
Update on Hyper Acute Stroke Care

Lead Officers: Maria Heard, Deputy Director of Innovation and Transformation,
Somerset ICB
Julie Jones, Programme Manager for Stroke, Neurorehab and
Community Hospitals, Somerset NHS FT

Author: Julie Jones, Programme Manager for Stroke, Neurorehab and
Community Hospitals, Somerset NHS FT

Contact Details: julie.jones@somersetft.nhs.uk

Cabinet Member:

Division and Local Member:

1. Summary

- 1.1 Fit for my Future is a strategy for how we will support the health and wellbeing of the people of Somerset by changing the way we commission and deliver health and care services. It is jointly led by NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board and Somerset County Council and includes the main NHS provider organisations in the county.
- 1.2 The stroke strategy for Somerset was drafted in 2019 and provides a direction of travel for the next five years, setting out how stroke services should operate across the pathway from prevention to living with the impacts of stroke. Many of the recommendations within this strategy have been implemented.
- 1.3 This report describes the next steps following the public consultation on the future of acute hospital-based stroke services.

2. Issues for Consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the update.

3. Public Consultation

- 3.1 NHS Somerset ran a public consultation to gather feedback about the future of acute hospital-based stroke services in Somerset, from people living in Somerset and people who use Somerset hospitals. Acute hospital-based stroke services is the specialist hospital care people receive in the first few days and weeks when they have a stroke.
- 3.2 The consultation asked for views on the following proposals:
 - 1) To provide hyper acute stroke services at one hyper acute stroke unit in Somerset and, if that is the right way forward, whether the unit be located at Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton
 - 2) To provide acute stroke services at either
 - Two acute stroke units one at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton and one at Yeovil District Hospitalor

- One acute stroke unit, which would be located at the same hospital as the hyperacute stroke unit proposed to be Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton

3.3 Public Consultation commenced on the 30 January 2023 and ran through until 24 April 2023 and is now closed.

4. Next Steps

4.1 No decision has been made on the future location of hospital-based stroke services.

4.2 All the feedback gathered during the consultation is currently being analysed by an independent research organisation who will prepare a report for NHS Somerset setting out the feedback received. This is expected in July 2023.

4.4 NHS Somerset will consider the feedback, along with a range of other information/evidence, for example, updated national clinical guidelines on stroke care.

4.5 We will continue to share information and updates about this programme of work and will publish the consultation findings report, including our response to it.

4.6 We expect to make a decision on the future location of hospital-based stroke services towards the end of this year.

5 Background papers

Background papers can be found on the Fit for My Future website [Acute hospital-based stroke services - Somerset Integrated Care System \(somersetics.org.uk\)](https://www.somersetics.org.uk/acute-hospital-based-stroke-services-somerset-integrated-care-system)