

Trust Board Capital Business Case Briefing Paper	
Reference Number:	TB143/11/F
Date of Meeting:	26 th May 2022
Presenting Director:	Maura Dargan
Subject:	Business Case for Creation of a Gynaecology Treatment Suite at Antrim Area Hospital
Purpose: Approval/Noting	Approval
Background:	<p>This business case is a resubmission of the Gynaecology treatment suite at Antrim Area Hospital. The original business case was approved in May 2021 and had been allocated £299,679 (£273,344 estates & £26,335 equipment). Since the allocation, costs have risen significantly mainly due to the increase in costing for building work when compared to a year ago. This has resulted in the need for a resubmission in order to secure the additional capital funding required to complete the business case.</p> <p>This business case focuses on the Gynaecological services delivered at Antrim Area Hospital with the proposal outlining the options available to the Trust to create a bespoke Treatment Suite within the Gynaecology ward in order to improve patient safety and experience by optimising opportunities to offer women outpatient procedures without undergoing general anaesthetic.</p> <p>At present this service operates from a dedicated Ward C1, (Level C) alongside Outpatient Department 4 (OPD4) (Level A). The Trust's outpatient RAMP workstream identified gynaecology services as one area to be included as part of its overall modernisation plan for new ways of working. Developments in practice within gynaecology services means that a range of procedures previously undertaken within a theatre environment can now safely be offered to women as outpatient procedures with the use of oral or local medication. This significantly reduces the need for a general anaesthetic within a theatre or day procedure environment with the shift to outpatient based treatments, releasing both clinical and economic benefits.</p>

	<p>The current strategic direction urges clinicians to provide local care to their service users in the right environment with staff who are trained and have the necessary specialist knowledge and expertise. This proposal will create a bespoke Gynae Treatment Suite that not only modernises the gynaecology services the Trust offers, but would also deliver a better patient experience. The creation of this purpose built suite would also ensure that Gynaecologists with these specialist interests would be further motivated to develop and enhance the services we offer.</p> <p>Current Gynae standards would advocate that many of the procedures currently performed within the Day Procedure Unit setting are carried out in OPD4. Due to the accommodation not being fit for purpose these Out Patients with Procedures (OPP) could be safely relocated within a bespoke treatment suite.</p>
<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The benefits in the creation of the Gynae Treatment Suite includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The reduction in the number of Gynae admissions to ED ➤ Alleviate current capacity issues experienced by Maternity and Gynae services in by transferring Gynae Outpatient Department 4 services into the Treatment Suite ➤ Structural reconfiguration to incorporate these services would enable a more streamlined service to be delivered, improving management of Gynae patient flow ➤ Reduction in time out for staff currently required to leave the Department to support outpatient activity ➤ Facilities would be more readily available to accommodate additional clinics when required ➤ The Treatment Suite offers opportunities to review activity within community sites, with a view to offer women from other geographical areas the opportunity to undergo procedures without general anaesthetic ➤ Assist in modernising and reforming the delivery of the Gynaecology service with a view to expanding the provision of nurse led services which includes converting some consultant led activity to be delivered via the nurse led service. <p>Overall, this project addresses the need to provide efficient services that offer value for money, provides improved service user experience and is measurable through clinical outcomes and achieving targets across Gynae Services.</p>
<p>Total Capital Costs:</p>	<p>£534,013 (£507,678 capital & £26,335 equipment) Funded in 2021/2022 £44,644 Balance of Funding Required in 2022/23 £489,369</p>

Affordability:	The capital funding required will be made from the general capital allocation.
Risks:	<p>The risks associated with the creation of the Gynaecology Treatment Suite includes the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inability to secure capital funding ➤ Project not being delivered within timescale ➤ Cost for works runs over capital allocation budget ➤ Inability to identify/recruit appropriately trained staff ➤ The rooms in OPD4 where OPP are carried out are not fit for purpose and do not promote needs and dignity of women undergoing intimate procedures,
Conclusion:	<p>4 options were reviewed for consideration within the capital business case to provide the necessary accommodation to deliver the Gynaecology Treatment Suite at Antrim Area Hospital, with option 3 being the preferred option. This is the refurbishment of Ward C1, AAH for the creation of a bespoke Gynaecology Treatment suite with 2 treatment rooms to facilitate the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gynaecology Services currently located in OPD4 • The Gynaecology Assessment Unit <p>The Gynae assessment unit (GAU) service is currently operational within the location of the proposed treatment suite, and this option proposes its inclusion in the service provision within the Gynae Treatment Suite. We are the first Trust in Northern Ireland to establish the GAU which reflects best practice adopted from the UK in the provision of rapid access to gynaecology services and is also aligned with the Department of Health's Covid-19 Urgent and Emergency Care Action Plan No More Silos. Women bypassing ED and the Trust receipt of direct GP referrals to the GAU for urgent Gynae assessment and treatment, further maximises as far as possible the services going into the treatment suite and ensures the new accommodation is maintained at full daily capacity. It will also support the Trust to provide a more appropriate environment for women undergoing intimate and urgent Gynae procedures.</p>