

Thanks for the email,

I have compiled a few links, if the original documents would be easier then I'd be happy to sent them across. This link is the Board Paper outlining the work, number of patients that were operated on and the patient feedback.

<https://www.nhssheland.scot/downloads/file/5/review-of-enhanced-elective-care-programme-2022-23-25->

I also spoke with the senior team who led on this work during one of my livestreams at 33.30.

<https://www.facebook.com/100048892776148/videos/3074696096180878/>

It is hosted by facebook but the Committee don't need to be my "friend" to watch the discussion

This link is the Scottish Government announcement

<https://www.gov.scot/news/mobile-operating-theatre-for-orkney-and-shetland/>

the local media is key and this is an example of the local coverage, it also allows the Committee to see the patient experience of coming into the Vanguard theatre.

<https://www.shetlandtimes.co.uk/2022/01/07/take-a-look-around-the-mobile-theatre-where-400-patients-will-undergo-long-awaited-surgery>

A Vanguard Theatre is a mobile operating theatre that can be deployed to a location and be operational in a matter of days. They usually come with their own staffing teams and can either be used alongside existing wards to provide care as Shetland did or can be stand alone surgical units including beds.

The Theatre is equipped with modern laminar flow air filtration and so can be used for joint replacements, the Gilbert Bain hospital theatres is part of our very old hospital and so would be unsuitable for this work.

Joint replacements are a specialist service and even if we had a suitable facility to undertake the procedure surgical teams would not be able to maintain their competence so using a visiting team makes perfect sense.

We used a private organisation to ensure we had the expert clinical team to undertake these procedures and add real capacity to our system however there is no reason why this resource could not be built by NHS Scotland.

Following the success of the Vanguard Theatre the North of Scotland have secured a mobile MRI scanner that joins Breast Screening and Dexa in providing a peripatetic service to the population of Shetland. The MRI has the added advantage of supporting Shetland staff in maintaining their MRI scanning skills ahead of the arrival of the community funded MRI scanner in 2024.

Should you need anything else please let me know

Many thanks
Michael