

Report on	Consultation on the Department of Health's Review of Urgent and Emergency Care Services in Northern Ireland
Date of Meeting	16 th June 2022
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
Contact Officer	Martina Totten

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To consider and agree the Council's response to the Department of Health's Review of Urgent and Emergency Care Services in Northern Ireland
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Urgent and emergency care services have been under significant, and increasing, pressure for at least the past decade, with the additional pressures of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. A Review of the services has been in development since 2018 but with a necessary pause in the work as a result of the pandemic.</p> <p>The following definitions of urgent and emergency care were adopted early in the Review process: URGENT: An illness or injury that requires urgent attention but is not a life-threatening situation. EMERGENCY: Life threatening illnesses or accidents which require immediate intensive treatment.</p> <p>Emergency care is a vital part of our health and social care service. Emergencies are serious and life threatening. We need to ensure that patients can always access immediate emergency treatment and care in the most appropriate manner. Many of those who attend Emergency Departments may have urgent conditions which, while serious, are not life threatening and could be managed better by another service elsewhere.</p> <p>The changes outlined in this consultation report highlight the plans to protect access to emergency care, whilst providing alternative services/pathways for urgent but not life threatening conditions. This will have implications for service users and it is important that these are understood</p> <p>There are 3 strategic Priorities within the review: Strategic Priority 1 - Integrated Urgent and Emergency Care Strategic Priority 2 – Capacity, Co-Ordination And Performance Management Strategic Priority 3 – Intermediate Care – 'A Regionalised Approach'</p>

	Consultation closed on 15th June . A member workshop was held on 26 th May.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Please see Appendix 2 for full response
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> None <u>Professional Support</u> None
4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> None
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To consider and agree the Council's response to the Department of Health's Review of Urgent and Emergency Care Services in Northern Ireland.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Department of Health's Review of Urgent and Emergency Care Services in Northern Ireland Appendix 2 Department of Health's Review of Urgent and Emergency Care Services in Northern Ireland – MUDC Response