

Northern Health and Social Care Trust Board Meeting in Public - Cover Sheet

Subject:	Mid Ulster Hospital – Replacement of Theatre Ventilation & Theatre/Recovery Area Minor Refurbishment		Date of Meeting: 27 th August 2026				
Prepared By:	Jonny Haire – Business & Governance Manager - Infrastructure						
Approved By:	Steven Johnston, Assistant Director Estate Services						
Presented By:	Paddy Graffin, Director of Infrastructure						
Purpose							
To seek approval for the approval of the business case for backlog maintenance capital funding of £1,599,923.65 for replacement of Theatre Ventilation & Theatre/Recovery Area Minor Refurbishment (year one spend of £1,065,241.04 and year two spend of £534,682.61).			Approval	✓			
			Assurance				
			Update				
			Noting				
Strategic Objectives							
Build Northern Partnerships and Integrate Care	Continue to improve Outcomes & Experience	Deliver value by optimising Resources	Nurture our People, Enable our Talent & Build Our Teams	Improve population Health & address health & social care inequalities			
✓	✓	✓		✓			
<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>If the system is not replaced there is a Risk of theatre or recovery area closure due to ventilation failure, increased likelihood of cancelled or reduced surgical activity, continued exposure to non-compliance and clinical safety risks and escalation of backlog maintenance and cost pressures. This could directly impact the Trust's ability to deliver safe and effective surgical services.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>						If the system is not replaced there is a Risk of theatre or recovery area closure due to ventilation failure, increased likelihood of cancelled or reduced surgical activity, continued exposure to non-compliance and clinical safety risks and escalation of backlog maintenance and cost pressures. This could directly impact the Trust's ability to deliver safe and effective surgical services.	
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Committees/groups where this item has been presented before							
Has been listed on backlog maintenance plan as scheme to take forward.							
Acronyms							
N/A							
Executive Summary							
The purpose of the business case seeks approval and funding for the replacement of the existing theatre ventilation system at Mid Ulster Hospital. The hospital's Day Procedure / Theatre Unit is an important regional asset, enabling elective surgical activity to be delivered in a non-acute setting, thereby supporting waiting list initiatives and reducing pressure on major acute hospitals such as Antrim Area Hospital. The operating theatre suite, recovery area, and theatre preparation areas are critical infrastructure within the hospital, supporting, delivery of planned (elective) surgical care, efficient use of resources through day case pathways, regional strategies to reduce waiting lists and improve access to care, and, provision of care in a safe, controlled clinical environment. The ventilation system in Mid Ulster Hospital's Day Procedure/Theatre & Recovery Unit is over 50 years old and no longer meets current operational and compliance standards. The proposed system will provide modern ventilation to both theatres and associated recovery areas, ensuring a safe, compliant, and sustainable environment for patients and staff. At present, a single preparation room serves both theatres. As part of the project, this space will be subdivided to create two dedicated preparation rooms, one for each theatre. In addition, a new dirty utility							

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room will be provided for Theatre 2. These improvements will ensure that each theatre has its own dedicated preparation room, dirty utility, and anaesthetic room, enhancing workflow efficiency, infection prevention, and patient safety.

The project will also include minor refurbishment works within the Theatre Recovery Area. This includes the creation of a new doorway linking to the day surgery recovery area, enabling access to an additional 6–8 recovery bed spaces and improving overall patient flow and capacity.

Capital Costs for the project is estimated at £1,599,923.65 with planned expenditure across two financial years 2026/27 & 2027/28. Please note the estimate includes a 10% contingency on the construction costs.