

Report To and Date:	Warwickshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) September 2024
Report Title:	Community Hospital Rehabilitation Bed Provision in South Warwickshire
Report From:	Laura Nelson, Chief Integration Officer, NHS Coventry and Warwickshire ICB
Author:	Amy Danahay, Programme Lead, NHS Coventry and Warwickshire ICB
Previous Considerations and Engagement:	<p>Updates provided to HOSC to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2022: Final list of potential proposals shared with Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) by SWFT, to determine if options represent 'substantial variation' to the current offer. Two additional options requested. June 2023: Update to HOSC outlining recommendations (SWFT). June 2023: Letter received from HOSC following meeting requesting further public consultation is completed on potential options November 2023: ICB attended Stratford and District HOSC to provide update on pre-consultation business process and need for wider rehabilitation review.
Purpose:	For Information, Assurance and Approval.

Members are requested to:

- NOTE FOR INFORMATION the contents of the report.
- Be ASSURED in respect of the progress against the agreed approach to deliver the South Warwickshire Community Hospital Rehabilitation Bed project.
- ENDORSE the approach to formal consultation due to the service change proposed being considered substantial and therefore warrant public consultation. This will then enable the ICB to fulfil its duty to notify the Secretary of State.
- ENDORSE the reduction of the public consultation from 12-weeks to 6-weeks enabling the future decisions about the 35 community hospital rehabilitation beds to be approved by the end of March 2025.

1. Background

- The Ellen Badger Hospital (EBH) in Shipston-on-Stour is undergoing a phased development aimed at modernising and expanding its facilities to better serve the local community. The first phase includes the construction of a new health and wellbeing hub, improved outpatient services, and expanded diagnostic capabilities.
- 16 in-patient beds at EBH were temporarily relocated due to the construction works to Champion Ward, Leamington Spa Hospital. This ward had a recent upgrade and refurbishment (2021), ensuring compliance with modern ward standards and IPC requirements.

- 1.3 The inpatient area at EBH has been retained during the construction of the new building. However, due to changes in the building's footprint, the facility can now house only 12 beds.
- 1.4 While the EBH building is retained, it does not comply with acute inpatient guidance. Significant capital investment is required to address issues like asbestos removal, catering reinstatement, backup generator installation, new windows, and IPC compliance.
- 1.5 In 2021 South Warwickshire University Foundation Trust (SWFT) undertook a strategic review of Community Hospital Bedded provision in South Warwickshire. Prior to this Community Hospital inpatient provision had never been strategically reviewed.
- 1.6 A total of 35 inpatient beds were included in the review, comprising 19 beds in Stratford Hospital (Nicol Ward) and 16 beds from EBH currently relocated at Leamington Rehabilitation Hospital (Campion Ward).
- 1.7 The focus of this review was to ensure we are providing the services that meet the health and care needs of the people of South Warwickshire, both now and in years to come.
- 1.8 The result of the review was to put forward SWFTs commissioning intentions for the future of Community Hospital provision in South Warwickshire as a business case.
- 1.9 The Community Bed Review was received by the SWFT Trust Board on the 5 April 2023 and the Board approved a number of recommendations to present to the ICB, on the basis that the options being presented provide the right capacity, are in line with strategic direction of travel, and are affordable and clinically appropriate for the cohort of patients that require inpatient community support.
- 1.10 In July 2023 the SWFT Community Hospital Business Case was considered by the ICB and approval granted for the ICB to begin a pre-consultation business process. This work commenced in August 2023 with the ICB engaging the Consultation Institute (tCI) and Capsticks Solicitors to review and consider the SWFT business case process against the ICB statutory duties and responsibilities to identify the additional actions and steps that the ICB needed to complete prior to commencing the public consultation.
- 1.11 This identified the need for a wider review of Rehabilitation Services for the whole Coventry and Warwickshire population and further consideration regarding the impact of changes to other services impacted at Ellen Badger i.e. the First Aid Centre.
- 1.12 Historically, alongside community beds, the Ellen Badger Hospital has also provided outpatient services and a First Aid Centre. The impact of the changes being proposed through the Community Bed Review is that the site will change from an inpatient and outpatient facility to an outpatient only facility.
- 1.13 With a comprehensive overview of our broader rehabilitation bed provision awaiting formal governance approval and sign off, we recognised that several essential improvements are required to enhance our services. However, we cannot address all of them simultaneously. Therefore, we prioritised the rehabilitation beds in South Warwickshire.
- 1.14 The Integrated Care Board (ICB) have legal and regulatory responsibilities to adhere to before implementing any service change, including the permanent geographical relocation of services. The ICB considers that the potential changes flowing from the Community Bed Review constitute a significant service change and consequently there is a need for further involvement of the public on the proposed options and their wider implications.
- 1.15 Due to the time elapsed since the SWFT Community Hospital Business Case was presented in July 2023 and the subsequent rehabilitation review, the ICB needed assurance that all viable

options for providing community rehabilitation beds across Coventry and Warwickshire, particularly in South Warwickshire, had been thoroughly explored, validated, and any critical new considerations identified. This reassessment, which included previous and new stakeholders, was conducted between June and August 2024 to ensure alignment with the current health and care landscape.

- 1.16 These options will serve as the foundation for any subsequent public consultation regarding the future of community rehabilitation bed provision.

2. Progress

- 2.1 The approach approved by the ICB in the July 2024 has been executed swiftly with all project activities progressing as planned. The options appraisal conducted between 2021-2023 by South Warwickshire University Foundation Trust (SWFT) has been reviewed by original and new key stakeholders, with a focus on validating the original proposed options and identifying any critical new considerations.
- 2.2 The Clinical Senate have been commissioned to determine if the clinical evidence supporting the options appraisal and subsequent pre-consultation business case developments has been considered and is robust to enable NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) to proceed with a public consultation.
- 2.3 The following new considerations have been factored into the revalidation of the proposed options:
 - The submission of a system financial plan reporting a significant deficit, acknowledging an underlying recurring deficit.
 - A new and approved Estates Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan, requiring system support for any future proposals impacting estates.
- 2.4 The following proposed options were confirmed as viable on 3rd September 2024, in line with the approved timescales:
 - Provide 35 community beds across three sites (EBH, Nicol Ward and Campion Ward) and continue to improve care at home (maximum of 12 beds at EBH).
 - Continue to provide 35 community beds across two sites (Nicol Ward and Campion Ward) and continue to improve care at home
- 2.5 While we acknowledge the time that has passed since HOSC last received an update, it was important to conduct the Coventry and Warwickshire Rehabilitation Review (August 2023 to May 2024) and seek further legal advice, both of which are now completed. With this behind us, we have prioritised resolving the South Warwickshire community bed situation by implementing a clear approach and allocating additional resources. We now seek the support of HOSC to move forward.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 In light of the substantial nature of the proposed service change, we are seeking the committee's endorsement of our formal consultation approach. This will enable the ICB to fulfil its statutory duty to notify the Secretary of State. Our approach involves the development of a Pre-Consultation Business Case (PCBC) and supporting documentation, with input from external specialists, as detailed in the timeframe (figure 1 and 2). With the new statutory instruments in place, it is crucial

- 3.2 After listening to key stakeholders and receiving advice from NHS England, it is feasible to shorten the consultation period from 12 weeks to 6 weeks, thereby accelerating decision-making to March 2025 rather than May 2025.
- 3.3 The ICB acknowledges the potential negative implications of a shorter consultation period but will manage these risks with the support of specialist advice and close collaboration with key stakeholders, ensuring that we address frustrations over timescales and delays while still demonstrating that we have actively listened and responded to concerns.

Figure 1 Revised South Warwickshire Community Hospital Rehabilitation Bed Timescales

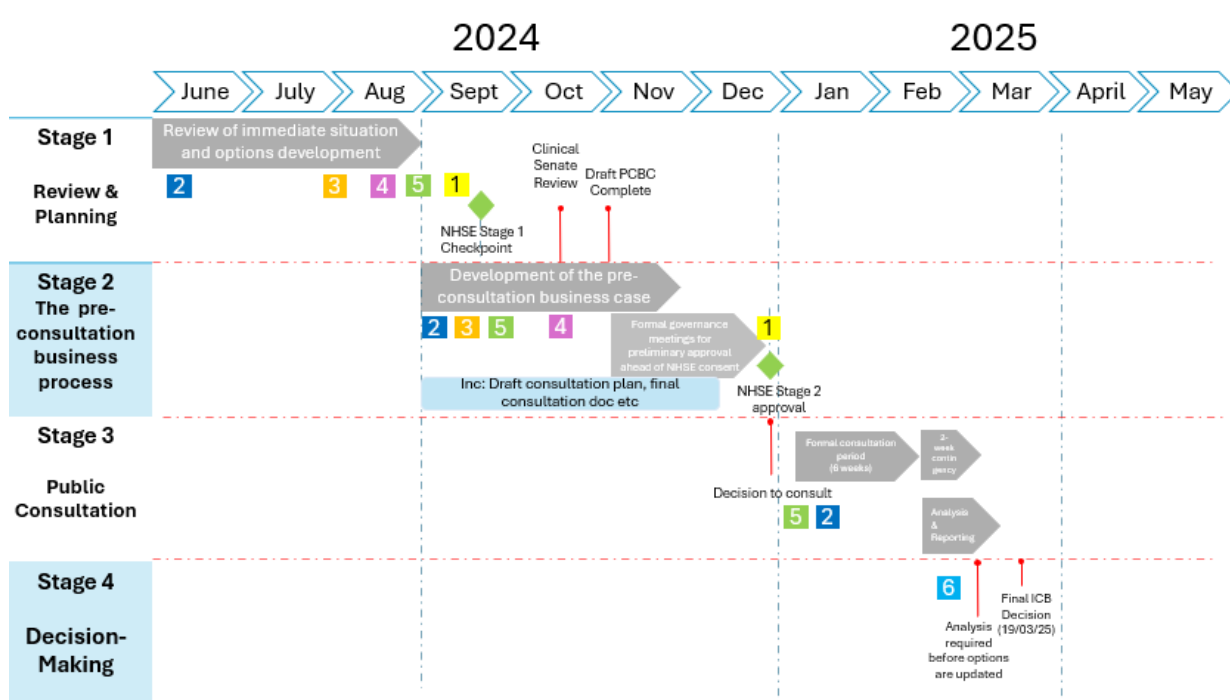


Figure 2 Independent Key Roles and Responsibilities to assist with the Timescales

1	NHSE (NHS England)	Independent role in overseeing and ensuring the effective implementation of major service changes to improve healthcare delivery and patient outcomes: 2 key checkpoints identified within the Major Service Change Handbook
2	NHS Coventry and Warwickshire ICB	Acts independently to the provider (SWFT) by overseeing and coordinating health and care services across the system, ensuring that decisions are made in the best interest of the population's health and wellbeing, rather than the interests of individual providers.
3	The Consultation Institute	Has previously, and will continue to, provide expertise, training, and support to ensure effective and lawful public consultation and engagement processes.
4	The Clinical Senate	Provides independent, strategic clinical advice and leadership to support the development and implementation of major service changes within the health system. It ensures that proposed changes are clinically sound, sustainable, and aligned with improving patient care and outcomes.
5	External organisation (We Stand)	Support with the development and provision of advice and guidance to assist with the Pre-Consultation Business Process (PCBC) and deliver the public consultation as necessary.
6	External organisation (tbc)	External organisation to provide formal analysis and feedback reporting on the outcomes of the public consultation.

3.4 The following key dates are to be adhered to ensuring that the public consultation can commence in January 2025:

18 September 2024	NHS England Stage 1 Assurance Check Point
14 October 2024	Clinical Senate Review of the clinical evidence base
7 November 2024	Integrated Care System (ICS) Prioritisation Panel review of the PCBC providing assurance of due diligence
4 December 2024	Finance and Performance review of the PCBC
11 December 2024	NHSE Stage 2 Assurance Check Point
18 December 2024	NHS Coventry and Warwickshire ICB approval to commence the Public Consultation
End of December 2024	NHS England decision is communicated

3.5 We will adhere to NHS England’s tests for change to ensure the service change programme is robust, which includes:

- Strong public and patient engagement
- Consistency with current and prospective need for patient choice
- Clear, clinical evidence base
- Support for proposals from clinical commissioners
- Adherence to the NHS beds test

3.6 Regular engagement with HOSC will continue throughout the lifecycle of the proposed service change.

3.7 The Pre-Consultation Business Case (PCBC), the legal document on which the ICB will base its decision to consult, will be developed and ready for review by 31 October 2024.

3.8 Additional community and stakeholder engagement will commence to support the development of the PCBC.

3.9 We remain committed to upholding the duties placed on the ICB under the Equality Act 2010, particularly the public sector equality duty (PSED) and the duty to reduce health inequalities, as well as our obligations under the NHS Act 2006 (as amended).

4. Recommendations

4.1 Members are requested to:

- NOTE FOR INFORMATION the contents of the report.
- Be ASSURED in respect of the progress against the agreed approach to deliver the South Warwickshire Community Hospital Rehabilitation Bed project.
- ENDORSE the approach to formal consultation due to the service change proposed being considered substantial and therefore warrant public consultation. This will then enable the ICB to fulfil its duty to notify the Secretary of State.
- ENDORSE the reduction of the public consultation from 12-weeks to 6-weeks enabling the future decisions about the 35 community hospital rehabilitation beds to be approved by the end of March 2025.