

Remobilisation and Recovery Plan Summary

April 2021 – March 2022



What is this Plan for?

This Plan sets out how local hospitals and community services across Forth Valley will respond to the needs of people with coronavirus during the ongoing pandemic, including those with health problems who may require longer-term support.

It also describes how we will continue to care for patients with other health conditions who require emergency or urgent care as well as increasing the amount of more routine activity carried out each week. This will help us to treat people whose operations, tests or appointments were postponed at the start of the pandemic. Patients will continue to be seen based on nationally agreed clinical priorities with those most in need of care being seen first.

However, it will take some time for services to get back to previous levels of activity. This is because the extra measures put in place to protect patients and staff from Covid-19 (such as additional cleaning, changing PPE and physical distancing) has reduced the number of patients which who can be seen and treated each day.



What is this Plan for?

We will continue to deliver the same high standard of care as we did before the pandemic but we also want to build on the changes and new ways of working which have been introduced over the last year. These include offering telephone and video consultations and providing appointments for some people with minor injuries or illnesses so they don't have to wait when they attend. Other examples of new technology include:

- **Virtual visiting where patients can see and talk to friends and family using a tablet or iPad**
- **Virtual staff meetings using MS Teams to help staff connect staff who are unable to meet face-to-face**
- **Greater use of digital and social media to communicate messages about Covid-19**

Many of these changes have proved to be very popular and more convenient for local patients and their families as well as being more effective for local staff



Keeping People Safe

To keep our staff, patients and visitors as safe as possible NHS Forth Valley will continue to use a range of measures.

These include:

- **Keeping Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 patients apart in hospital**
- **Applying enhanced infection control measures**
- **Making sure staff always have enough Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
- **Managing any outbreaks quickly and effectively**
- **Monitoring, identifying and addressing any safety issues as they arise**

The Remobilisation Plan reflects NHS Forth Valley's commitment to making sure that people are aware of what local health services are available and know how to access them. It also acknowledges that some people may be anxious about using services, either because of fear of Covid-19 or because they don't want to put pressure on the NHS.

In addition, Covid-19 has been added into our winter planning process and there are plans to vaccinate as many eligible people as possible for flu to help reduce pressure on health services during the busy winter period.



Who should read the Plan?

The Plan has been written for staff and partners working in local health and care services across Forth Valley and shared with the Scottish Government. However, as the full plan is quite long and detailed, this summary aims to provide a short overview of the key issues and content.

It also reflects that fact that NHS Forth Valley works closely with other local, regional and national services including the Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS 24, local councils, Health and Social Care Partnerships and other NHS Boards in the East and West of Scotland.

What time period does the Plan cover?

This Remobilisation Plan covers the period April 2021 – March 2022 and builds on the work of two previous plans developed earlier in the pandemic.



What areas does the Plan cover?

The Remobilisation Plan is divided into the following six main sections with a number of appendices and supporting documents:

Background Information

This covers the purpose and remit of the plan, planning assumptions, how we will aim to help address inequalities, governance arrangements and links to other plans.

Plan Activation

This outlines the different activities which support and will enable us to deliver our remobilisation plans. These include our workforce, digital and information services, innovation and quality.

Safe and Effective Remobilisation

This describes the range of services which will help us maintain and rebuild services as quickly and safely as possible. These include services provided by our [Public Health and Test and Protect teams](#), plans to expand access to Covid-19 testing and the ongoing roll-out of our Covid-19 vaccination programme. It describes plans and priorities for local primary care services (delivered by local GP and dental practices, opticians and pharmacies), community care (HSCPs, mental health and services for women and children) and hospital services over the next 12 months. These include specific plans for cancer services, diagnostic tests, outpatient appointments, inpatient and day care and emergency care. It also describes how these services will respond to any future surges in capacity, changes and challenges. It also outlines how we, along with staff in our HSCPs, will continue to provide to advice and support to local care home staff and residents during the ongoing pandemic.



What areas does the Plan cover?

Finance

This outlines our plans to deliver safe and financially sustainable services which improve health outcomes and address strategic risks. We also want to improve value by reducing waste, increasing efficiency and improving capacity and flow across our local hospitals. This section also describes our savings requirements, cost improvement plans for 2021/22 and well as capital and infrastructure plans.

Regional Planning

This sets out how we will gradually and safely increase services, working closely with other NHS Boards across the West and East of Scotland as part existing regional networks for specialist services such as cancer care, neonatal care and trauma.

Working Together

In Forth Valley there are well established partnerships between secondary (hospital) care, community-based care, primary care (services delivered by local GP and dental practices, pharmacies and opticians), Health & Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs), local councils, local colleges and universities, community groups, voluntary organisations and charities (often referred to as the third sector), patients and the general public. Our Remobilisation Plan recognises the need for all of these partners to continue to work together with national services like the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Golden Jubilee National Hospital and NHS 24. Sharing skills, resources and expertise across the health and social care system also makes it easier for services to quickly respond to changing needs and circumstances.



Further Information

NHS Forth Valley Remobilisation and Recovery Plan

The full plan is available on the publications section of our website www.nhsforthvalley.com

Website

www.nhsforthvalley.com

Social Media

@nhsforthvalley



Near Me

Virtual consultations

www.nhsforthvalley.com/nearme

Guide to Local Services

Know Who to Turn to

www.nhsforthvalley.com/kwttt

NHS Inform

Health information and advice including information on illnesses, injuries and conditions as well such advice on smoking, alcohol and mental wellbeing.

www.nhsinform.scot

