

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIP) TARGETS  
QUARTERLY TRUST BOARD REPORT  
*NATIONAL EARLY WARNING SCORES (NEWS)***

***7 November 2024***

# National Early Warning Scores (NEWS2)

## Progress to Date

NEWS 2 has been implemented in the Western Trust in all relevant Wards/Departments. Discussions within District Nursing are to begin to assess if NEWS2 will benefit these services.

The National Early Warning Score (NEWS2) is a standardised tool which improves the detection and response to clinical deterioration in adult patients and is a key element of patient safety and improving patient outcomes. The underlying principles are that patients who develop serious illness, will usually display abnormalities in physiological parameters (respiration rate, oxygen saturations, systolic blood pressure, pulse rate, level of consciousness / new confusion and / or temperature) and that if these early signs are recognised and appropriate prompt escalation and intervention occurs, patient outcomes will be improved.

Appropriate and accurate use of NEWS 2 requires staff to:

- Record vital physiological signs correctly
- Follow approved escalation plan and call for appropriate help within an agreed timeframe
- Ensure that sick or deteriorating patients are reviewed by the appropriate level of medical (or nursing staff) as per Trust escalation protocol, within a specific timeframe and to record any interventions that may have occurred.

Wards/Departments continue to audit the compliance of the NEWS2 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) on a bi-monthly basis. Exception reports and action plans are submitted through the Professional Nursing SharePoint site and exceptions should be included in Directorate Governance meetings. Any issues, themes or variances with these audits are discussed at the bi-monthly Nursing Accountability and Assurance meetings to provide a clear consistent approach to provide assurance on the standards of practice, conduct and professionalism of nursing and midwifery care services. The Nursing and Midwifery Accountability and Assurance committee hold operational Nursing & Midwifery management to account when NEWS2 audit results demonstrate aspects of care have not been delivered to the required standard.

All staff are advised to complete the on line e-learning module from the Royal College of Physicians London and ongoing training regarding escalation of NEWS scores is provided through Resuscitation Council UK Immediate Life Support (ILS) courses delivered by the Trust's Resuscitation Team. Drills, both announced and unannounced (as resources allow), are performed at ward/department level to re-enforce the learning on the documentation of NEWS and the escalation as per Trust NEWS 2 action protocol.

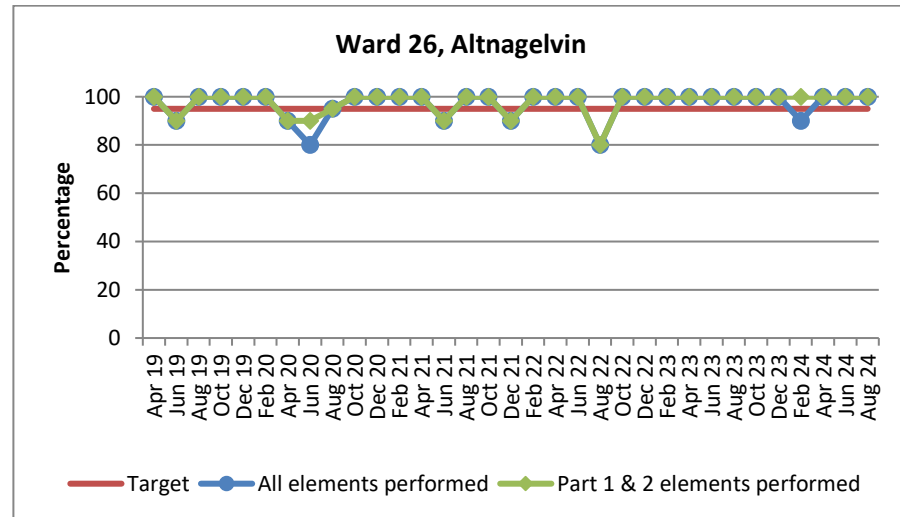
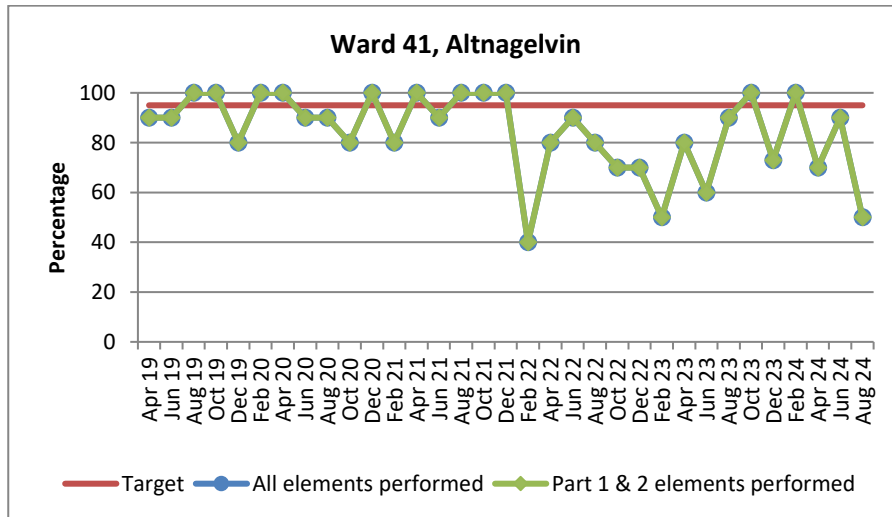
The Regional Nursing and Midwifery Quality and Assurance network (NMQAN) continue to review the development of the revised NEWS2 KPI audit tool.

An audit of 10 patient charts is completed bi-monthly by each adult inpatient ward and compliance is recorded in the run charts below. Frequency of audits may be increased for individual wards based on results.

### Bi-monthly Audits by Ward

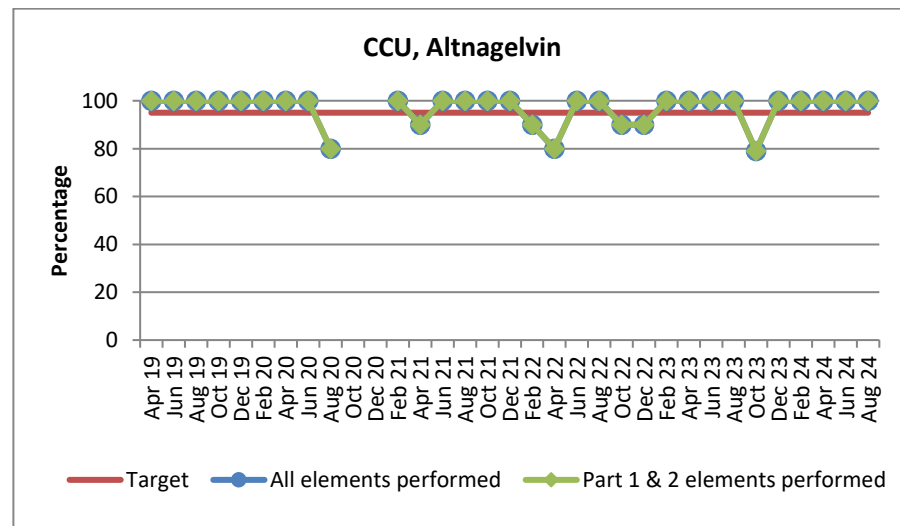
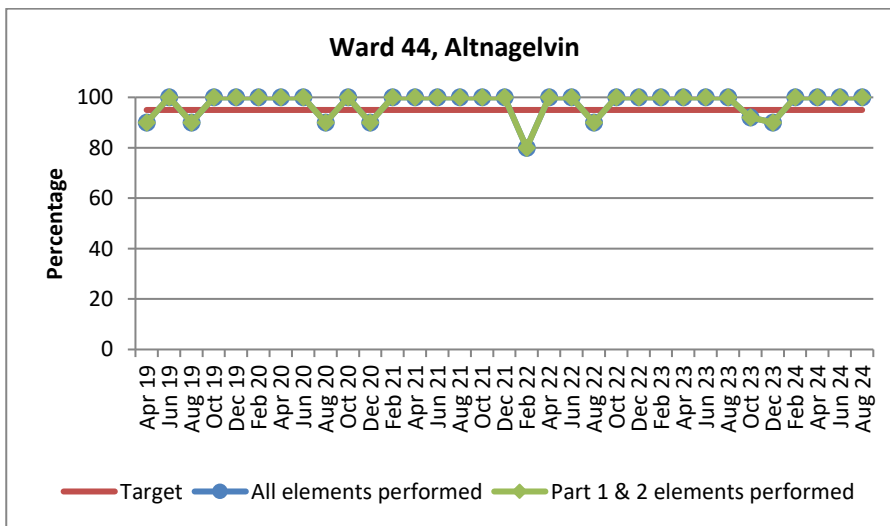
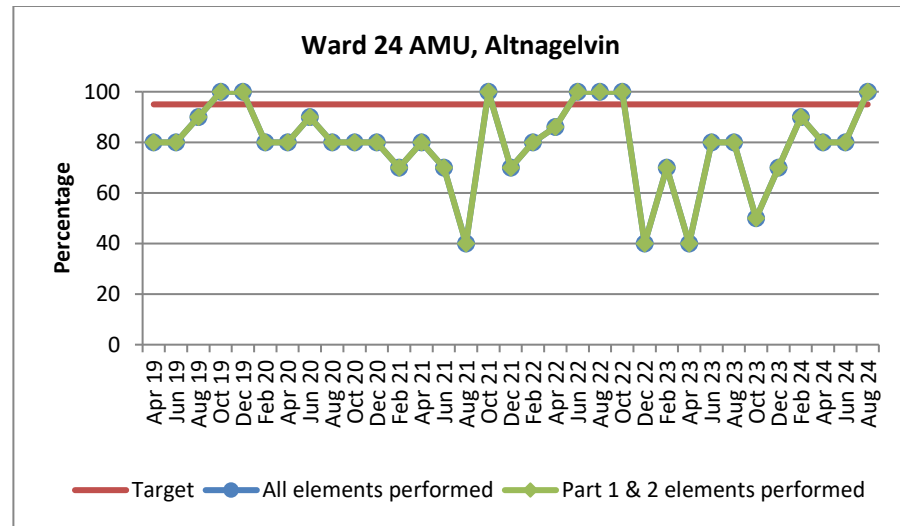
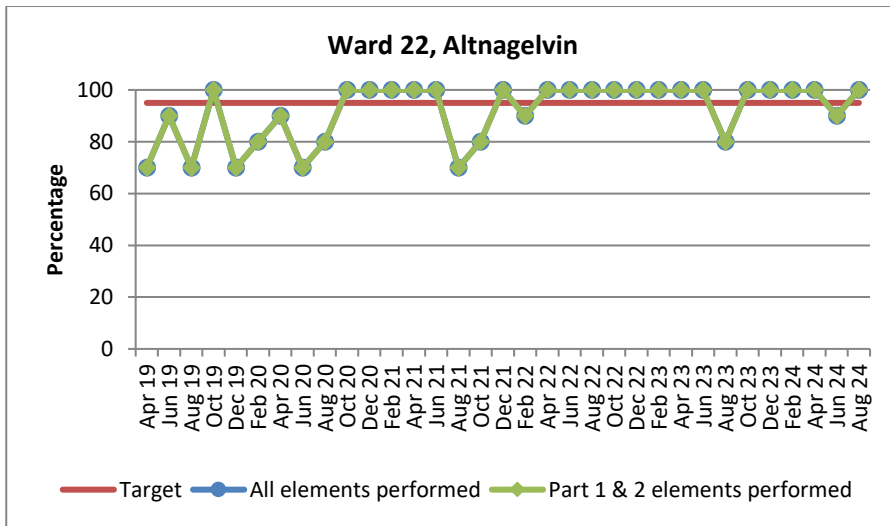
#### National Early Warning Scores (NEWS)

**Target: To achieve 95% compliance with accurately completed NEWS charts in all adult inpatient wards.**



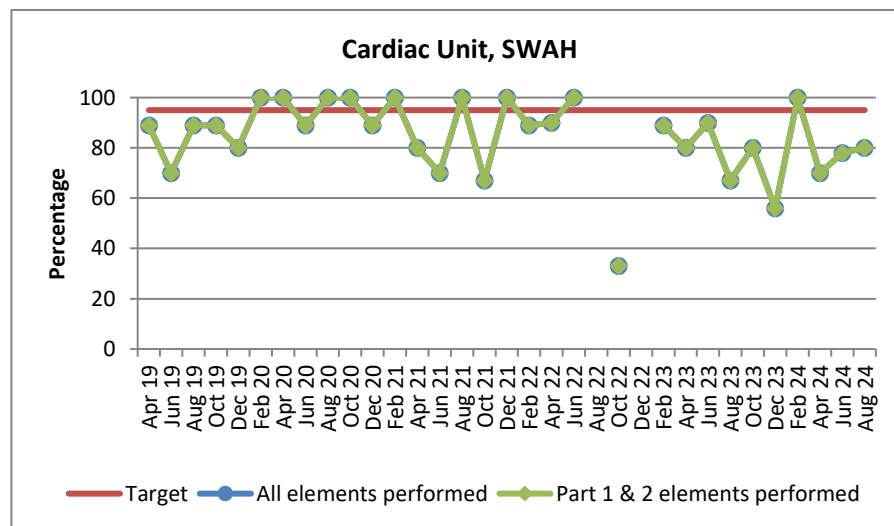
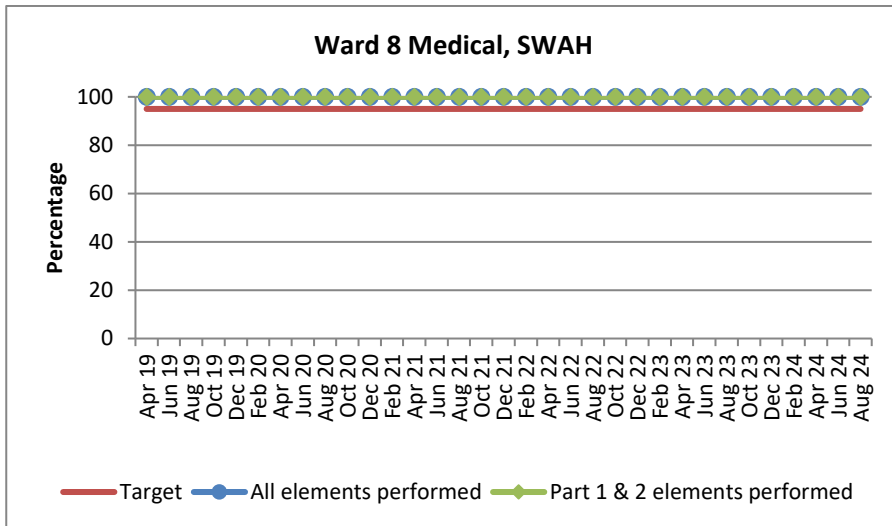
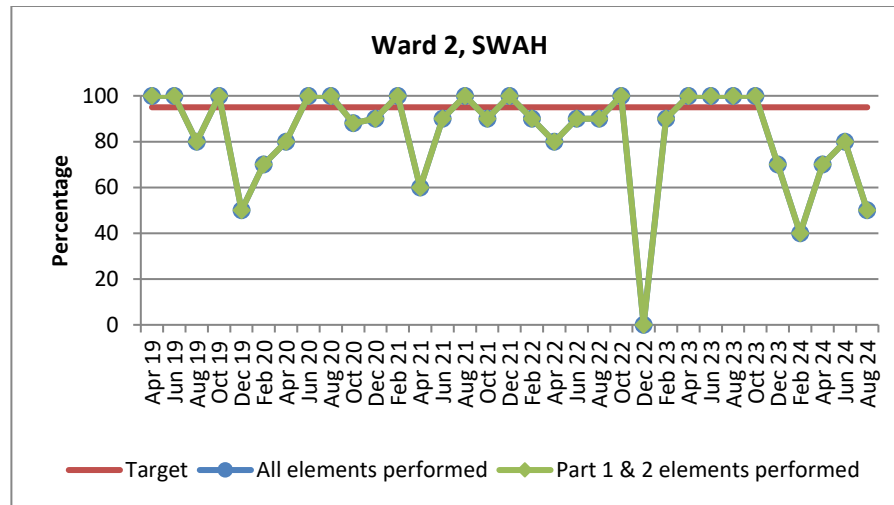
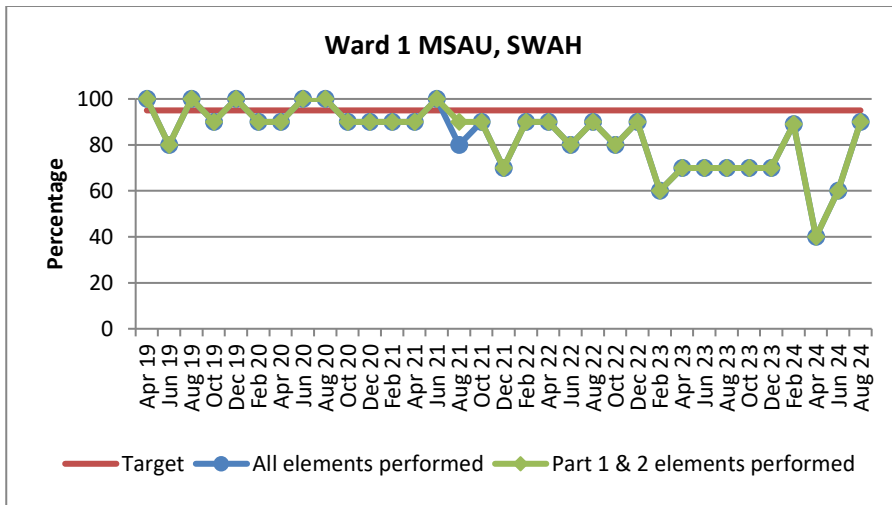
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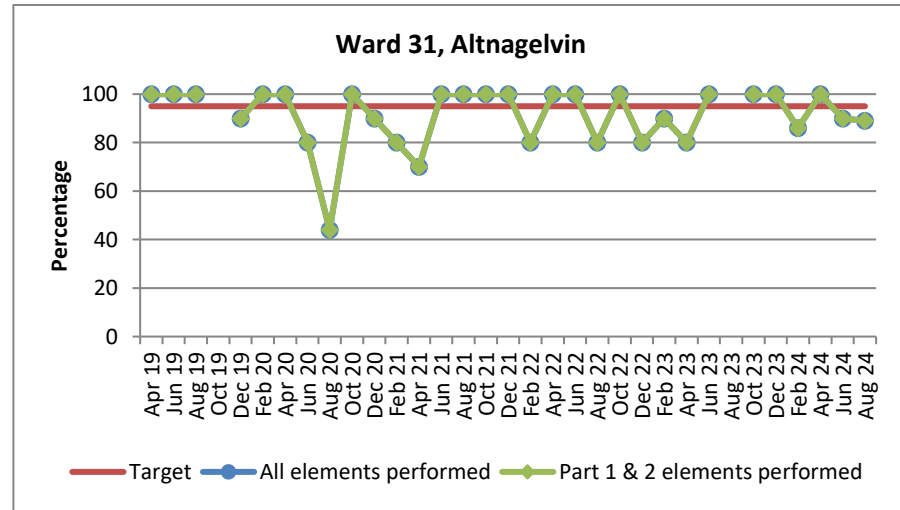
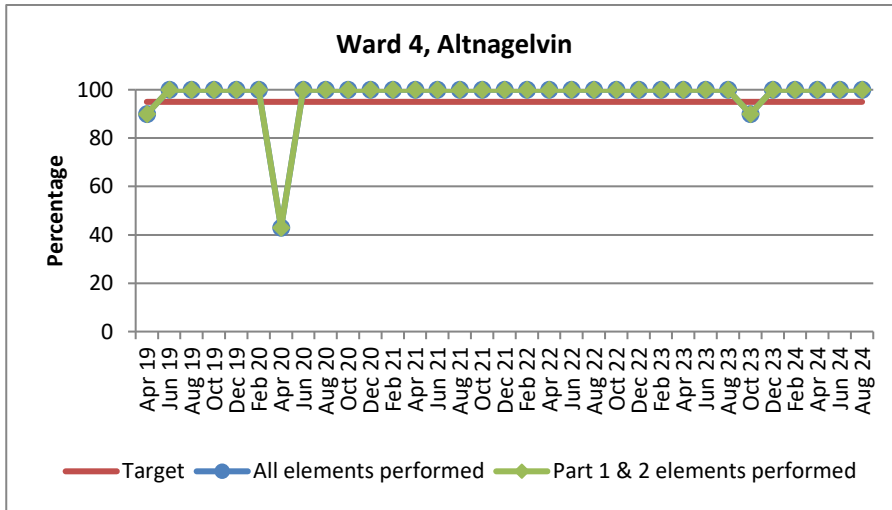
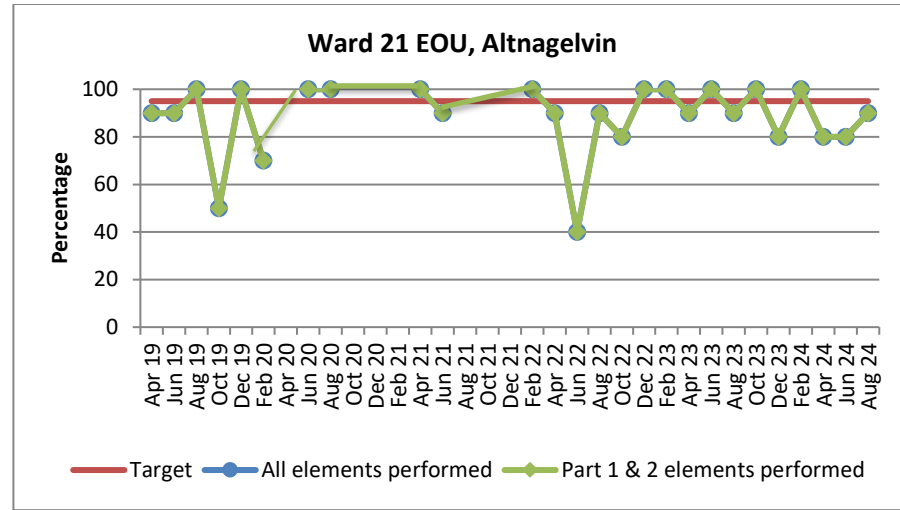
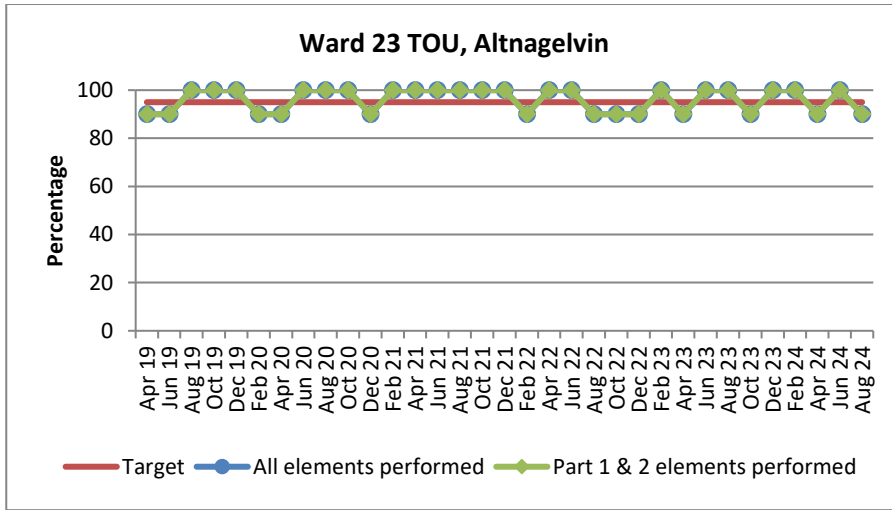
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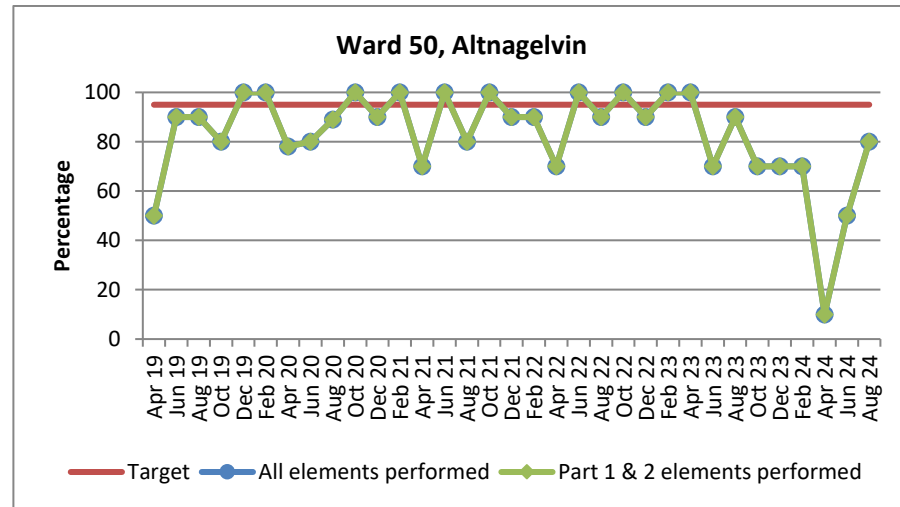
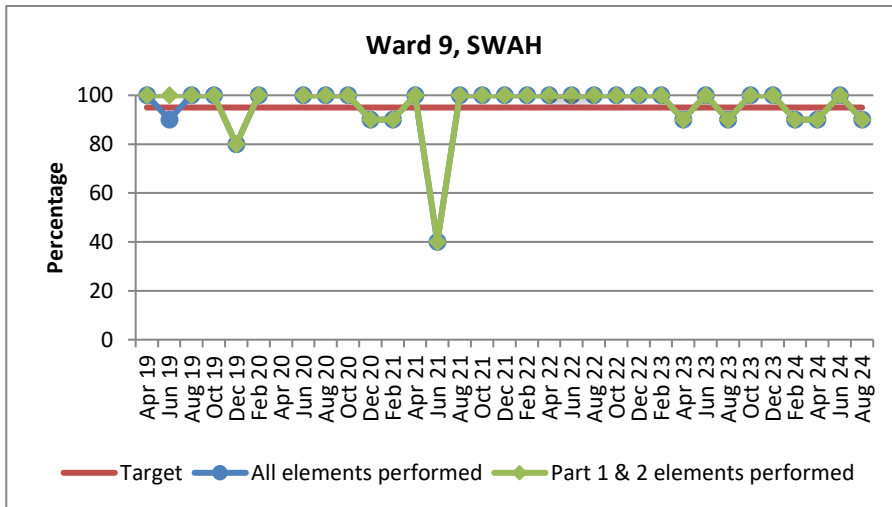
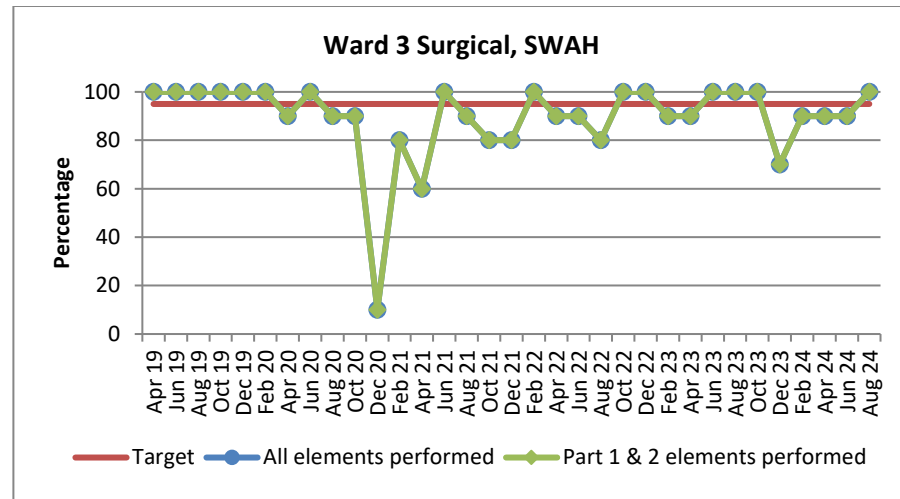
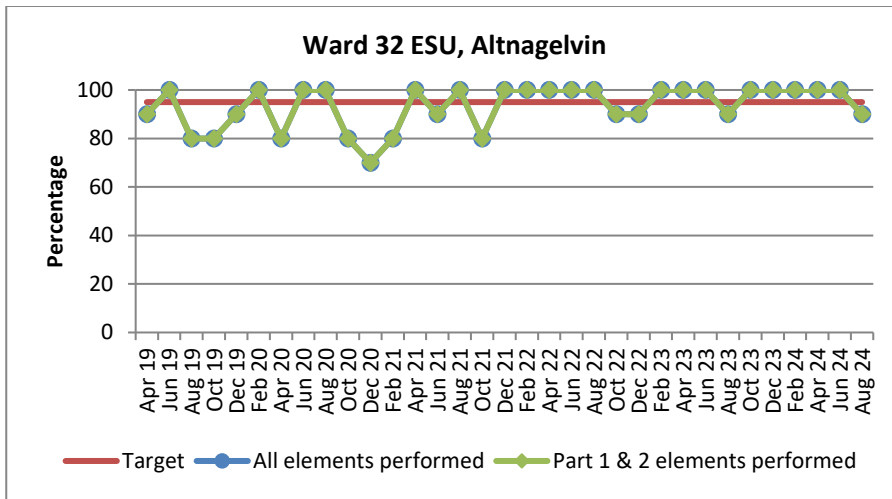
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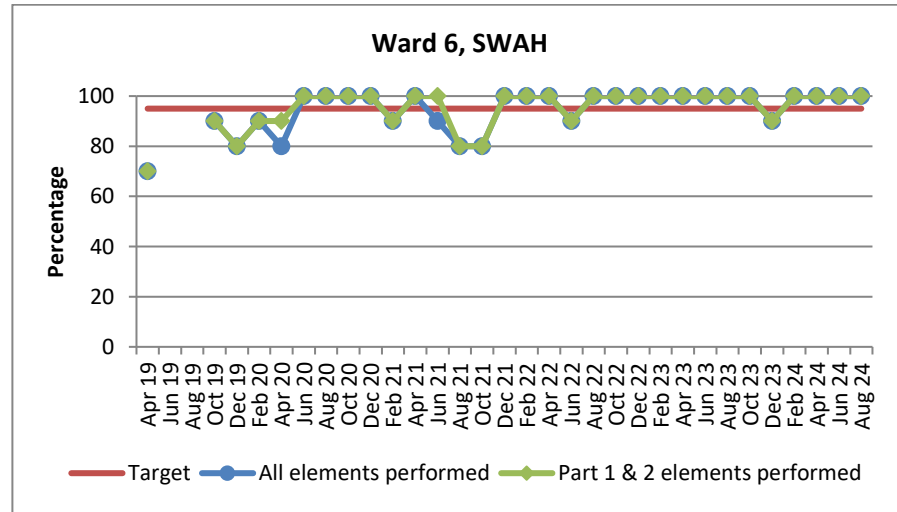
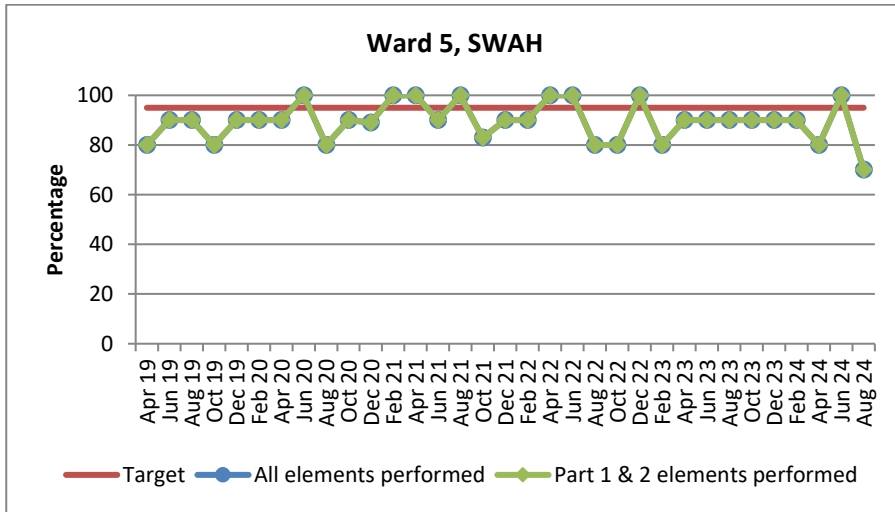
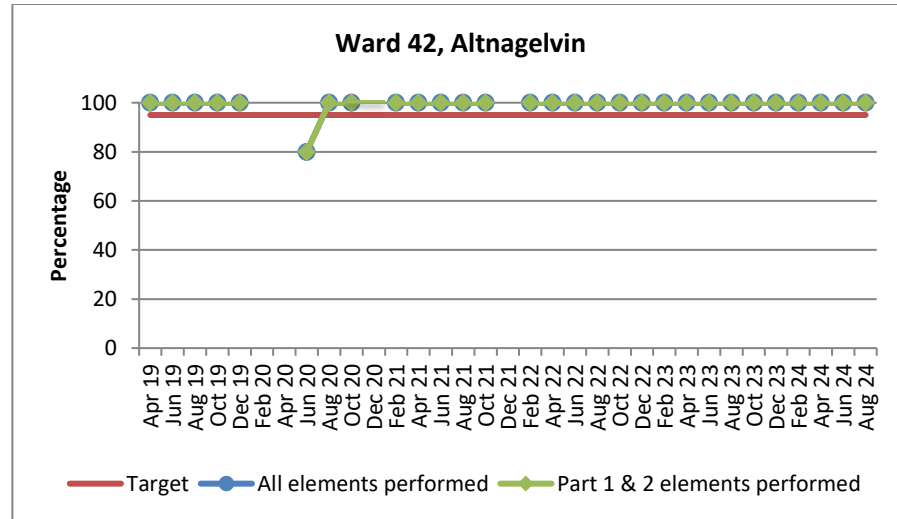
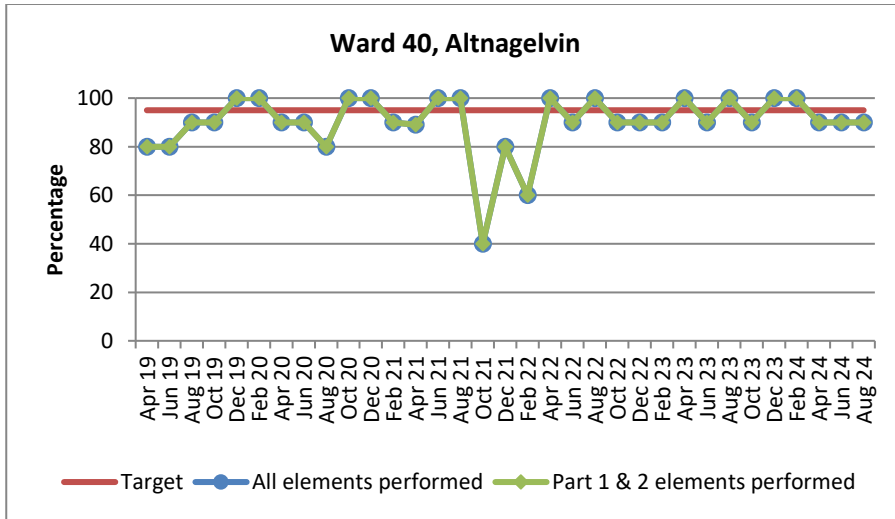
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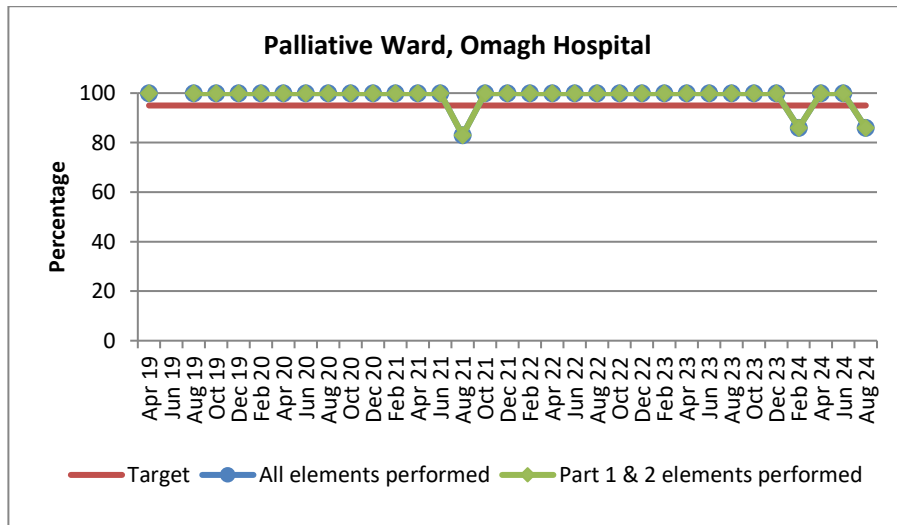
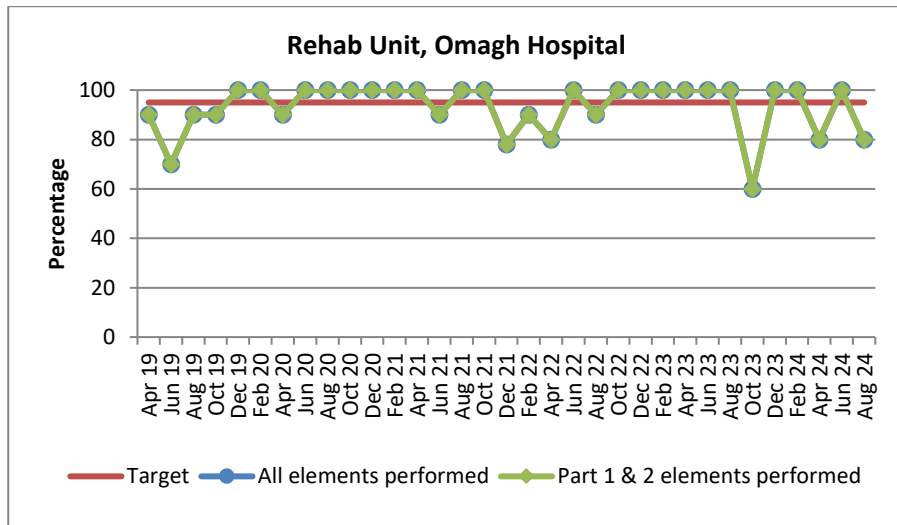
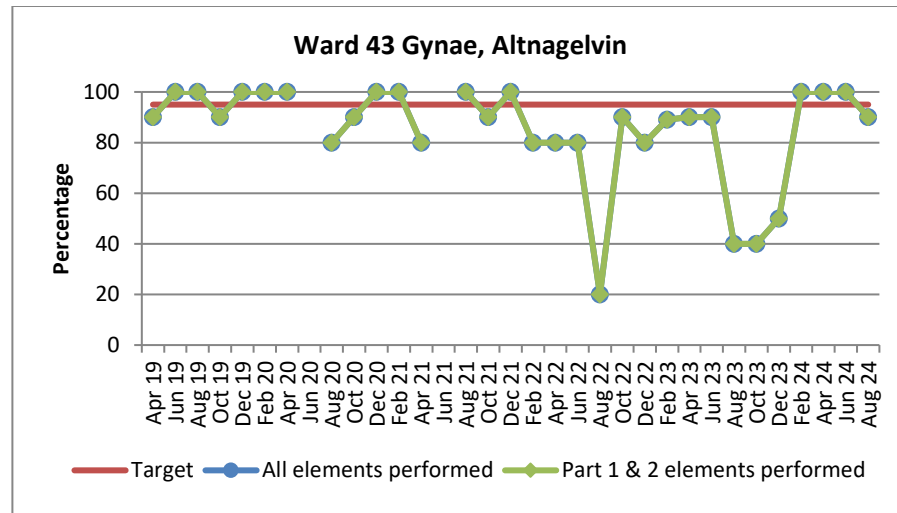
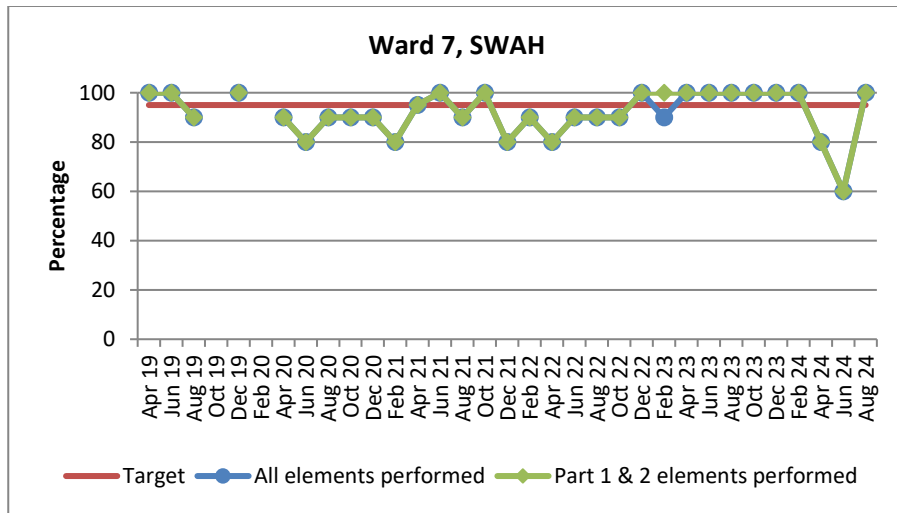
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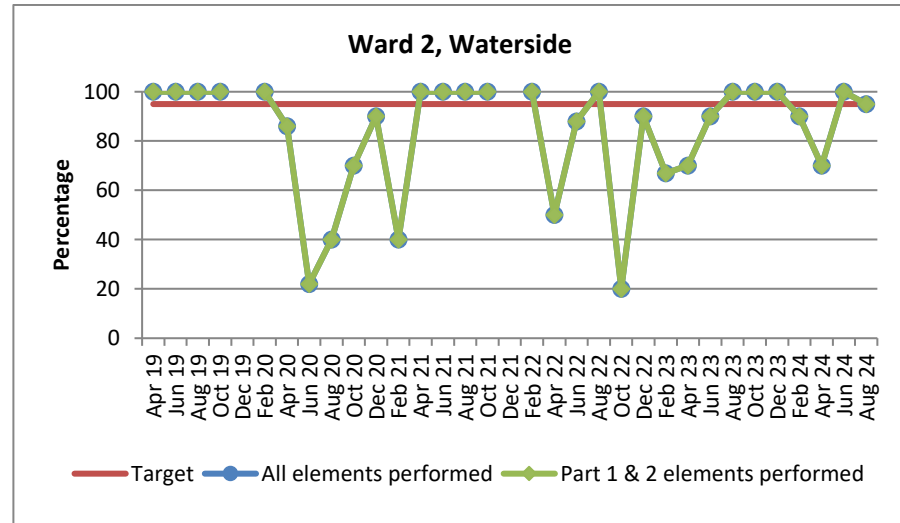
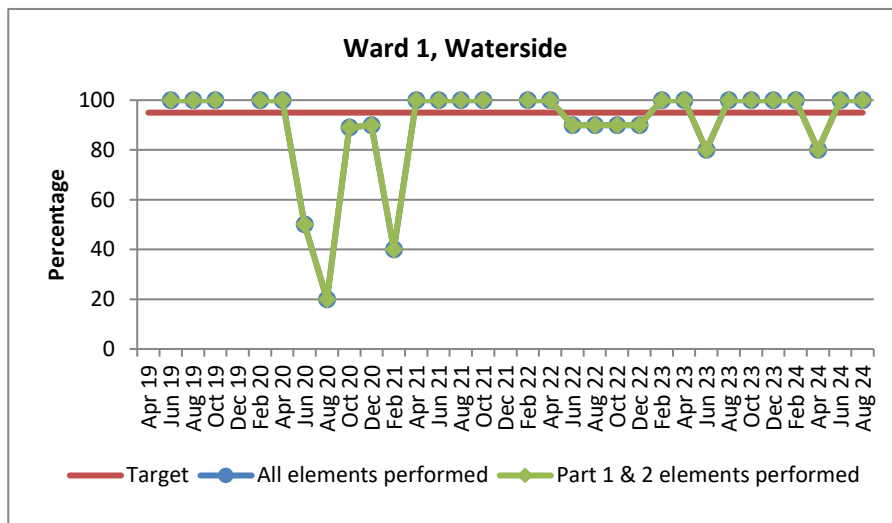
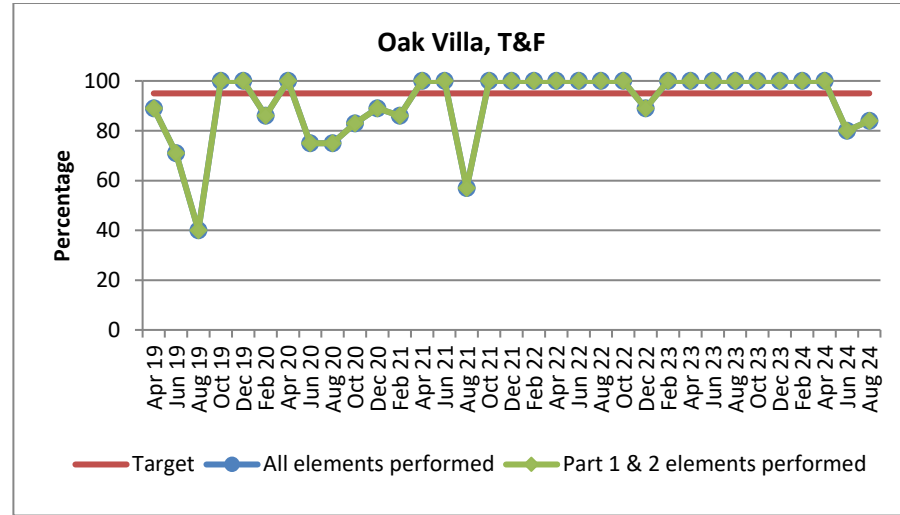
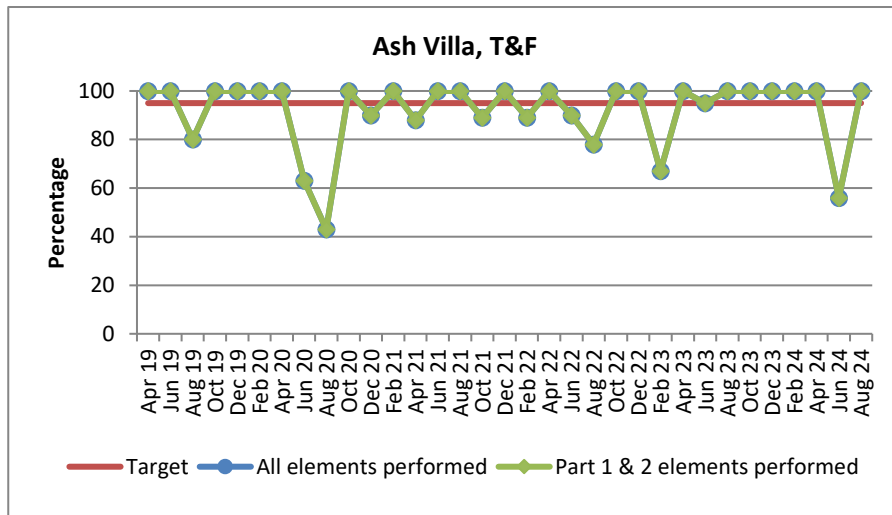
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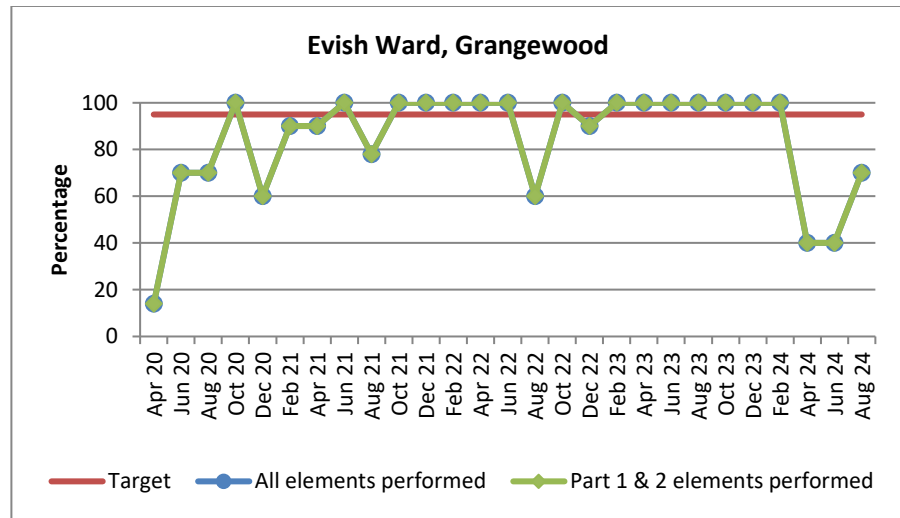
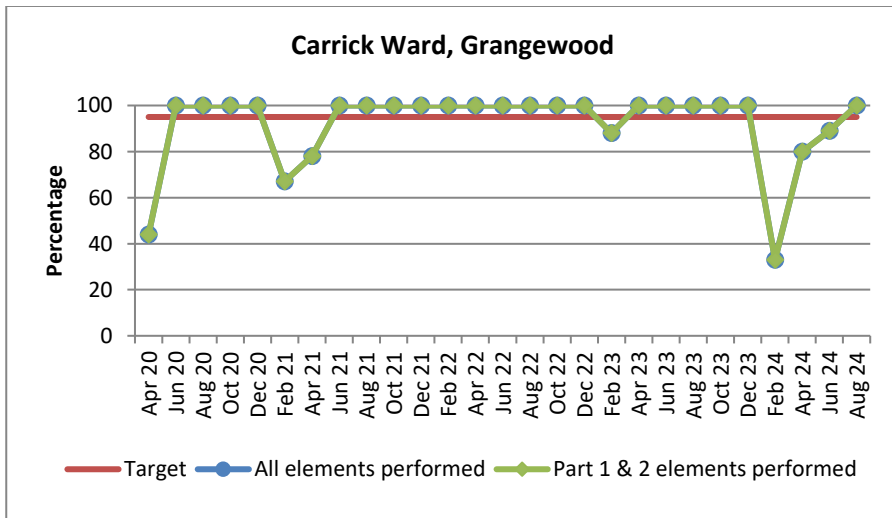
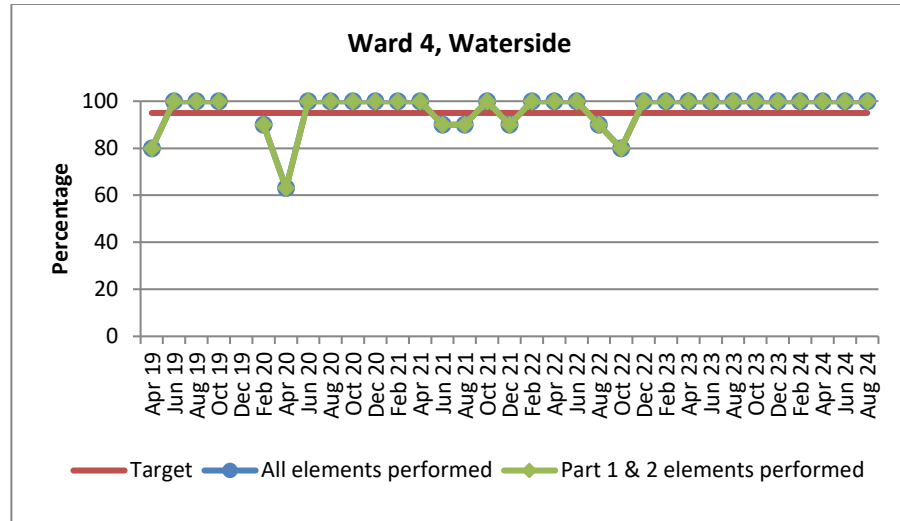
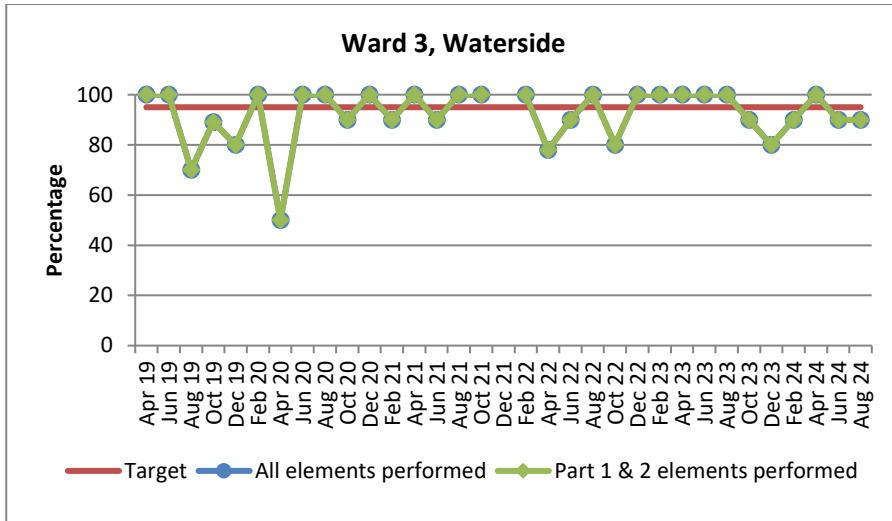
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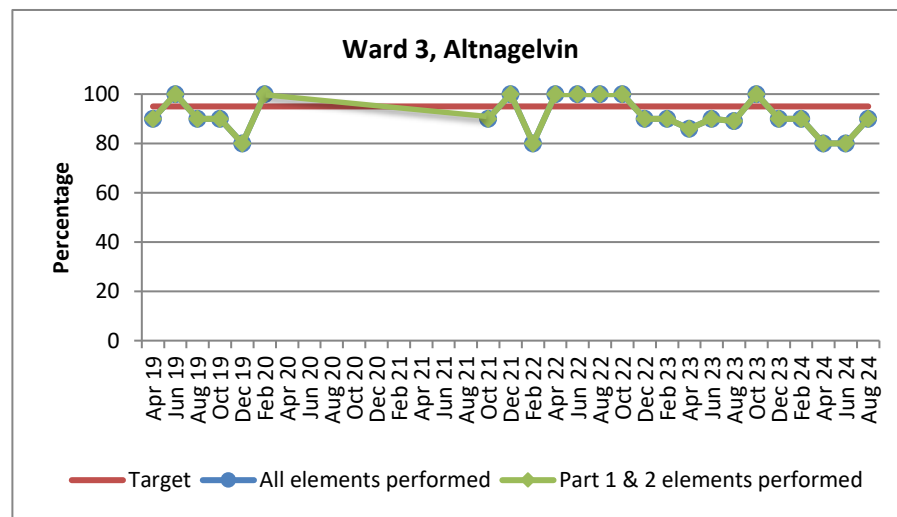
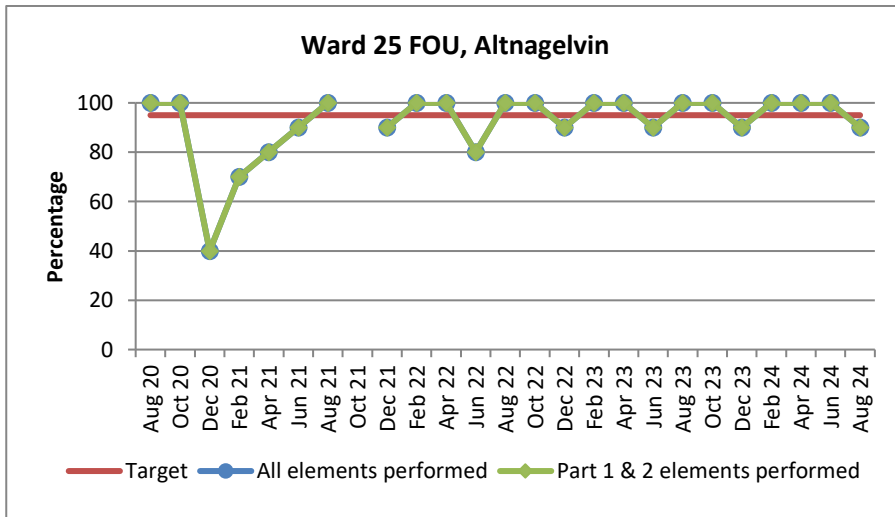
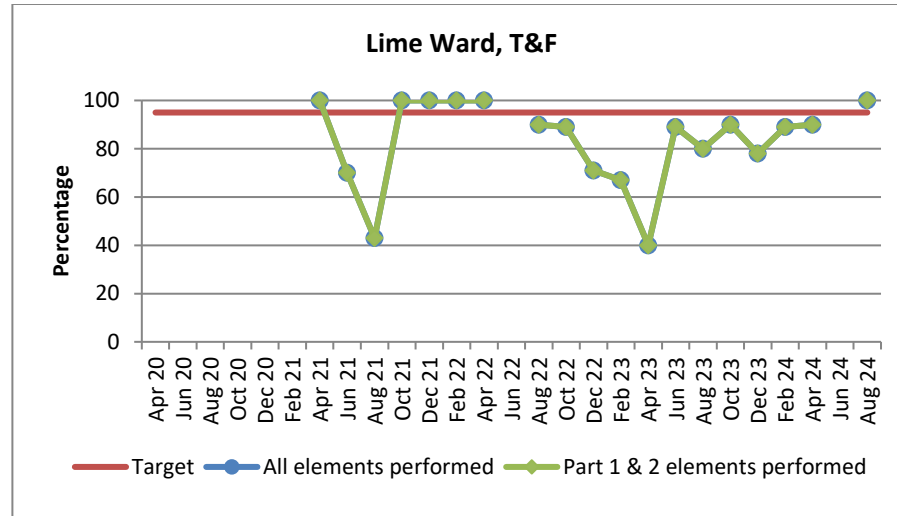
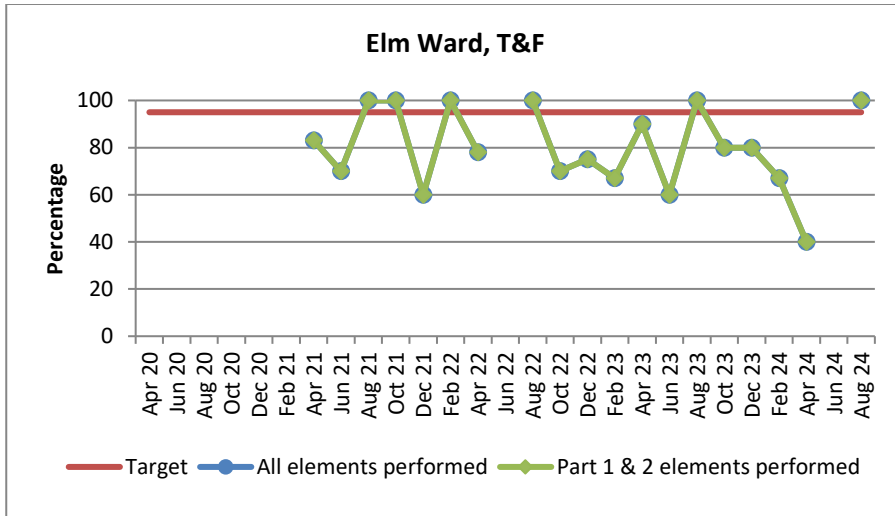
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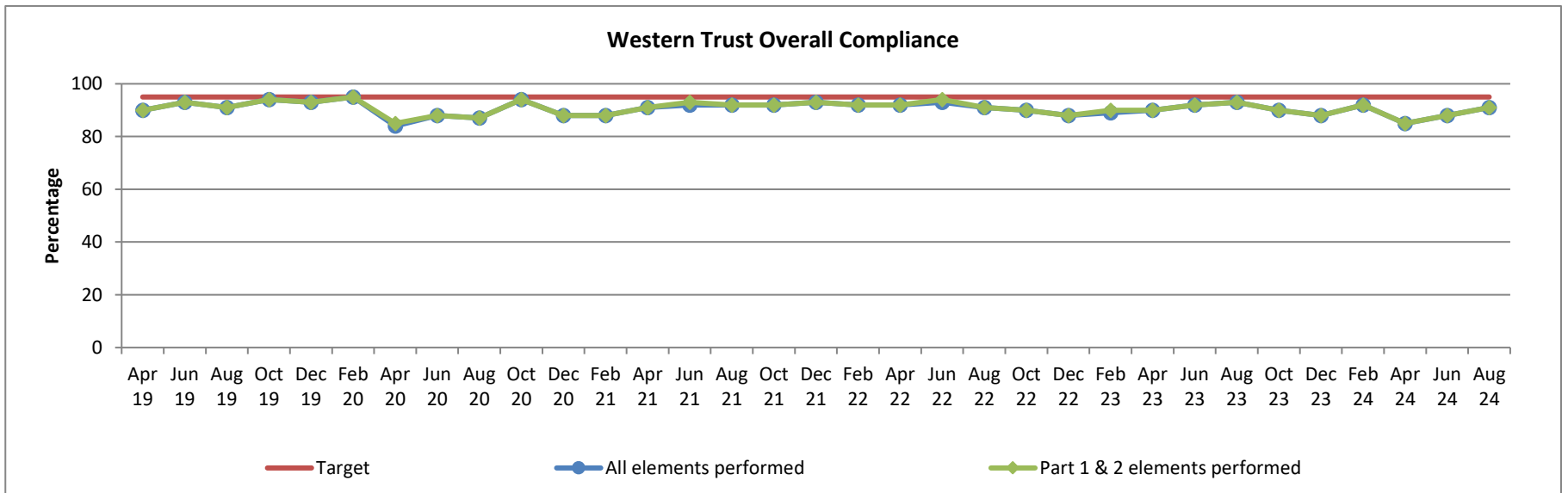
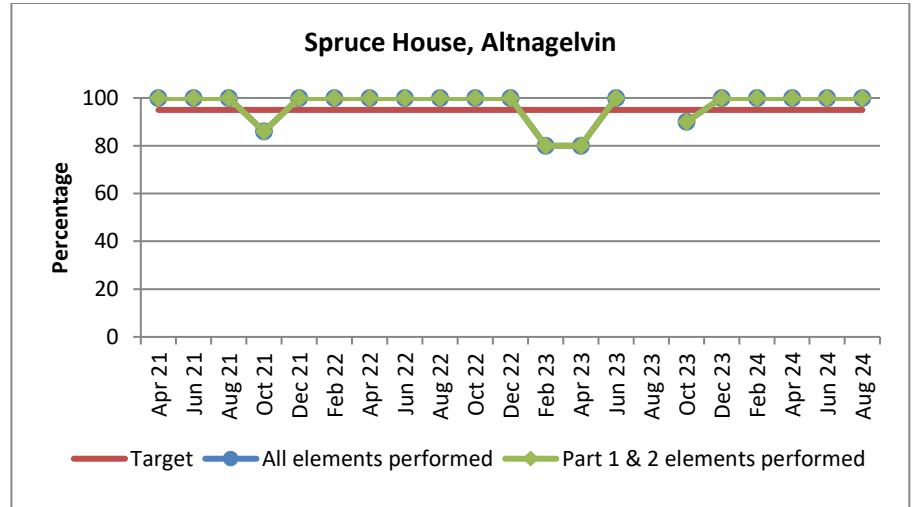
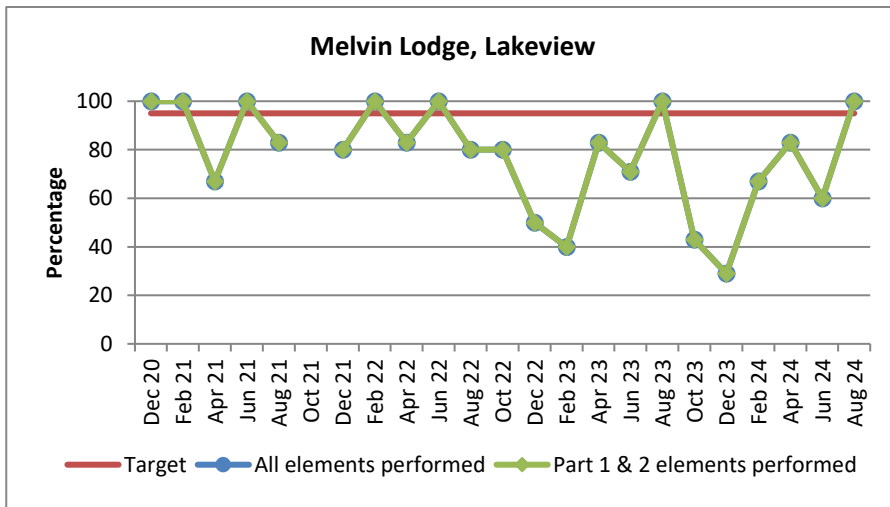
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