

HOSC 10th February 2023

As usual the pre meeting discussed the agenda and what questions might be asked. The first question suggested was: where are the extra 24 community beds and what was their status. Next: what were the reasons for the majority of discharges being at 6:00 o'clock and different on different days. Another was the situation of the Garden suite on its return to Redditch and the position of the other centres. Finally reports were requested on diabetes and dentistry.

The only item of interest on the agenda was the update on improving patient flow. There has been a triple increase in the use of the 111 scheme that appears to be through covid and flu with a major increase in December 2022. In the new year the flow of patients reduced so it was possible to implement the Patient Flow Programme with emphasis on the Home Before Lunch aspect.

In response to the question on the 24 community beds it was stated that there were only 20 and that these were emergency beds and that there were 233 community bed and where necessary these were increased to between 240 – 250.

We were introduced to the Urgent Community Response scheme. Since April 2022 they have dealt with, on average, 40 cases per day responding with in 2 hours of a request. They are in daily contact with the ambulance service and are developing a remote monitoring service.

Overall, the trust felt that they were still moving in the right direction and when it was suggested that some aspects of the improvement i.e. longer hours at the MIU's needed to be publicised, this was accepted.

The trust did say that the discharge path ways that had been developed were being seen by other authorities in a good light.

We were told that the 15 minute policy to unload from the ambulance was still in place but it was better for the patient to be left in the ambulance.