We want people to

- be supported to do things on their own



- make decisions about things that matter to them and
- have the support they need.

What happens if service users become unwell



In an emergency 999 will be called.

If it is not an emergency the following will happen.



✓ The **community learning disability team** will be contacted. They give health care and support to adults who have a learning disability.



✓ There will be a **Blue Light Meeting**.

Blue Light Meetings bring staff together to see what support the person needs to stay at home or if they need to go to hospital.

If the person can be supported at home the **Intensive Treatment Team** will help.



Intensive Treatment Teams help service users at home if they are very unwell or their behaviour hurt themselves or others.

If the person needs to go to hospital their staff will

- help them with this and
- bring their hospital passport.



Liaison Nurses support service users with a learning disability if they go to A&E. They share information between patients, families and healthcare teams.



✓ Family and carers will be told about what is happening.

Accommodation



We are working on new homes for people moving out of Muckamore Abbey Hospital.



We are working with

- Northern Ireland Housing Executive and
 - other organisations that have houses for people.
- We will find everyone the right homes to go to.



Belfast Trust has residential care homes and supported living services.

Our Future Homes book

- gives housing choices and
- says how it is decided where people should live.



Residential Care Homes

These homes give a lot of help and support. For example, to wash, eat and go to the toilet.

- People have their own bedroom and bathroom.
- People share the dining room and living rooms.



Supported Living Services

These homes support people to live more independently in their own home.

- People get the right amount of support for them.
- People get money to pay bills and pay for support.
- There may be 5 or 6 people living near each other or in the same building.
This means they can choose to do things together or not.

Day Opportunities



Belfast Trust have services for adults with learning disabilities that offer activities during the day. We called these **day opportunities**.

Activities include

- arts and crafts
- community-based activities
- health and leisure
for example, going swimming or to the gym
- going to college
- work experience and training



Day Centre

In our community we have

- **8 day centres**

A **day centre** is a place that gives care or support and activities.



Social Club

- **4 clubs**

A **club** is a place that people go to make friends and do activities together.



- **2 social enterprises**

A **social enterprise** is like a business. It makes money by selling things.



- **2 day services**

Day services support people to learn new skills, grow confidence going out in the community and build friendships.

Community Services



We have teams who help people with learning disabilities.

People on these teams can include

- Social workers
- Nurses
- Psychologists
- Psychiatrists
- Occupational therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Speech and language therapists.



These staff can help when people with learning disabilities or their carers

- are having a hard time or
- need more help.



They ask you questions to find out what help you need. This is called an assessment.

Intensive Treatment Team



This is a new team.

It helps service users at home when they are very unwell or their behaviours hurt themselves or others.

They also support carers and family.



Their help means people can stay at home to get the support they need until they are well again.

This can mean people do not need to go to hospital.



If the service user needs to go to hospital they will help with this.



Intensive Treatment Teams will try to get a bed for service users if

- they need a break in an emergency or
- carers or family need a rest.



They will help carers and families learn different ways to support their loved one.

Muckamore Abbey Hospital Swimming Pool



There is a swimming pool at the hospital.

Patients and service users in the community use it.



The pool **may**

- close when the hospital does or
- be taken over by another service.



Belfast Trust service users will use other pools at

- local leisure centres or
- private pools.



We will tell everyone about what will happen to the swimming pool once there is a plan.

Muckamore Abbey Hospital Staff



A lot of changes are happening to services. Our staff are very important.



We want to work with our staff so they

- all have a job and
- have the training they need.

Staff can talk to managers or **Trade Unions** if they are worried.



Trade Unions are groups of workers who look after worker rights and try to make sure they are treated fairly.

The law



The law says the Belfast Trust must

- look after everyone's **human rights**
- make sure people with a learning disability can use our services and
- treat everyone fairly.



Human rights are rights that everyone has. For example, the right to say what you think.

How we have followed the law



Our plan will look after the human rights of service users. They will be

- safe and well looked after
- living in their own homes, not hospitals and
- not discriminated against. This means treating people badly. For example, because of their age, race, religion or disability.



Our plan helps people with a learning disability to use services to get the healthcare they need.

This will help them have better health and live longer.

We are doing an **Equality Impact Assessment** to find out

- how we can treat people fairly and
- what people think about our plans so we can make the plans better..



Equality Impact Assessment



Belfast Trust has thought about the difference closing Muckamore Abbey Hospital will have on

- the 26 patients who live in the hospital right now
- their families and carers and
- our 268 staff.

Patients, families and carers



Closing the hospital will make a big difference to the lives of patients and carers.

It will affect older people and people with a disability the most.

The oldest patients may find moving hard. This is because they have lived there a long time.



We still think moving patients to their own homes in the community will help them have a better life.



We thought about patient's human rights.

We decided that

- patients in hospital do not need to be there and
- patients have the right to live in the community.

How we will help patients, carers and families



We will make sure patients are safe, happy, well looked after and get the care they need.



We will listen to what patients, carers and families want.



We will keep everyone up to date with what is happening.



We will make changes slowly to check everything is going well.



We will give a lot of support to everyone.



We will help patients use community services.



We will make sure there are activities for people in the community.

Staff



Closing the hospital will make a big difference to the lives of staff.

It will affect some staff more than others. For example, older people, women, and carers.

How we will help staff



When Muckamore Abbey Hospital closes staff will be asked to work somewhere else.

We will do this in a fair way.



Staff will be kept up to date and can talk to their manager if they are worried.



Staff will be given training in their new jobs.



Staff can ask for support from others. For example, Trade Unions.



We will work with Trade Unions to make sure we are doing everything fairly.



We will make sure staff are supported as changes happen.

Tell us what you think



We want everyone to think about our plan and tell us what they think.

You can do this by answering the questions on the next pages.



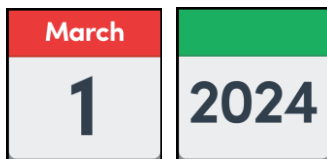
Email them to Orla.Barron@belfasttrust.hscni.net.



Or post them to

Belfast Trust Equality and Planning
First Floor, Administration Building
Knockbracken Healthcare Park
Saintfield Road
Belfast
BT8 8BH

If you would like to answer them in person please email Orla.Barron@belfasttrust.hscni.net.



Please tell us what they think before the **1st March 2024**



We will use what you tell us to help us make our plan better.

We will do a report about what people tell us. We will put this report on our website.



We will keep checking how changes in our plan are affecting patients, staff, families and carers.

If we need to do things differently to make things better then we will.

About you



All of your answers are confidential and anonymous. We do not give out any information which could be used to identify you.



How old are you?

0 - 18

40 - 49

70 - 79

Prefer not to say

19 - 29

50 - 59

80 - 89

30 - 39

60 - 69

90 - 99

What **gender** are you?

Gender means male, female or transgender.



Male

Prefer not to say

Female

Transgender

This means a person who wants to change their gender



What **ethnicity** are you?

Ethnicity is your race or background. This means who you are and where you are from.

White

Indian

Black Caribbean

Chinese

Pakistani

Mixed ethnic group

Irish Traveler

Bangladeshi

Prefer not to say

Any other ethnic group.

Please tell us

What **sexual identity** are you?

Sexual identity means what type of sexual partner you prefer.



Heterosexual

This means a man attracted to a woman or a woman attracted to a man



Gay

This means a man who is attracted to other men.



Lesbian

This means a woman who is attracted to other women



Bisexual

This means a person who is attracted to both men and women

Other

Prefer not to say



The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 says a disability is

- a difficulty with your body or mind
- that makes a big difference to your day to day life over a long time.

Do you have a disability?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

If yes, please tick anything that applies to you below.



Physical Impairment, such as difficulty using arms or mobility requiring a wheelchair or crutches.

Sensory Impairment, such as blind/visual impairment or deaf/hearing impairment

Mental health condition, such as depression or schizophrenia

Learning disability, such as Down's Syndrome, Dyslexia or Cognitive Impairment

Long standing illness.

Please tell us more.....

Other.

Please tell us more.....

Prefer not to say



Question 1

What do you think about our plans for patients?



Question 2

Think about human rights and being fair.
What do you think about how our plan will make a difference to **patients and carers**?



Question 3

Think about human rights and being fair.
What do you think about how our plan will make a difference to **staff**?



Question 4

Is there anything else we need to do to make our plans for patients, families, carers and staff better?

A large empty rectangular box for writing an answer to the question.



We would like to thank you for answering our questions.