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26th September 2024

Dear ICU Clinical Directors and Matrons,

We are delighted to let you know that the new South East Region Adult Critical Care Transfer Service (ACCTS) for Thames Valley and Wessex (TVW) and Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS), will come into existence from 1st October 2024. This means that, for the first time, there will be a permanent, funded ACCTS, hosted and delivered within the region.

This date is the start of a new service for Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust (BHT) and Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust (RSFT) to host the regional ACCTS. BHT will host the service for the TVW area and RSFT will host the KSS service. The hosts will be working with South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS) and South East Coast Ambulance Service Foundation Trust (SECAmb) as delivery partners to provide an aligned service across the region.

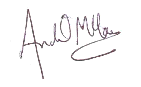
The new service will be known as the Adult Regional Critical Care (ARCC) Transfer Service. *‘ARCC TVW’* in TVW and *‘ARCC KSS’* in the KSS area.

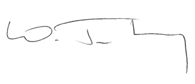
*ARCC TVW* has already been running as a successful pilot and this service will continue with very little change for service users.

For *ARCC KSS,* from 1st October, the service will also continue exactly as it is at present - there will be no change in service with the new contract. Please continue to direct all referrals to the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) via the telephone or Referapatient webpage (see attached poster). There will continue to be two dedicated transfer vehicles with drivers; one based in Banstead and one in Medway. *ARCC KSS* will evolve over time in line with our plans to improve the service offering to units in KSS. Plans include the establishment of two new transfer hubs, recruitment of a skilled, experienced team, investment in new vehicles, equipment and digital capabilities in the months and years ahead.

We look forward to working with you all in this exciting new chapter of ACCTS across the South East region. We will provide regular updates as ARCC develops over the coming months to better meet the needs of critical care patients across the region. We strive to continue to develop and deliver an excellent standard of care to all patients requiring critical care transfer across the South East region throughout their critical care journey, whilst supporting all of our adult critical care unit partners.

Yours sincerely





**Andrew McLaren Bill Jewsbury**

**Chief Medical Officer Medical Director**

**Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust**