



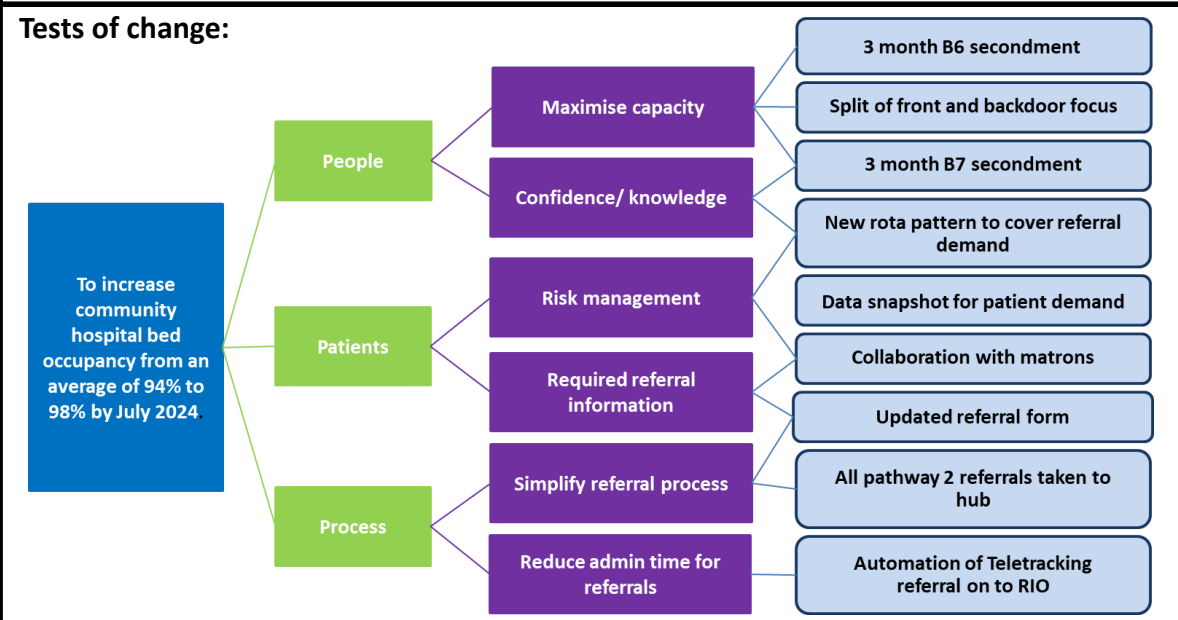
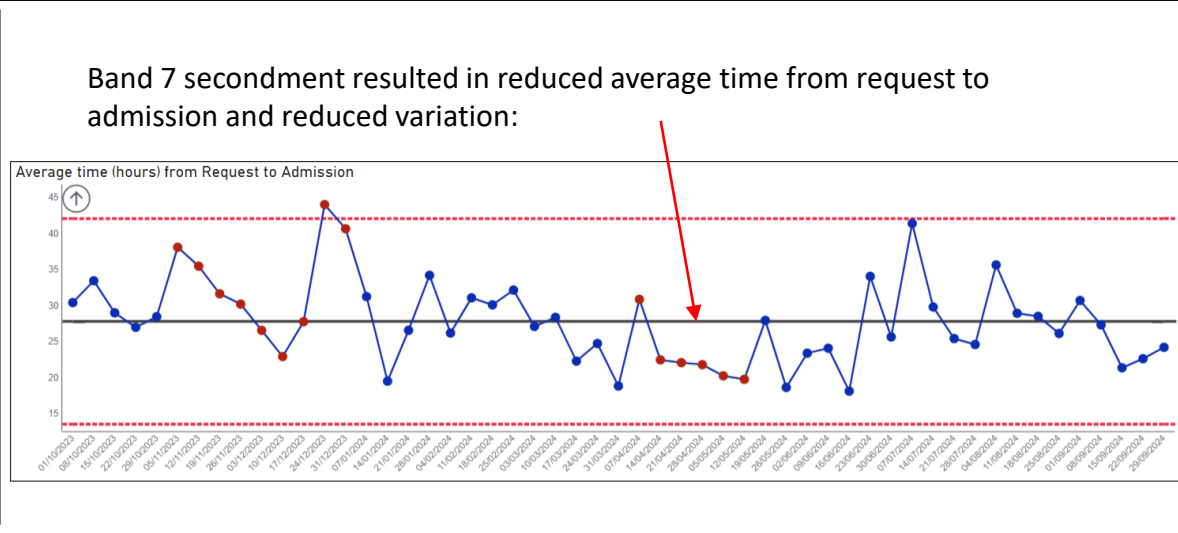
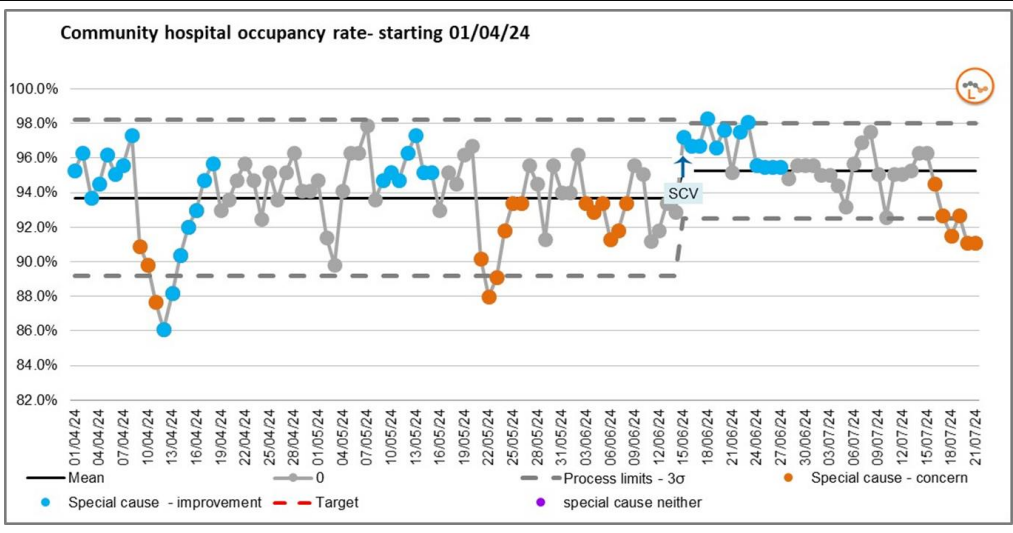
**Problem statement:**  
 In February 2024 bed management were staffed at 50% which impacted on patients transferring from acute hospitals. Only 94% of community hospital beds were occupied, but this could be improved if processes were changed.

**SMART aim:**  
 To increase community hospital bed occupancy from an average of 94% to 98% by July 2024.

**Data:**

Average occupancy following changes has increased from 94% to 95%.

Variation in occupancy has reduced by 4% to between 93% and 98%.



**Results, what we learned and what's next:**

The SMART aim has not been achieved, however, average occupancy has increased to 95% and variation in occupancy has decreased by 4% during the period of the project demonstrating improved efficiency of the admission process.

There was reduced referral to admission time during the band 7 secondment due to increased staffing and complex admission decisions being able to be made quicker.

This has meant that community hospital beds were more consistently occupied with quicker admissions, so helping the wider NHS system by freeing up acute beds and avoiding acute hospital admissions.

**What next:**  
 From this project the band 7 secondment has now been permanently funded in the team. The automation bot is being built to allow automated referral creation on RIO from Teletracking, further reducing admin time and referral to allocation time.