



Improving stroke care in hospitals in Somerset.

We want to know what you think.

Short Summary – aphasia friendly



SOMERSET

www.somersetics.org.uk/stroke

About this summary

This document is written to make it easier for people with aphasia to read.



How can stroke care be better in Somerset?

It tells you about the NHS's plans for stroke care in Somerset.

It tells you how you can tell NHS Somerset what you think about NHS Somerset's plans.

NHS Somerset's plans are to make stroke care in hospitals in Somerset better.

The stroke services NHS Somerset want to make better

Hyper acute stroke care in Somerset.



This is the emergency hospital care you get in the first 3 days when you have a stroke.

Acute stroke care in Somerset.



This is the hospital care you get in the first few weeks when you first have a stroke.



Stroke services not included in NHS Somerset plans

NHS Somerset do not have plans to change other types of stroke care.

Stroke rehabilitation care you get at home is not included in this review.

Stroke rehabilitation care you get at a community hospital is not included in this review.

The stroke care included in these plans

Included in this review is the hyper acute stroke care and acute stroke care at:

Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton
Yeovil District Hospital in Taunton

Tell NHS Somerset what you think of the plans



NHS Somerset want to know if you think the plans are good. Tell NHS Somerset what is good about the plans.



NHS Somerset want to know if you think the plans are **not good**. Tell NHS Somerset what is not good about the plans.

No decision has been made

NHS Somerset have not made a decision on the future of stroke services.

NHS Somerset will listen to what you and other people tell us first.

NHS Somerset will then make a final decision.

Why stroke hospital care needs to change



Hospital staff work hard to give stroke patients the best care.

But sometimes staff can not provide the best care because of how stroke services in Somerset are set up.

There are not enough stroke specialist staff

There are not very many stroke specialist consultants and nurses available in Somerset or in England.

Stroke staff in Somerset

The stroke specialists in Somerset are spread across two hospitals:

- **Musgrove Park Hospital** in Taunton
- **Yeovil District Hospital** in Yeovil.

This makes it difficult to make sure stroke patients get the best care **all of the time**.

Stroke treatments

Some important treatments for stroke work best when they happen in a big stroke unit.

In Somerset there are two smaller hyper acute stroke units.

How NHS Somerset made these plans for stroke care

NHS have worked with lots of different people.

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Other people who work in the NHS
- Groups who help people when they have a stroke
- People who have had a stroke
- Family and carers of people who have had a stroke.

All of these people helped NHS Somerset plan what changes would be best for stroke care.

How people in Somerset get urgent stroke care now



Now, there are 2 hospitals in Somerset that treat people who have just had a stroke:

- **Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton**
- **Yeovil District Hospital in Yeovil.**



Some people who live in Somerset also go to other hospitals not in Somerset.

This is because these hospitals are closer to where they live.

The changes NHS Somerset would like to make

NHS Somerset think it would be best if there was **1 hyper acute stroke unit in Somerset.**

The best place for 1 hyper acute stroke unit would be **Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton.**

This means that most people in Somerset who have a stroke would go to Musgrove Park Hospital for emergency stroke care.

Stroke patients in Somerset who live closer to another hospital outside of Somerset would still go there.

The changes NHS Somerset would like to make

NHS Somerset have 2 options for acute stroke care.

1 acute stroke unit at Musgrove Park Hospital



Or

1 acute stroke unit at Musgrove Park Hospital and 1 acute stroke unit at Yeovil District Hospital.



The changes NHS Somerset would like to make

If there was 1 acute stroke unit at Musgrove Park Hospital. Yeovil District hospital would not have an acute stroke unit.

Acute stroke care would be at the same hospital as hyper acute stroke care.

If a patient was taken to Musgrove Park Hospital when they first had a stroke they would stay there for their acute stroke care.

If a patient was taken to Dorset County Hospital when they first had a stroke they would stay there for their acute stroke care.

The changes NHS Somerset would like to make

If there was 1 acute stroke unit at Musgrove Park Hospital and 1 acute stroke unit at Yeovil District hospital.

If a patient was taken to Musgrove Park Hospital when they first had a stroke they could go to Yeovil District Hospital for their acute stroke care. If this was closer to where they lived.

If a patient was taken to Dorset County Hospital when they first had a stroke they could go to Yeovil District Hospital for their acute stroke care. If this was closer to where they lived.

What these proposed changes would mean

NHS Somerset think these changes would mean:

More stroke patients would get care from stroke specialists.

Patients would be treated by stroke specialists at all times of day and night.

Patients would be seen more quickly by stroke specialists.

Stroke specialists could make quicker decisions about the best treatment for a stroke patient.

What these proposed changes would mean

More use of treatments for stroke patients that reduce disability.

Our stroke care would follow national guidance.

There would be more staff who are very skilled at caring for people who have had a stroke.

There would be more staff who are very skilled at caring for people who have had a stroke.

How much it would cost

These changes do not mean:

Fewer hospital beds.

Less money spent on stroke care.



It would mean more money for stroke care in Somerset.

To make these changes we would need to spend more money than we do now.

Tell us what you think

Please let NHS Somerset know what you think of our plans.



You can fill out a short survey by
visiting this website:
www.somersetics.org.uk/stroke

You can also email or phone us to ask for a paper survey

Email: somicb.fitformyfuture@nhs.net

Phone: 01935 384 124

Tell us what you think

You can also come to an event where you talk to us.

Visit our website to find where we will be:

www.somersetics.org.uk/stroke



Write to
Opinion Research Services,
FREEPOST SS1018,
PO Box 530,
Swansea,
SA1 1ZL

You do not need to put a stamp on the envelope.



You will need to tell us what you think by
Monday 24 April 2023.

What happens next

A company called Opinion Research Services will look at what people tell NHS Somerset and write a report.

NHS Somerset will look at what people have told us.

NHS Somerset will use the feedback to help make a final decision.

Thank you for reading about our plans and ideas.