

Trust Board Briefing Paper	
Reference Number:	TB154/12/F
Date of Meeting:	23 rd November 2023
Presenting Director:	Dr Petra Corr, (Senior Responsible Owner) Divisional Director of Mental Health, Learning Disability and Community Wellbeing.
Subject:	Birch Hill Centre for Mental Health Capital Scheme
Purpose: Approval/Noting	To provide an update on progress with the Birch Hill Centre for Mental Health project, for noting.
Background:	RIBA Stage 3 Spatial Coordination commenced on 10 October 2022. Proposed programme indicates completion of this stage by in April 2024.
RIBA Stage 3 Programme: A senior management programme review meeting chaired by the SRO and attended by Health Estates and the ICT was held on 2 November 2023 to discuss the programme. A follow up meeting took place on 7 November 2023. The Trust now await an updated programme. Consultation & Engagement: The ICT led on a staff engagement event on 25 October 2023 where staff had an opportunity to view current design information boards, chat directly to the architects and watch a computer generated “fly through” presentation of the proposed Birch Hill Centre for Mental Health. The event was very well attended with just over 100 staff members engaging and providing feedback. That same afternoon an Externals Stage 2 Review presentation was held for the Trust’s SMT / Directors. The following day, 26 October 2023 as part of the planning application process, the ICT led on a Public Consultation event in the Ewart Room at Holywell Hospital. Members of the public, local Councillors, MLAs and the local Press attended. The ICT are preparing a report on the feedback given that day. This will be shared once received. No major concerns were raised. The ICT continue to develop the consultation website for the project www.birchhillconsultation.org Addendum to the OBC: Responses to the DoH queries on the addendum continues to be developed with expected submission to the DoH at end of November 2023. Approval of the addendum will secure funding to continue with RIBA Stage 4, Technical Design. Touchdown base design workshop: Pivotal to the successful completion of RIBA Stage 3 is the design of the touchdown bases on the wards to ensure excellent observation of patients can be achieved. The ICT facilitated a further workshop on 8 November 2023 to review all touchdown proposals and internal partitions. Updated proposals are expected w/c 13 November 2023.	

Mock Up Bedrooms: Construction of the mock up bedrooms remains behind programme. Due to the requirement of a DAC a number of the specialist items with long lead times the rooms not likely to be completed until January 2024. It is key to the success of the design that as many Trust clinicians, support service managers, estates leads, and as many other key stakeholders as possible see the rooms and get the opportunity to comment on the design, furniture and specialist equipment. The Trust are investigating a two-step approach to viewing the rooms in an attempt to keep the programme moving.

Archaeological Survey: Approval of the licence to commence the work was approved at the end of October and work commenced on site on 6th November 23. In line with the Trusts expectation evidence of the medieval road previously discovered on the Bush Manor residential site was uncovered and HED are to attend site w/c 13th November to review.

Finance: No change

Decision Log:

The following decision was recently made by the Core Group Team and has been recorded on the Decision Log:-

- **Hospital Shop:** The decision was taken based on internal discussions with Corporate Support Services over recent months regarding the change in the catering model, the requirement for a shop had been reassessed and is no longer required. This is due to an anticipated reduction in footfall within the main entrance atrium and that the retail element that the shop provided can be replicated from the cafe adjacent.

Issues/Risks:

A number of new risks and issues are to be added to the risk register and issue log. These cover a number of areas including the current delays to the programme and mock up bedroom completion, elongation of the tendering process, impact of the archaeological survey and staffing / future changes in Core Group.