

Briefing paper
Hampshire Health and Adult Services Select Committee
9 June 2015

Challenges facing Romsey Hospital

In order to maintain safety and care quality, we have taken the decision to hold admissions to Romsey Hospital. There have been a number of challenges which we are addressing which have led to this decision.

In recent weeks there has been an identified outbreak of MRSA, which has been identified in a small number of patients despite extensive efforts to contain it. Due to the development of this situation the decision was taken to stop admissions for the safety of patients and staff.

We are now carrying out a full investigation to determine the root cause of this outbreak, which examines a number of themes and includes a deep clean of the hospital. Once this process is complete and the hospital has been fully risk assessed we will create an action plan for the phased reopening of Romsey Hospital.

In order to ensure there is capacity in the system for those patients who would normally have been admitted to Romsey, there is some additional bed availability at Lymington New Forest Hospital, and staff from Romsey have transferred to Lymington to provide support. We are also using our social care service (TQ at Home) and community care teams in the area to enable more people to return home with additional care in place. In this way we are able to minimise the disruption to patients during this period.

We are working with colleagues from acute hospitals, and our commissioners, to ensure patients receive appropriate care as close to home as possible.

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