

**Derby City Council
Adults and Health Scrutiny Review Board**

Improving Mental Health Services in Derbyshire

1. Purpose of Report

This report is for information to provide an update to the Board on the county-wide programme to improve mental health facilities and services in Derbyshire.

2. Background

Proposals for new mental health in-patient facilities to eradicate dormitory-style accommodation, and the development of local a Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit to avoid out of county placements, were discussed and subsequently supported by the Board in June 2021. The Trust sought local and national NHS approval for capital funding to build the new facilities and revenue funding to ensure safe staffing levels.

3. Aims

The programme has three aims for Derbyshire. To:

- eradicate the use of dormitory-style accommodation across all adult mental health inpatient facilities, replacing with single room, en-suite accommodation;
- end out of area Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) placements for Derbyshire service users by developing local specialist services; and
- ensure specialist facilities are provided - providing focussed care for older adults who have specific environmental needs and safety requirements.

These aims are in line with national requirements for mental health services.

4. Making Room for Dignity Programme

The three aims outlined above are delivered through six projects:

Northern Derbyshire:

- Derwent Unit – a 54-bed new build adult acute unit on the site of Chesterfield Royal Hospital
- Bluebell Ward – a 12-bed older adult service ward refurbishment at Walton Hospital

Southern Derbyshire:

- Carsington Unit – a 54-bed new build adult acute unit at Kingsway Hospital
- Radbourne Unit – a 34-bed adult acute unit refurbishment on the site of the Royal Derby Hospital.

Derbyshire-wide:

- Kingfisher House – a 14-bed new build male Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit, based at Kingsway Hospital
- Audrey House - an eight-bed female Enhanced Care Unit at Kingsway Hospital.

In April 2023 the Trust asked for suggestions from staff, service users and carers regarding the name our new and refurbished healthcare facilities to continue the valuable involvement of those people most heavily impacted by the changes.

There were some clear themes and preferences coming from ideas, with most suggestions received for the two new acute units being based on geographical areas within Derbyshire. In contrast, it was clear that people wanted a different type of name for the new Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) with many suggestions focused on birds, trees and flowers.

Staff and service users were also asked for views on whether to change or keep the names of the Radbourne Unit and Audrey House when they are refurbished for their new use. The majority of people voted for both names to remain, therefore there will be no changes to those unit names.

Many people also took the opportunity to suggest new names for the wards, as well as names for the units.

The voting was open to staff, service users, members, stakeholders and the public, and closed on Sunday 25 June, with the winning names announced on 5 July 2023 to coincide with the NHS 75th birthday celebrations.

The facilities have also been designed with extensive engagement and involvement from service users, carers and clinical colleagues. This ensures that each project within the programme is shaped by those with lived experience and will best meet the needs of the service users and deliver what service users consider important. This has been our process from the start which included the naming of the “Making Room for Dignity” Programme, conceived by Laura Newbould-Jones, a member of staff from the Trust’s Community Perinatal mental health team, following an internal staff competition. The logo for the programme was designed by Kate Smith, a locally based artist and former service-user.

Approval of the funding of the two new-build adult acute units was confirmed in September 2022. Approval of the remaining four schemes was delayed until December 2022, as a result of construction market hyperinflation driven largely by the war in Ukraine, as many key raw materials such as steel and plywood come from Russia and eastern European countries. The full £136 million capital funding is now in place, together with £7.9 million revenue funding required for safely staffing the new facilities.

5. Progress with New Facilities

The new facilities will open on a phased basis as construction and refurbishments complete.

5.1 Southern Derbyshire

The Carsington Unit is a 54-bed new build adult acute unit at Kingsway Hospital, for male service users. The unit provides all single en-suite rooms, to improve the safety, privacy, and dignity of service users, together with therapy rooms, communal areas, fitness equipment, gardens, family visiting areas and outdoor spaces.

Construction of the unit commenced in October 2022 and is progressing well with the opening of the new unit planned for November 2024.

To complete the dormitory eradication in Southern Derbyshire, two wards are being refurbished at the Radbourne Unit for female service users. Refurbishment of the first ward commences November 2023 and opens March 2025. The second ward refurbishment commences December 2024 and opens April 2026.



5.2 Northern Derbyshire



In Northern Derbyshire, the Derwent Unit is a 54-bed new build adult acute unit at Chesterfield Royal Hospital, for men, women and flexible ward spaces will be available to accommodate those who do not necessarily identify as staying on a male or female ward. The Derwent Unit is similar in design to the Carsington Unit at Kingsway. It is also due to open in November 2024.



The older adult service is relocating to the Bluebell Ward at Walton Hospital, Chesterfield. The ward will be refurbished to provide specialist facilities with single en-suite rooms, with an ability to flex male / female room ratio to meet demand, therapy rooms, communal areas and outdoor space, providing focussed care for

older adults who have specific environmental needs and safety requirements. The refurbishment commences in November 2023 with the unit opening in August 2024.

5.3 County-wide Specialist Services

The Making Room for Dignity Programme completes with the provision of Kingfisher House, a 14-bed new build Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit at Kingsway Hospital, Derby and Audrey House Enhanced Care Unit, a refurbished 8-bed facility for female service users, also at Kingsway Hospital.



Kingfisher House is being built adjacent to, and concurrently with, the Carsington Unit and will open March 2025. It will provide all single room en-suite accommodation, a therapy and activity suite, sensory rooms and communal areas with an outdoor garden.



Audrey House is currently being refurbished and is expected to be open November 2024. As with Kingfisher House, it will provide all single room en-suite accommodation, a therapy and activity suite, sensory rooms and communal areas with outdoor garden area.

Together these new specialist facilities will end the vast majority of out of county specialist placements for Derbyshire service users.

Clinical amendment to initial plans – Audrey House, Enhanced Care Unit

Following HOSC approval, the initial plans were for the Audrey House unit at Kingsway Hospital to be used as an interim 'decant' ward to allow for staged improvement works at the Radbourne Unit, Derby. Ward 32 at the Radbourne Unit would be the first to be refurbished; the enhanced care service on that ward would be provided from the remaining acute care wards on a distributed model, with 'lower acuity' patients cared for at Audrey House, on a temporary decant basis. Audrey House would then itself be refurbished as the permanent base for the eight bedded 'Enhanced Care Unit' facility, providing enhanced mental health support to women.

However, the new construction and refurbishment timelines became out of sync due to the delays in full approval of funding, and during engagement discussions with clinicians from the Radbourne Unit, general concerns were raised about having Audrey House operating as a single acute unit on the Kingsway site, while the new adult acute unit building work continued to take place. Concerns were raised that this would not be the most clinically safe model given wider support, including bleep-holders and other urgent acute support, would remain at the Radbourne Unit until the Carsington Unit and Kingfisher House were operational.

With this in mind, and following significant staff engagement, and consultation, it was deemed the most appropriate solution that Audrey House would no longer be used as a decant ward and would progress straight to the eight bed Enhanced Care Unit, as detailed in the timeline below.

Instead, the enhanced care service would still be provided on a distributed model, predominantly at the Radbourne Unit. In the event that all available adult acute inpatient beds across the Trust are fully occupied and additional capacity is necessary, the Trust will work hard to ensure that any externally provided beds are based within as close to Derbyshire as possible, whilst providing good quality of care and facilities. The Trust has widely considered a number of options and the Trust and Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care System believe that for the period of November 2023 – November 2024, this is the only viable option to maintain maximum patient and clinical safety and minimal patient movement.

Patient safety will remain a priority with the majority of adult inpatient services in Derby remaining at the Radbourne Unit until the transfer of to the new builds in November 2024. A Derbyshire Healthcare bed manager will make weekly visits to any patients who are provided a bed outside of Derbyshire, in line with our usual process.

Ongoing engagement

The Trust is committed to continuing to engage with patients, carers and members of staff throughout the programme. This will include ward visits, newsletter updates, targeted engagement sessions.

Derbyshire Dialogue sessions will also be provided, via the ICB, to reach members of the wider public.

The Trust will also provide updates to HOSC on the progress of the projects within the programme and warmly welcome representatives to arrange a time to visit the two new developments and see progress made to date.



Making Room for Dignity

Derbyshire Healthcare Foundation NHS Trust is delivering an ambitious programme to develop state of the art mental health facilities in the region. The programme will result in the building of two brand new mental health facilities on i) the Kingsway site, just outside of Derby city centre and, ii) on the Chesterfield Royal Hospital site. Both facilities are planned to be opened in 2024. The developments at the Kingsway site will also include building a male only Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and renovation of Audrey House for female patients needing enhanced care services. In addition to all this, the Trust will be renovating the mental health facilities at the Radbourne Unit on the Royal Derby Hospital site to create 2 wards for female adult patients of working age and relocating our older adult patients with functional mental health disorders from the Hartington Unit to a ward at Walton Hospital site in Chesterfield.

