

Slough Borough Council

Report To:	Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee
Date:	04 March 2025
Subject:	Relocation of Jubilee Ward
Lead Member:	Cllr Shah
Chief Officer:	Martha Earley, Director Communities and Partnerships, ICB NHS Frimley
Contact Officer:	Steve Manly, Strategic Engagement and Communications Lead
Ward(s):	All
Exempt:	No

1. Summary

1.1 This presentation reports an update on the current situation regarding the Jubilee Ward in Upton Hospital in Slough and proposals for relocating to St Marks Hospital in Maidenhead.

Clinical benefits, access improvements and positive outcomes are expected by NHS partners from this proposal.

This update also considers the public and stakeholder engagement that has taken place to date, including reporting to Slough's Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee in the form of the presentation at Appendix A.

1.2 It sets out the currently situation, who uses the service, the options that have been assessed, clinical benefits expected, what the new ward will look like and the public and stakeholder engagement that has been carried out so far.

1.3 The report also updates on the timescales expected for the new ward to open.

1.4 The report is provided for scrutiny purposes.

2. Recommendation/s/request for direction from the committee

The Committee is asked to:

- a. review and note the proposals set out in the presentation and the engagement that has taken place to date;
- b. Make any comments or and or recommendations they consider appropriate to inform the plans for relocation of the Jubilee ward.

3. Report

3.1 Introduction

This report (Appendix A) provides an update on the proposed relocation of Jubilee Ward from Upton Hospital to St Mark's Hospital. The Committee has requested this update, and we are seeking their feedback. The proposed relocation aims to ensure a clinically safe and sustainable inpatient rehabilitation service for local residents.

3.2 Background

Jubilee Ward is a short-stay inpatient ward at Upton Hospital, providing rehabilitation and discharge support. The ward is one of the last 'Nightingale wards,' built in the early 1900s, and is no longer fit for purpose. To maintain clinical safety, bed capacity has been reduced from 22 to 16, and the ward can no longer support patients with complex needs.

An independent options appraisal found that refurbishing Charles Ward at St Mark's Hospital was the preferred solution, exceeding all Upton options in terms of quality, sustainability, and value for money. The relocation will provide improved facilities, enhance patient experience, and offer a more modern clinical environment.

3.3 Body of report

Appendix A details the current situation, options appraisal, clinical benefits, patient and stakeholder engagement, and implementation timelines.

3.4 Summary of main findings

- The proposed relocation offers a modern clinical environment with better rehabilitation facilities and improved access to senior clinicians.
- Engagement activities have taken place including surveys, public meetings, stakeholder engagement, and digital outreach.
- Patient and public feedback has been mixed. Concerns were raised regarding accessibility for Slough residents, particularly around transport and the availability of wider services.
- Staff concerns primarily relate to travel implications, although many recognise the benefits of a purpose-built facility.
- If approved, the relocation process, including planning and construction, will take approximately 18 months, with the new ward expected to open in Autumn 2026.

3.5 The Committee is asked to:

- a. review and note the proposals set out in the presentation and the engagement that has taken place to date;
- b. Make any comments or and or recommendations they consider appropriate to inform the plans for relocation of the Jubilee ward.

4. Implications

Financial implications

The relocation aligns with value-for-money principles and ensures sustainable use of NHS resources.

Legal implications – N/A

1.1.

Equalities –

An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out to review the impact of the move on current and future patients and their carers. Some staff issues were also considered as part of this.

1.2.

Corporate Parenting – N/A

1.1.

Environmental implications

1.1. There are no known environmental implications arising from this report.

Equality implications

4.7 A full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed alongside this work.

Partnership Implications

4.9 NHS Frimley and Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust (BHFT) have prepared this report in partnership.

5.0 Appendices

Appendix A: Body of report.