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Ref No:

Trust Board Briefing Paper

From: Ms M Dargan
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To: Trust Board

Date: 25th March 2021

Subject: Strategic Outline Case for a Women & Children's
Unit at Antrim Hospital

Action Required: For approval

Purpose:

To seek approval for the Strategic Outline Case, SOC for a Women & Children's Unit at Antrim Hospital. Following approval the SOC will be submitted to Department of Health, DoH and a letter of Commissioner Support will be sought from HSCB.

The purpose of the SOC is to describe the need for a Women & Children's Unit and obtain approval from DoH to proceed to Outline Business Case, OBC.

Background

The creation of a Women & Children's Unit on the Antrim Hospital site is included in the draft DoH 10 Year Capital Plan, November 2019, with capital funding identified from 2023/24.

The Woman and Children's Unit will provide a range of specialist and routine services, promoting better clinical outcomes through co-adjacency of other relevant specialties in a single, modern, service-dedicated unit. The current Maternity, Gynaecology and Paediatric provision at Antrim Hospital is not 'fit for purpose'. The physical condition, clinical functionality and suitability of the accommodation does not support the delivery of new service models.

The SOC includes a range of capital options, from a 'do minimum' option at £6.2m to a new build option estimated at £106.7m (based on 14,679m² of new accommodation).

It is important to note that both the capital costs and revenue consequences are high level, and as the OBC is developed and the service models are confirmed the costs will be refined.

The Trust would aim, following SOC approval, to submit the OBC to DoH no later than August 2022. Following OBC approval and identification of funding it is currently estimated that a further 48 months with a commissioning period will be required to complete the scheme.

Conclusion/Action Required:

Trust Board are asked to approve the SOC for a Women & Children's Unit on the Antrim Hospital site in order for it to be submitted to HSCB and DoH.