

## **Southern Health: Abbey Ward Update**

### **Background**

A key priority for Southern Health is to ensure that people who need admission to a mental health hospital are able to access this care close to home.

As a result, we are creating a new 10-bed female psychiatric intensive care unit (PICU) at Antelope House in Southampton, called Abbey Ward. We provided an update in September 2021 on the progress on the project and have included a further update below with revised timescales.

### **Progress – Antelope House**

At Antelope House, phase one (a new Hamtun bedroom) and phase two (the relocation of the 136 suite) are complete and the contractors are well underway with phase three which is the Abbey Ward refurbishment.

Over the next few months, the team will be focusing on engaging service users and gaining their input into the fixtures and fittings along with visual appeal of the ward, to engender a sense of ownership over the new ward amongst those who may be staying there in the future.

The project has experienced some delays due to some complex building works and the availability of staff. Due to these reasons the timescales have shifted slightly, to aim for an opening in early Summer 2022.

Members of Hampshire HASC will be invited to view the new ward facility prior to the official opening.

### **For further information**

For more information, please email: [communications@southernhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@southernhealth.nhs.uk) in the first instance.