



Meeting Details:	Trust Board – 2 February 2023
Director:	Teresa Molloy, Director of Performance & Service Improvement
Topic:	Temporary Suspension of Emergency General Surgery at SWAH - Public Consultation
Response Required	For noting

Consultation Launch and Access to Documents

At its Trust Board meeting on 5 January 2023, Trust Board approved moving to public consultation on the Temporary Suspension of Emergency General Surgery at South West Acute Hospital (SWAH). The public consultation commenced on Tuesday 17 January 2023 and is open for a 12-week period ending on Monday 10 April 2023.

To promote the consultation, the Trust has:

- Publicised it across our Social Media Platforms with a reach of over 90,000
- Worked with the media to announce the launch of the consultation
- Written to statutory partners and informed them of the consultation and invited responses
- Updated Trust senior staff at Senior Leaders Forum
- Engaged with, and informed, over 2,200 within our consultee list of the launch, and how to respond to the consultation.

The public are directed to the Trust website where they can access all the relevant documents including the Consultation Document, Equality Impact Assessment and Rural Impact Assessment. Paper copies are available on request. The Trust is also working to provide an Easy read version of the Consultation document. We expect to have this published on our website in early February 2023.

Consultation Events

The Western Trust has worked closely with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (F&ODC) to plan the public consultation events. We will host 9 public events, 1 in each of the 7 District Electoral Areas in F&ODC area, and 2 online events. Across all 9 public engagement events, we have a potential attendance of over approximately 4,000 people.

The Trust has engaged 2 independent facilitators to support the facilitation of the events.



At each event, a presentation will be provided outlining the background and actions taken to date. A panel with representation from the Corporate Management Team will provide response to queries or comments at each event. Panel members include the Chief Executive, Director of Performance & Service Improvement, Director of Acute Services, Medical Director and representative from the Communications Team. British and Irish sign language will be available at each event.

The Trust is working with Patient Client Council and the independent facilitator on the itinerary and approach to the online events. This is to ensure maximum participation, particularly across section 75 groups.

How the Public Can Respond to the Consultation

The public are asked to respond to the consultation through an online Consultation Questionnaire. A paper copy is also provided within the Consultation Document. This has been developed in Citizen Space. The Trust has received 26 responses up to 24/01/23. The responses received in Citizen Space will be collated under specific themes and will be amalgamated with the Consultation events report to provide a robust recording of our public engagement and will provide the information for final Consultation Outcome report to Trust Board.