

Report Title:	MMUH target opening date		
Sponsoring Executive:	Richard Beeken – Chief Executive Officer		
Report Author:	Rachel Barlow- Director of System Transformation		
Meeting:	Trust Board (Public)	Date	7 th October 2021

1. Suggested discussion points

We had expected to have been in a position today to be able to announce an opening date for full clinical services in the new Midland Metropolitan University Hospital (MMUH).

However, we have some further work to do with Balfour Beatty our construction partner to review their programme for practical completion of the building (ie. handover of the completed building to the Trust). That will inform our own timing for the necessary clinical commissioning, staff readiness and orientation plans so that we can have confidence in confirming a safe move date, with no compromise on quality of the building.

The paper sets out the timing to clarify a move date by the end of this calendar year for what is more likely to be a move in 2023 to a high quality new build hospital.

2. Alignment to our Vision *[indicate with an 'X' which Strategic Objective this paper supports]*

Our Patients		Our People		Our Population	
To be good or outstanding in everything that we do	X	To cultivate and sustain happy, productive and engaged staff	X	To work seamlessly with our partners to improve lives	X

3. Previous consideration *[where has this paper been previously discussed?]*

N/A

4. Recommendation(s)

The Trust Board is asked to:

- a. **NOTE** that a 2022 move to MMUH is increasingly unlikely
- b. **EXPECT** confirmation of a target opening date for MMUH, to be decided at a Trust Board meeting in the next couple of months

5. Impact *[indicate with an 'X' which governance initiatives this matter relates to and where shown elaborate]*

Trust Risk Register					
Board Assurance Framework					
Equality Impact Assessment	Is this required?	Y	N	X	If 'Y' date completed
Quality Impact Assessment	Is this required?	Y	N	X	If 'Y' date completed

SANDWELL AND WEST BIRMINGHAM HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

Report to the Public Trust Board: 7th October 2021

MMUH target opening date

1. Introduction

- 1.1 We had expected to have been in a position today to be able to announce an opening date for full clinical services the new Midland Metropolitan University Hospital (MMUH).
- 1.2 However, we have some further work to do with Balfour Beatty, our construction partner, to review their programme for practical completion of the building (ie. handover of the completed building to the Trust). That will inform our own timing for the necessary clinical commissioning, staff readiness and orientation plans so that we can have confidence in confirming a safe move date, with no compromise on quality of the building.

2. Progress and clarity on move date

- 2.1 During the pandemic, the construction work has progressed well with additional support to ensure safe working practices on site.
- 2.2 Internally clinical and operational teams have participated in some intensive and impressive work to determine new clinical pathways and our future workforce plans.
- 2.3 Both the construction programme and our own preparedness will align to determine a realistic and safe date to complete the move of clinical services into this new building which will enable us to provide better health care in a world class environment.
- 2.4 The impact on the construction industry on the available workforce and required materials are well known and are a live risk which is being actively managed.
- 2.5 Additionally, we have responded to the new fire regulations with a requirement to replace parts of the external façade that has had an impact on the programme.
- 2.6 It is becoming increasingly unlikely that we will be able to open the hospital in 2022.
- 2.7 This does not mean we put a pause on our internal transformation and readiness work. In preparedness for the new models of care we will start piloting some new best practice patient pathways this winter prior to the move into MMUH, for example a new frailty service.
- 2.8 We will complete the design and stress testing of the clinical models by the end of the year and aim to confirm our workforce plans in January.

2.9 Over the next two months we are working with expert advisors in the National New Hospitals Programme team and Balfour Beatty so that we can confirm a firm 2023 opening date that our patients, staff and partner organisations can have confidence in.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Trust Board is asked to:

- a. **NOTE** that a 2022 move to MMUH is increasingly unlikely
- b. **EXPECT** confirmation of an opening date for MMUH in the next couple of months

Rachel Barlow
Director of System Transformation
5th October 2021