Western Health and Social Care Trust

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIP) TARGETS QUARTERLY TRUST BOARD REPORT

FALLS
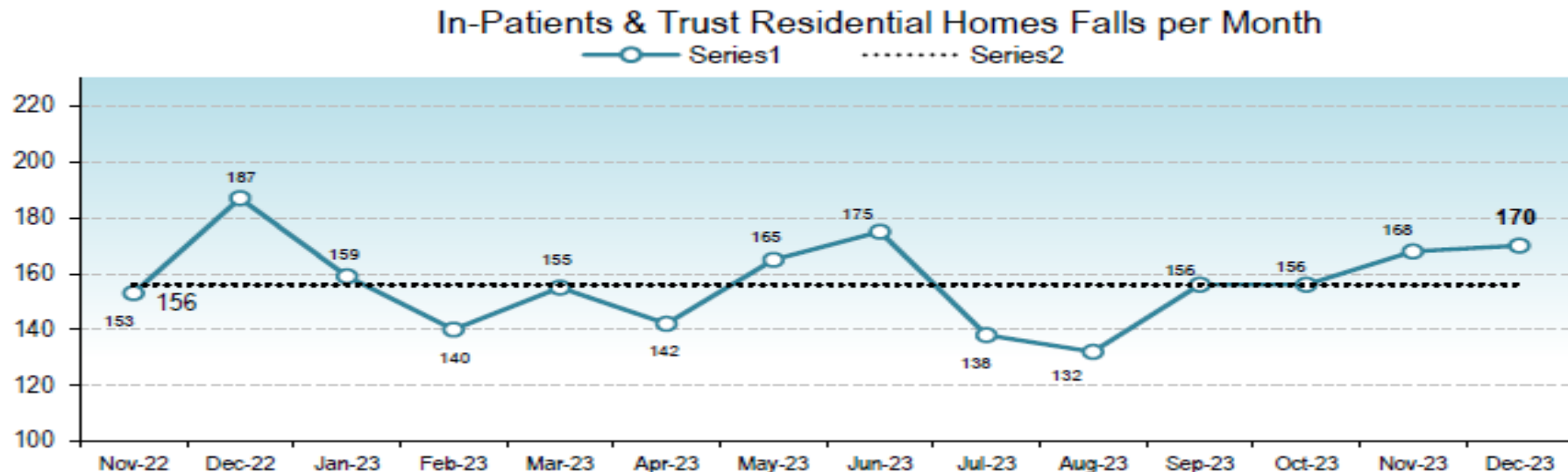
1 February 2024

PROGRESS TO DATE

Falls are a costly and often preventable health issue and continue to be the highest reported incident within the Trust. Reducing falls and injuries following a fall is important for maintaining health, wellbeing and independence amongst older people. Work is ongoing to raise awareness regarding preventing falls throughout the Trust. The Professional Nursing Team and the Falls Integrated Pathway Co-ordinator (FIPC) through the Trust Slips Trips and Falls Group, support this work. One dedicated FIPC is not sufficient to meet the demands of the entire Trust in relation to falls. Work has started on a 3 year falls strategy at this time.

Falls in Hospital Inpatient Settings
Reporting of falls occurring within inpatient settings continues to the PHA. In Quarter 3 there was an increase in the number of falls reported from Trust inpatient settings with 494 falls reported in quarter 3 compared with 445 falls reported in quarter 2.
The median number of falls reported from Trust inpatient settings in quarter 3 was 156.
The increased incidence of falls in inpatient settings in the third quarter of the year is a pattern seen in previous years data and may be linked with the increased numbers of patients living with frailty admitted to hospital with infections associated with winter illnesses.

In the main inpatient falls reported, were from Acute Hospital sites with 181 falls reported from the Altnagelvin site and 135 reported from SWAH.

Quarter	Rate per 1,000 bed days for No. of Falls	Rate per 1,000 bed days for No. of Falls resulting in harm (Moderate Major or Catastrophic)
Quarter 1 2020/21	7.00	0.14
Quarter 2 2020/21	6.24	0.22
Quarter 3 2020/21	7.45	0.13
Quarter 4 2020/21	8.02	0.11
Quarter 1 2021/22	6.19	0.02
Quarter 2 2021/22	5.87	0.02
Quarter 3 2021/22	6.25	0.09
Quarter 4 2021/22	7.51	0.13
Quarter 1 2022/23	6.61	0.10
Quarter 2 2022/23	7.07	0.14
Quarter 3 2022/23	6.55	0.14
Quarter 4 2022/23	5.70	0.21
*Quarter 1 2023/24	6.81	0.05
Quarter 2 2023/24	Not yet available	Not yet available

*Bed day figures for Q1 2023/24 are provisional, therefore rates are subject to change.

From review of fall incidents reports, staff continue to experience challenges regarding the correct grading of fall incidents with injury sustained not always being clear on incident reports. Regionally, work is ongoing to produce guidance for staff to support the correct grading of fall incidents.

The FIPC continues to support new ward sisters/charge nurses with completing post falls reviews where fall incidents have resulted in moderate and above levels of harm within inpatient settings. Learning from fall incidents is shared with staff through different forums across the Trust.

Within the Trust there is a positive incident reporting culture and a willingness to learn from incidents with themes emerging from investigation of fall incidents used to inform improvement work both within the Trust and across the Region.

Since July 2022 both the Emergency Departments and Maternity inpatient settings are reporting any moderate and above harm falls via the shared learning template. Risk management have amended the incident reporting system to meet the needs of ED and maternity.

Regionally, the FIPC working with colleagues regionally and the PHA are reviewing the minimum dataset for falls to support staff identify learning from fall incidents in hospital settings.

Staff use learning identified from incident reviews to inform improvement work in relation to falls. Where appropriate, shared learning from fall incidents informs safety lesson of the week and falls has featured on the Share to Learn Newsletter for staff this year.

Falls Audit

The Royal College of Physicians FallSafe care bundles are the recommended foundation for inpatient falls prevention. Trusts currently implement regionally agreed elements of the fallsafe bundle and wards are audited on a monthly basis for compliance with the different elements of the fallsafe bundle together with the number of falls occurring on their wards each month.

Areas identified for improvement in relation to compliance with the fallsafe bundle performance included urinalysis and measurement of lying and standing blood pressure.

The Director of Nursing is creating a new process for reviewing Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) with Senior Nursing Staff where failing or problematic KPI's will be addressed through the Accountability and Assurance meeting.
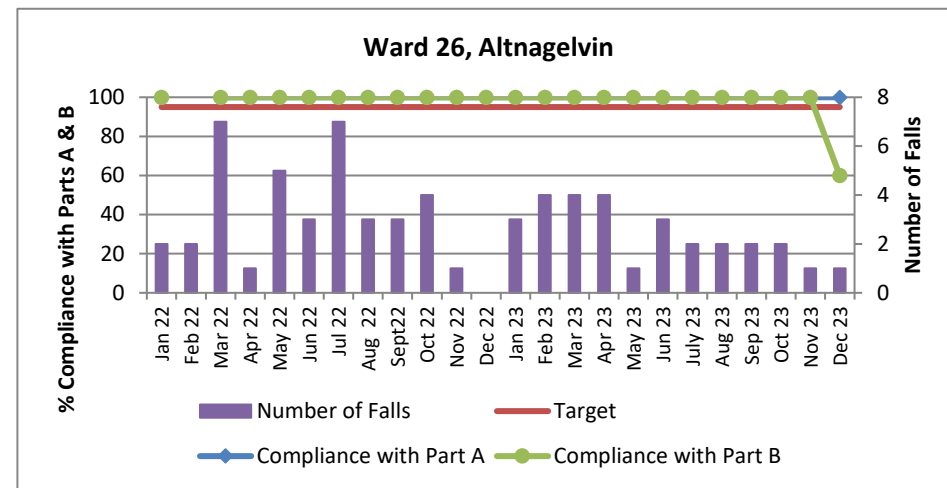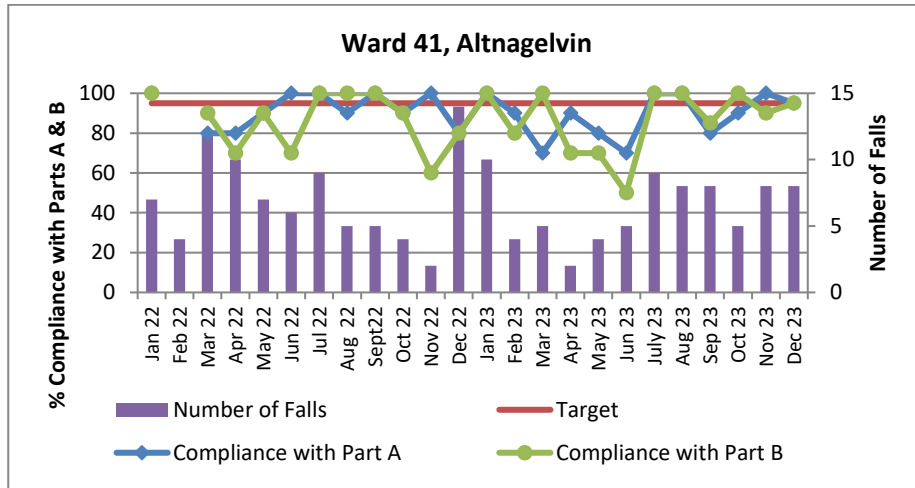
The Trust, in the two last years, has appointed a Senior Lead Nurse for Assurance and Quality who is working alongside the PHA and regional colleagues to review and update current KPI's. The Falls Bundle is one of the KPI's reviewed by this team. A regional guidance document for staff is in development. This will accompany the Falls Bundle audit and support staff with KPI audits.

The FIPC with colleagues regionally, continues to support regional work streams for Encompass, to ensure falls documentation is embedded into the Encompass system. The Encompass system will link with patient flow boards and an already established icon will enable staff to see at a glance, which patients are at higher risk of having a fall.

The overall Trust compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle for December 2023 was 95% for both Part A and Part B. Compliance for each adult inpatient ward is demonstrated in the run charts below.
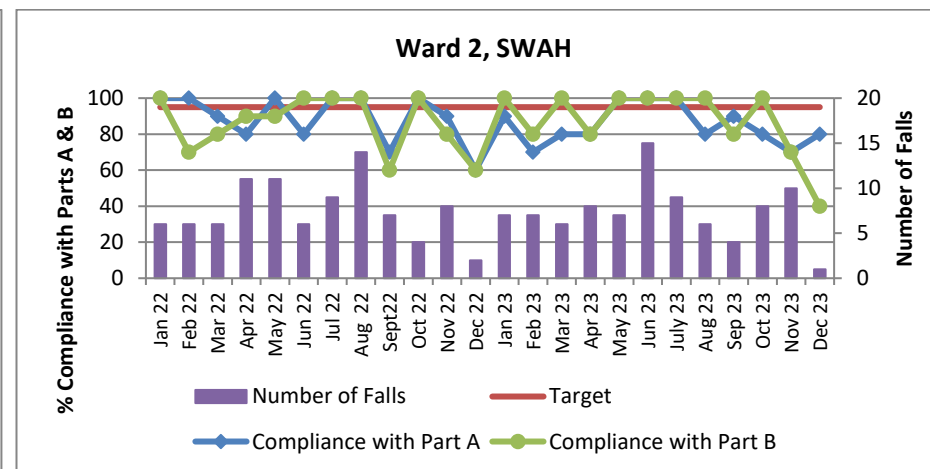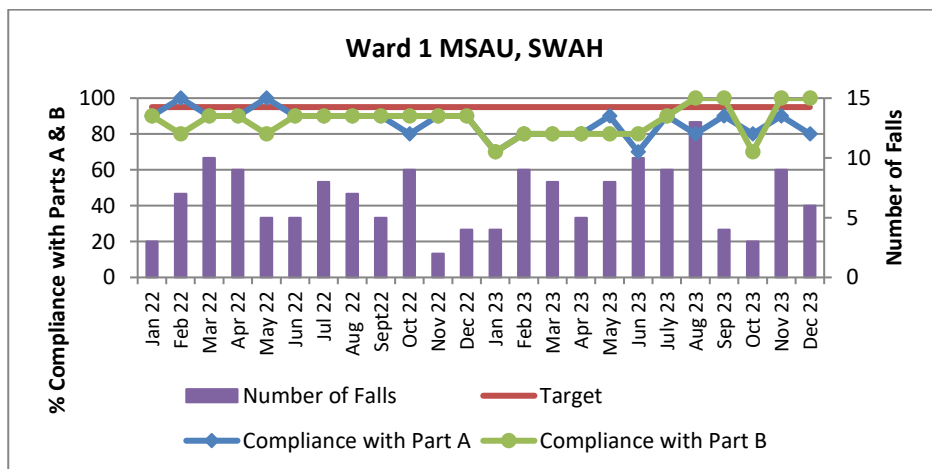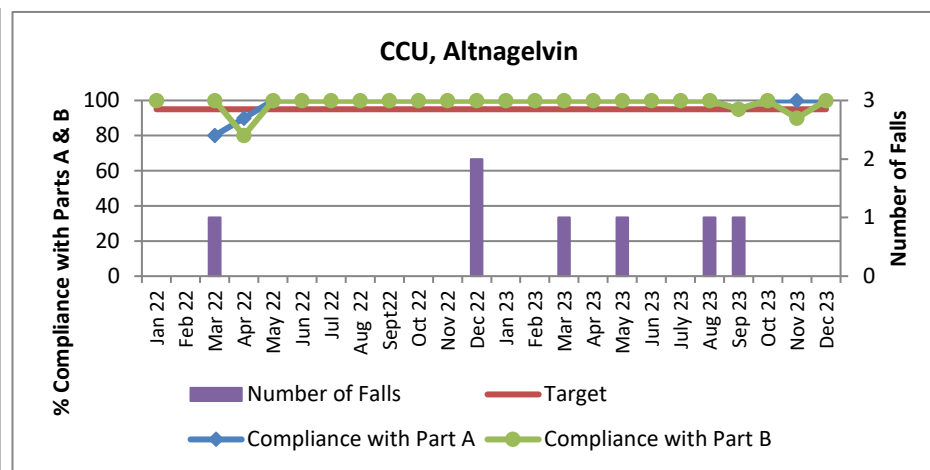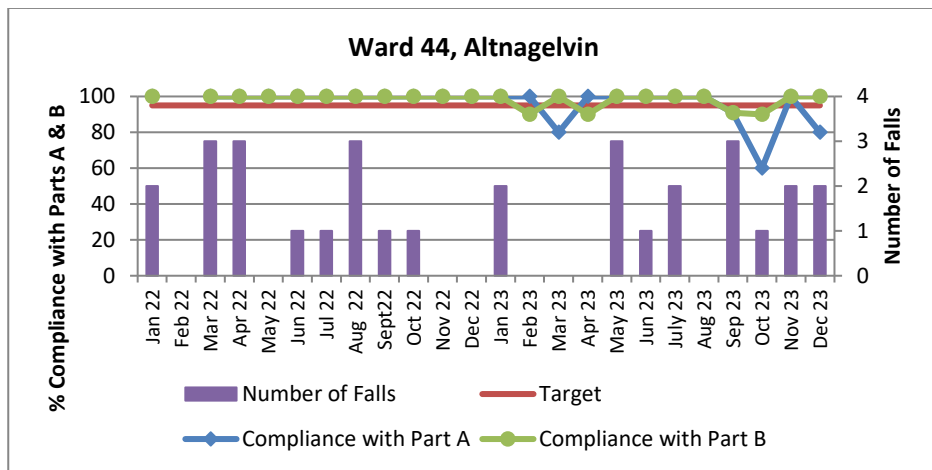
FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

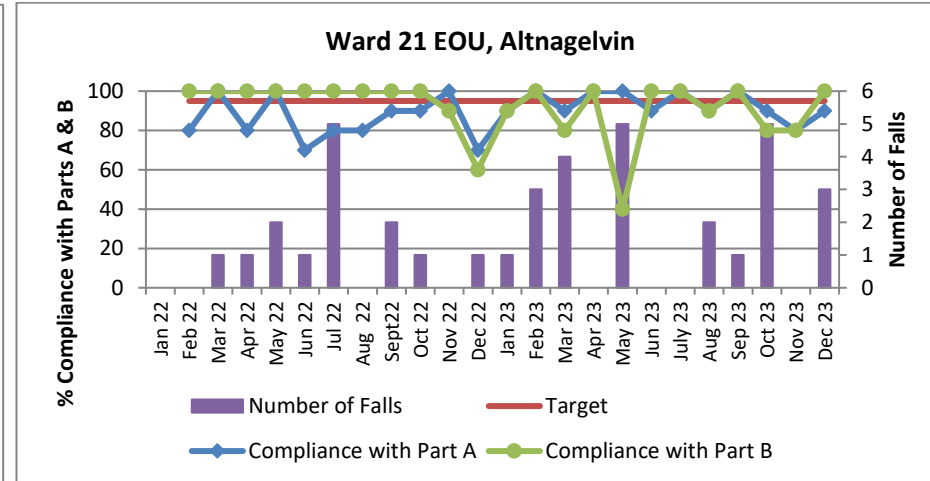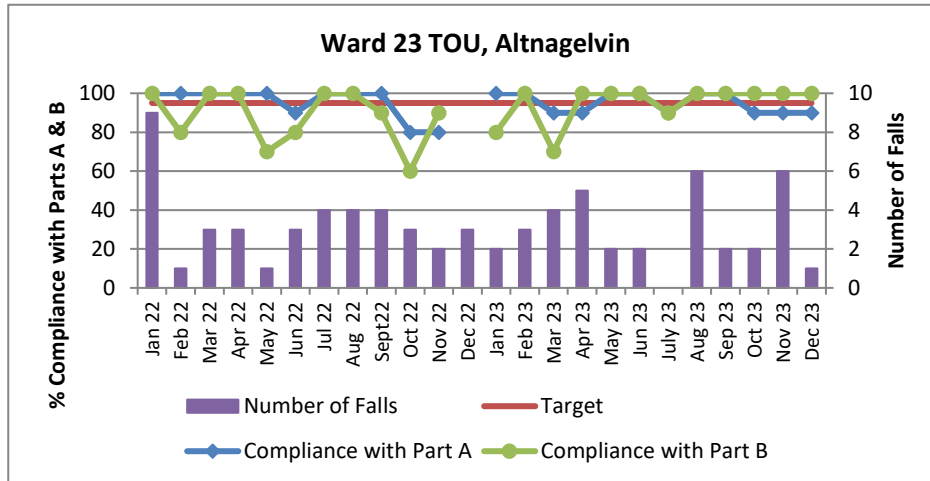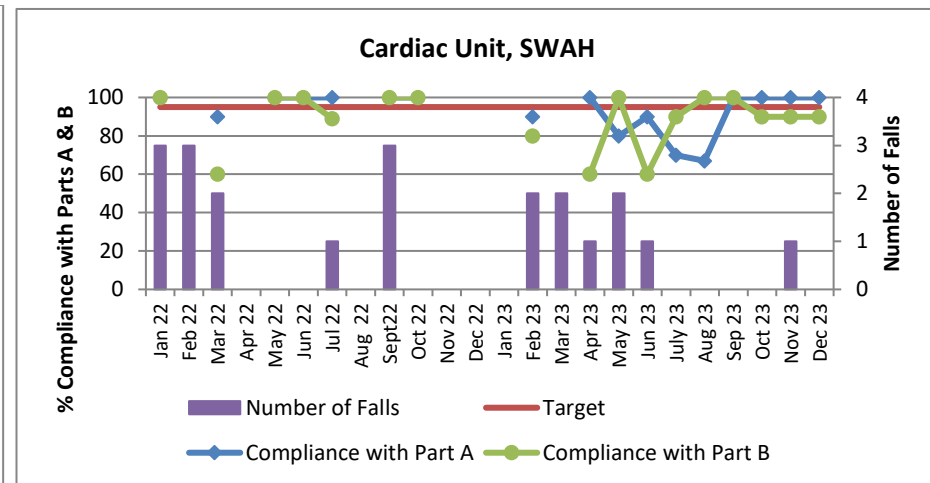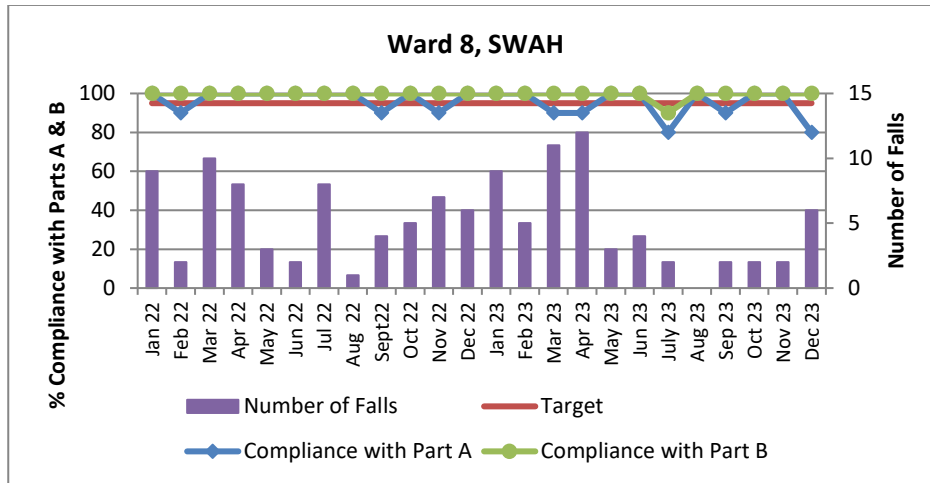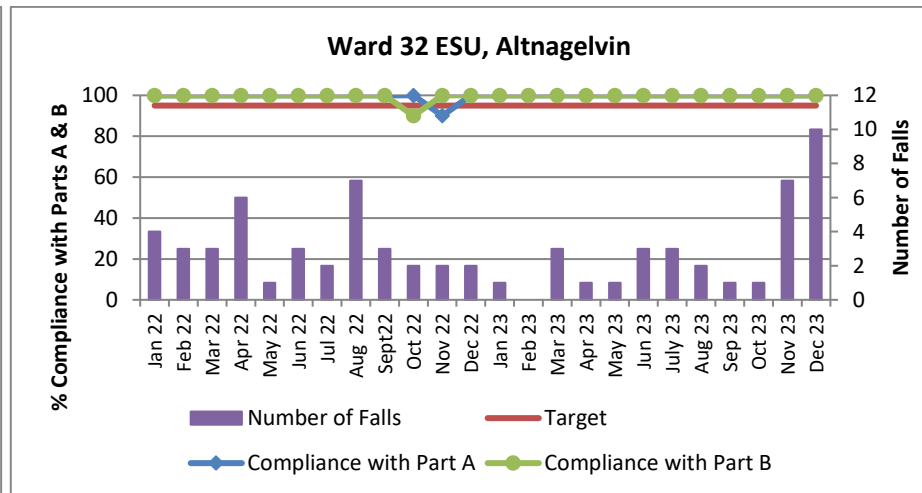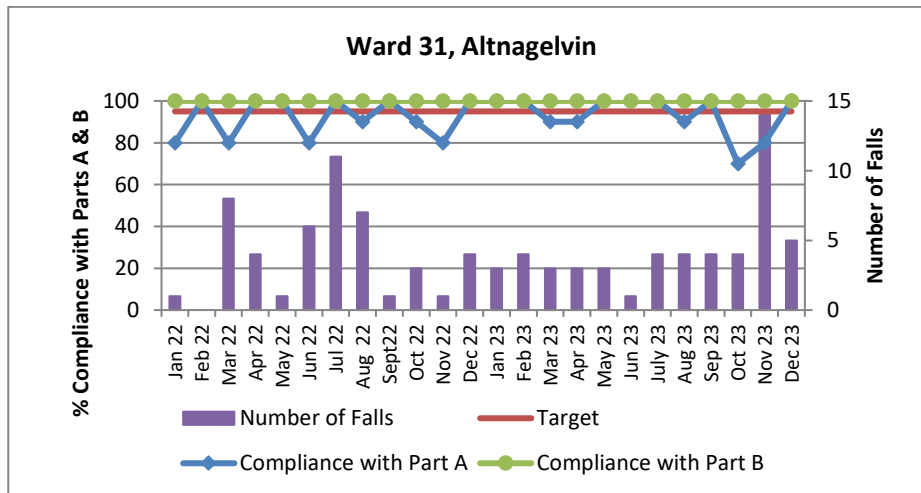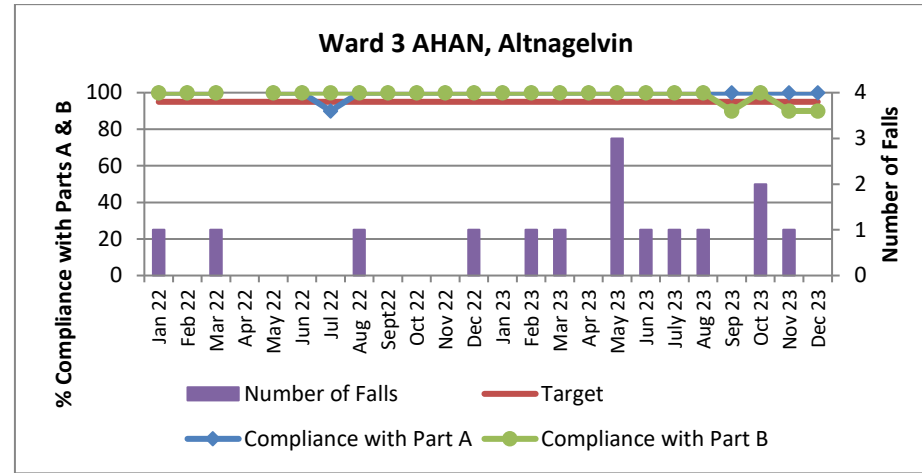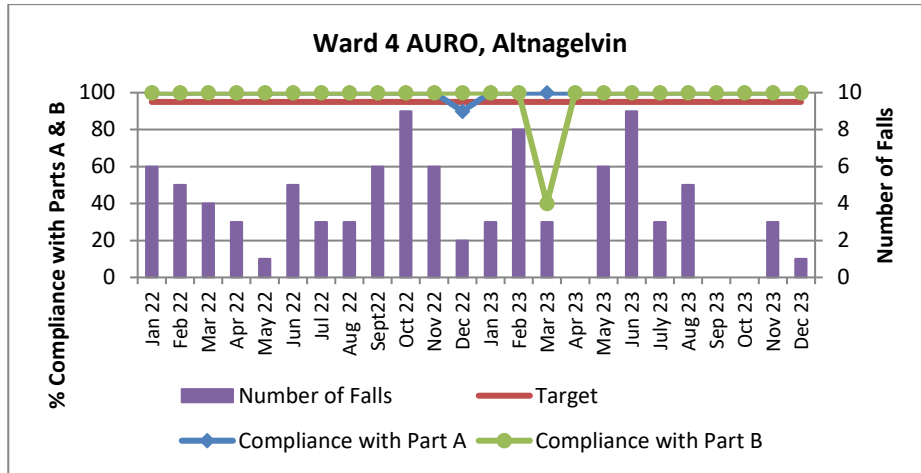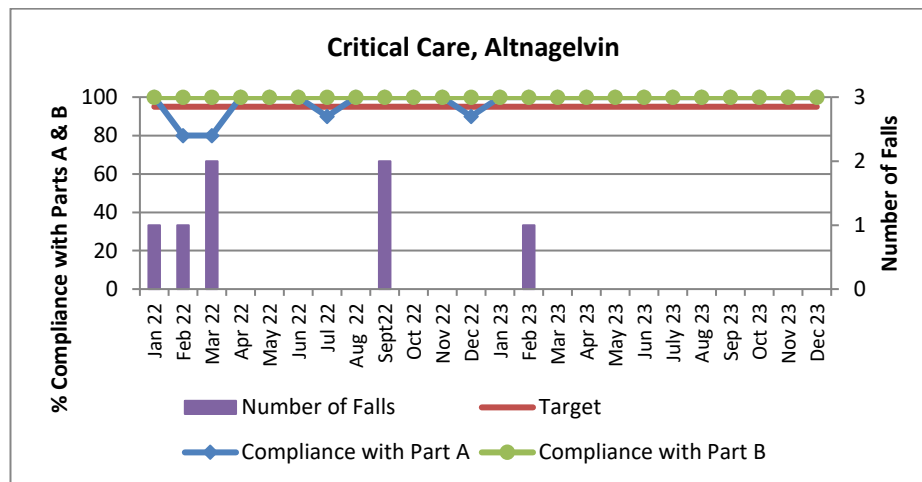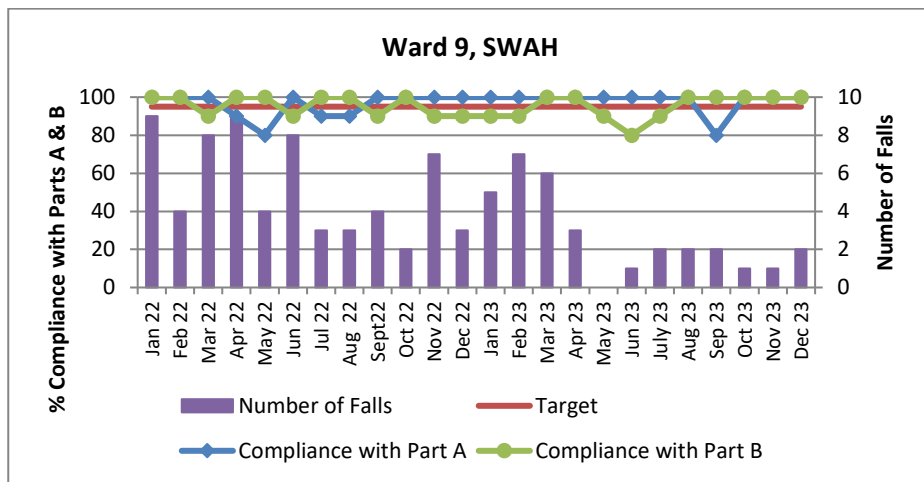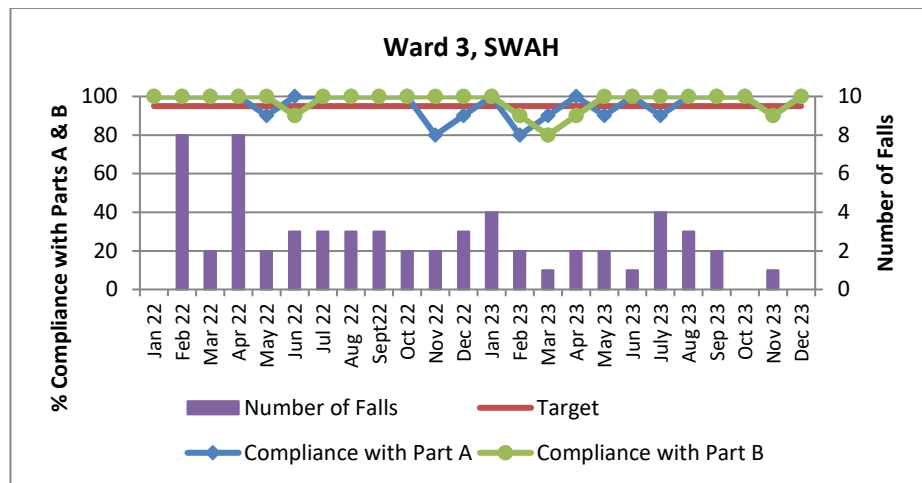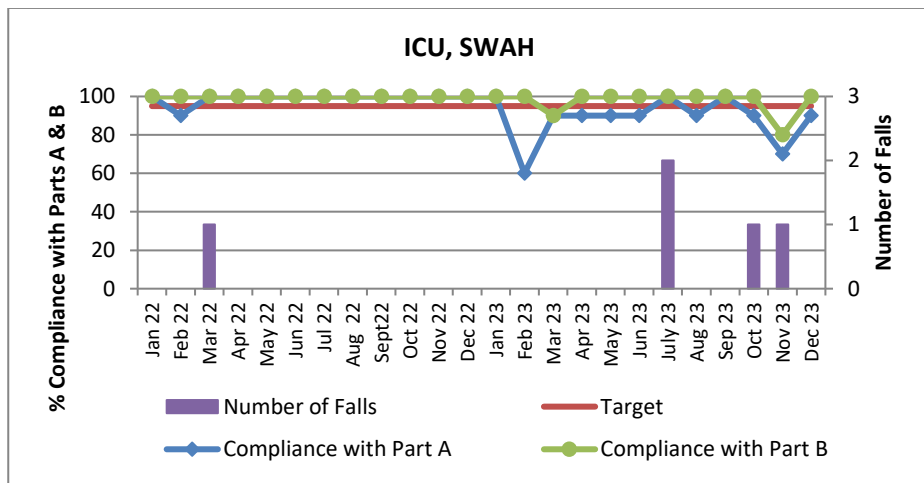**Target:** To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Ward 41, Altnagelvin

Ward 26, Altnagelvin

Ward 22, Altnagelvin

Ward 24 AMU, Altnagelvin

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

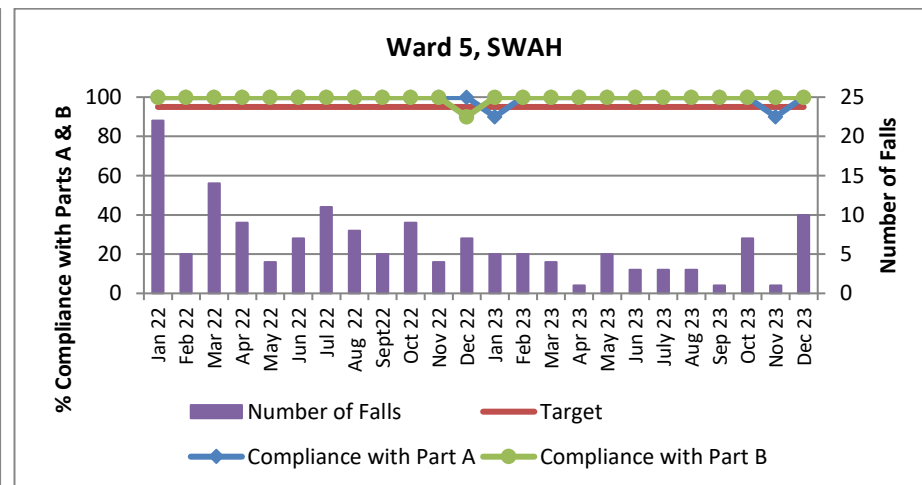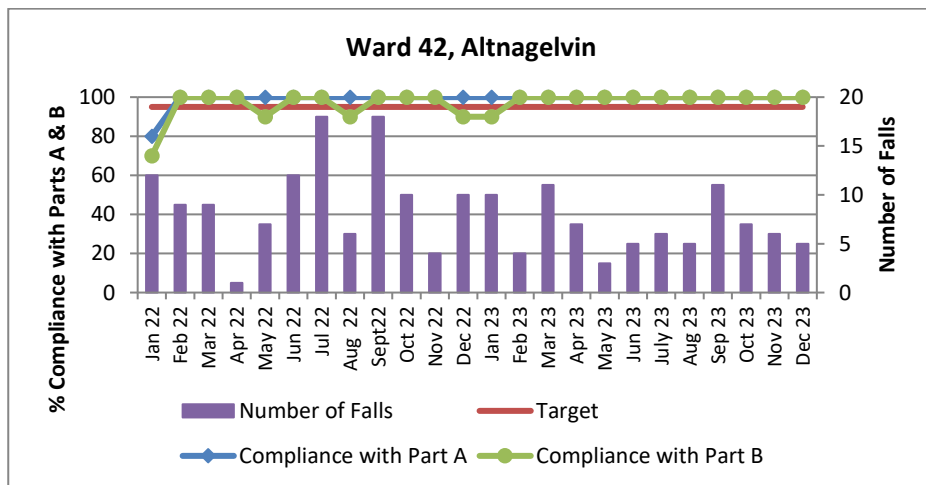**Target:** To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Ward 44, Altnagelvin

CCU, Altnagelvin
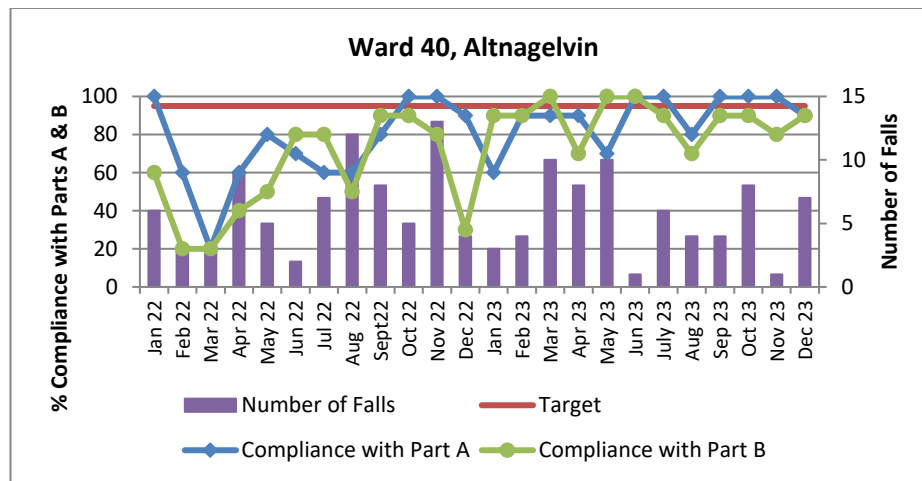

Ward 1 MSAU, SWAH

Ward 2, SWAH

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

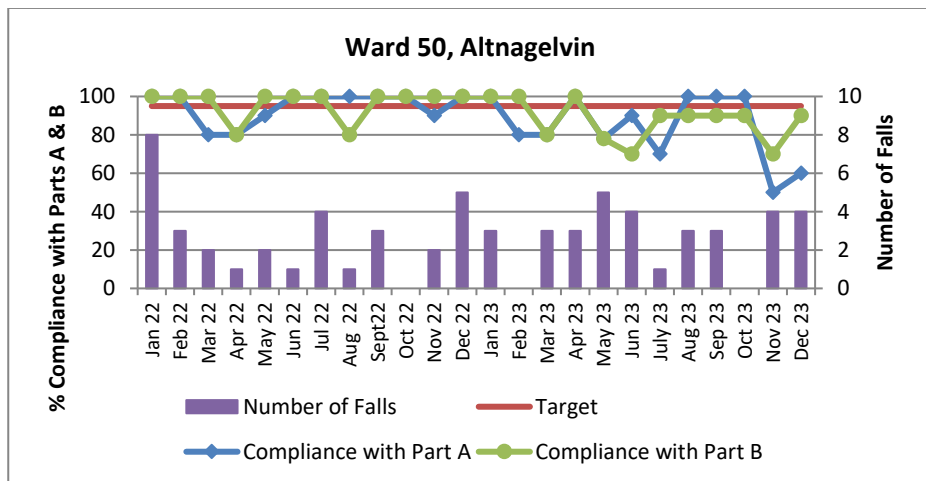**Target:** To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Ward 8, SWAH

Cardiac Unit, SWAH

Ward 23 TOU, Altnagelvin

Ward 21 EOU, Altnagelvin

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

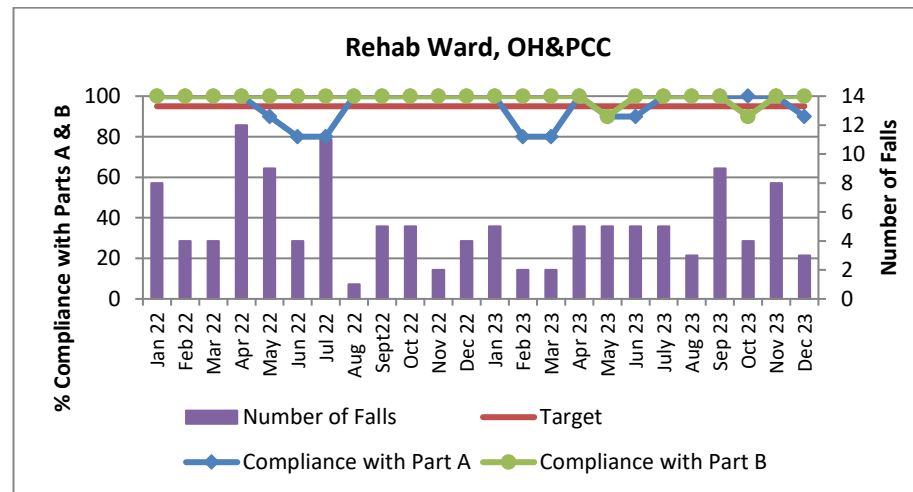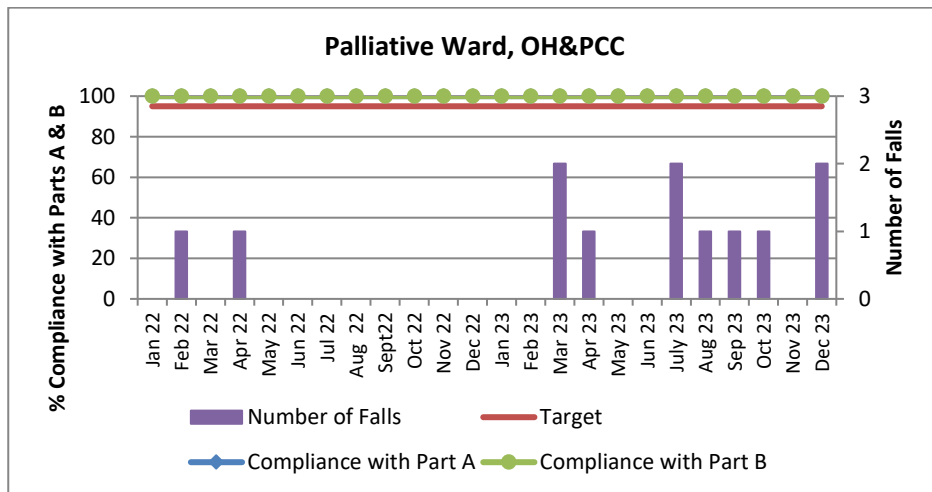**Target:** To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Ward 4 AURO, Altnagelvin

Ward 3 AHAN, Altnagelvin

Ward 31, Altnagelvin

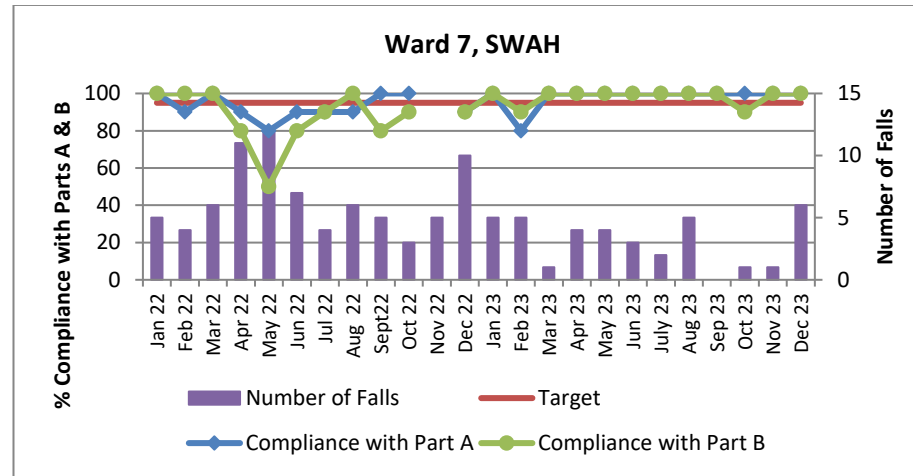
Ward 32 ESU, Altnagelvin

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

Target: To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls
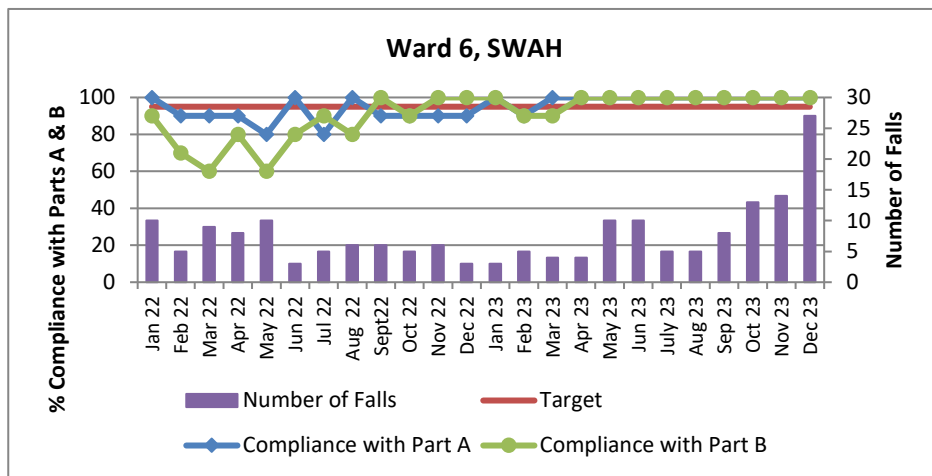

ICU, SWAH

Ward 3, SWAH

Ward 9, SWAH

Critical Care, Altnagelvin

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

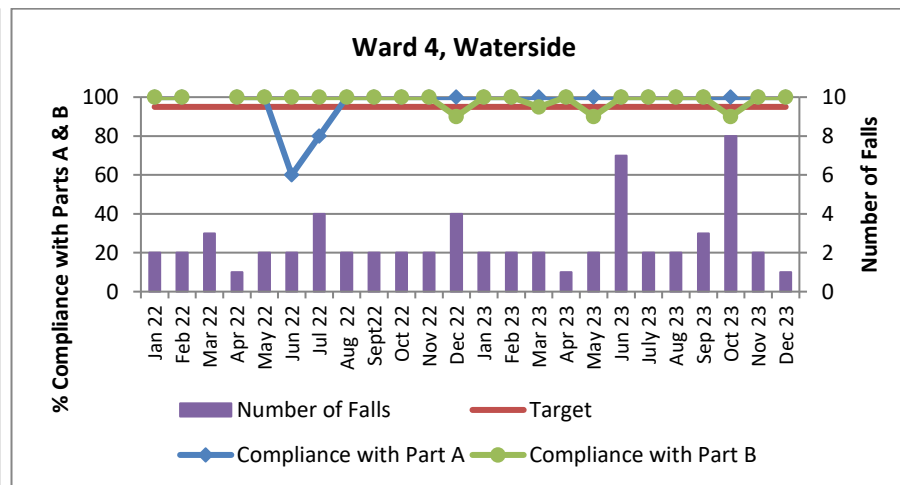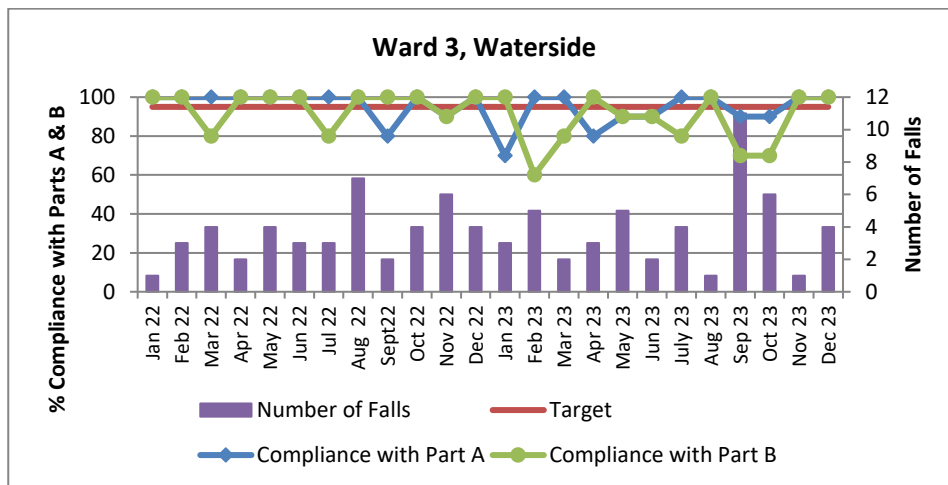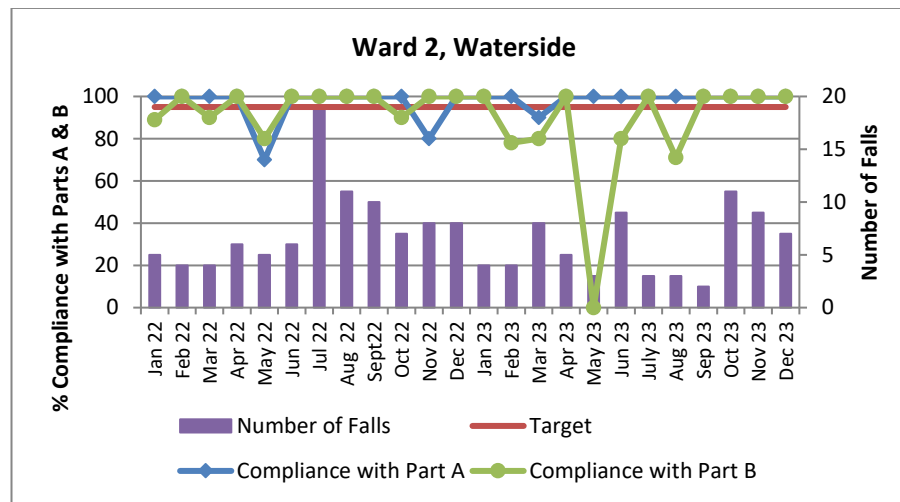**Target:** To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Ward 50, Altnagelvin

Ward 40, Altnagelvin

Ward 42, Altnagelvin

Ward 5, SWAH

Target: To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls
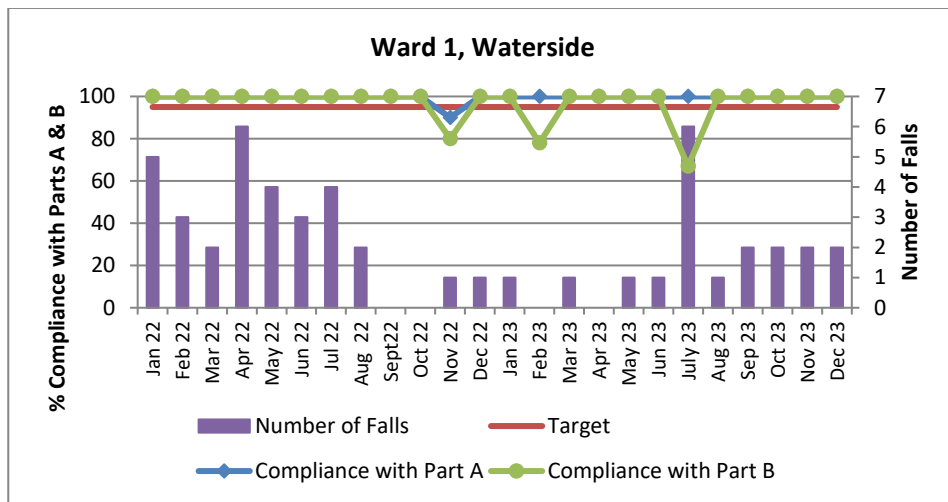

Ward 6, SWAH

Ward 7, SWAH

Palliative Ward, OH&PCC

Rehab Ward, OH&PCC

Target: To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Ward 1, Waterside

Ward 2, Waterside

Ward 3, Waterside

Ward 4, Waterside

Target: To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

Spruce House, Altnagelvin

Oak Villa, T&F

Ash Villa, T&F

Ward 25 FOU, Altnagelvin

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

Target: To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls

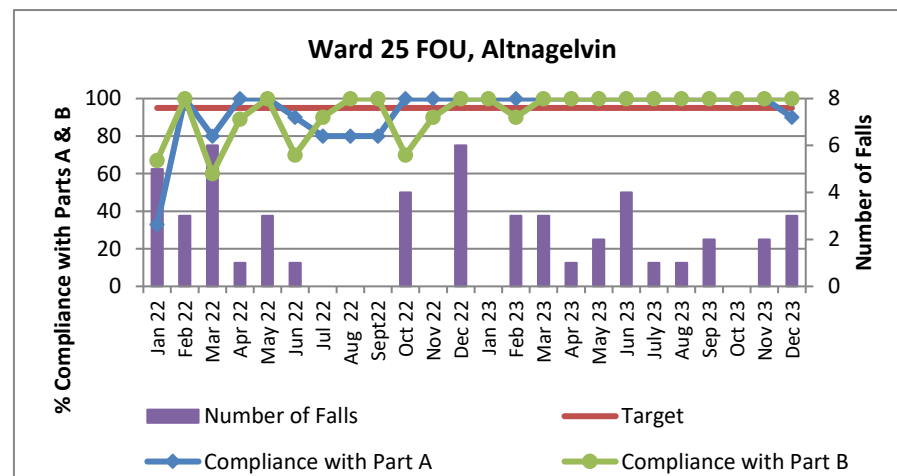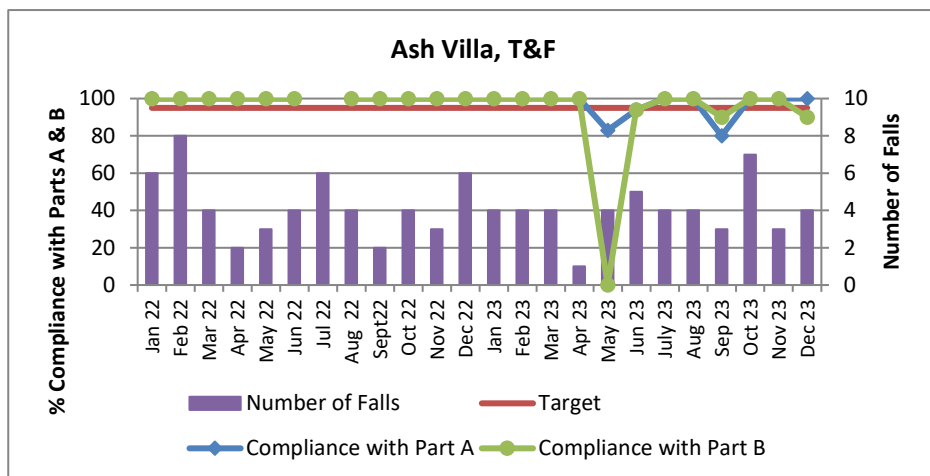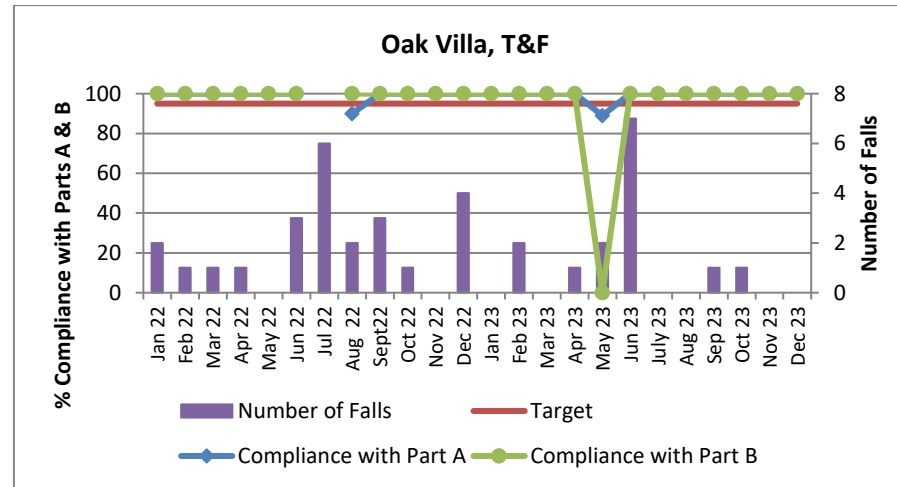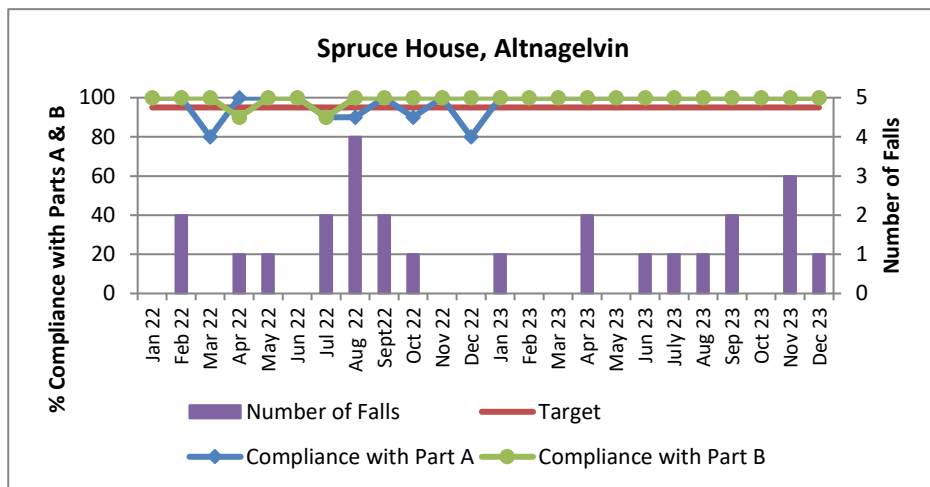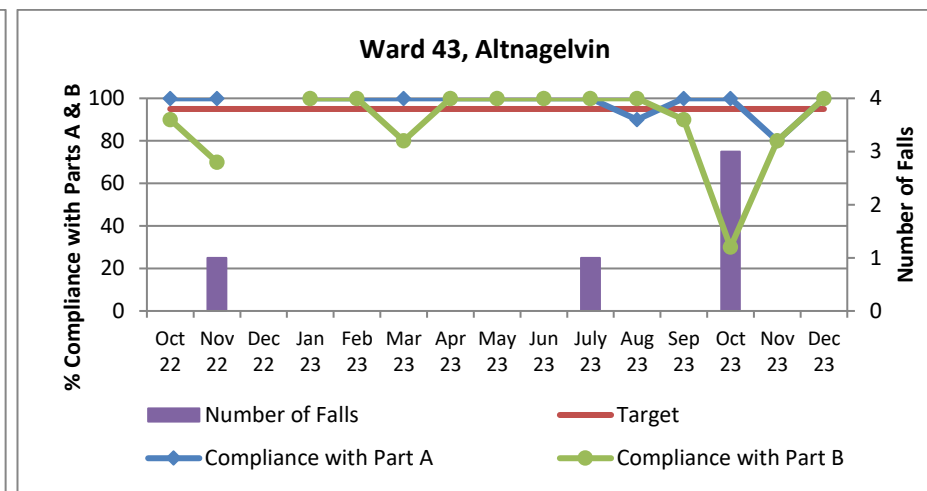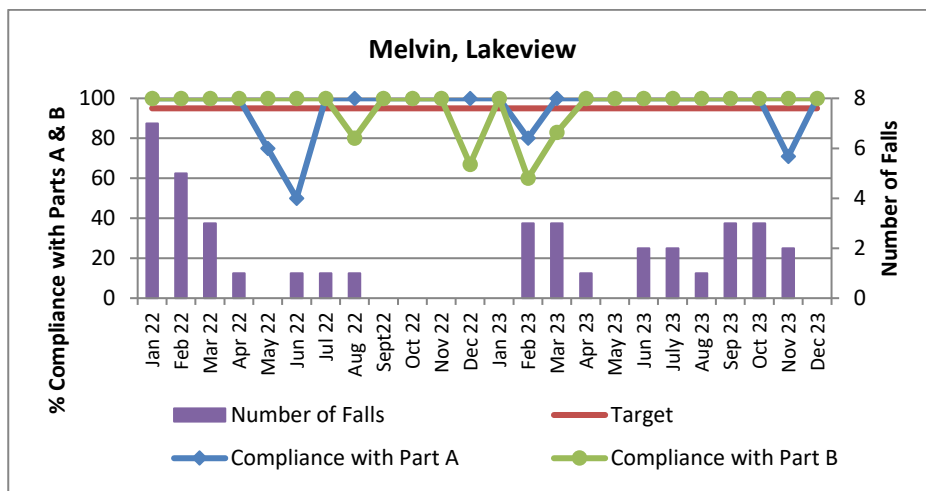### COVID Ward 25, Altnagelvin

Ward now closed

- Number of Falls
- Target
- Compliance with Part A
- Compliance with Part B

Strule, Lakeview

Ward currently not in use

- Number of Falls
- Target
- Compliance with Part A
- Compliance with Part B

Melvin, Lakeview

- Number of Falls
- Target
- Compliance with Part A
- Compliance with Part B

Ward 43, Altnagelvin

- Number of Falls
- Target
- Compliance with Part A
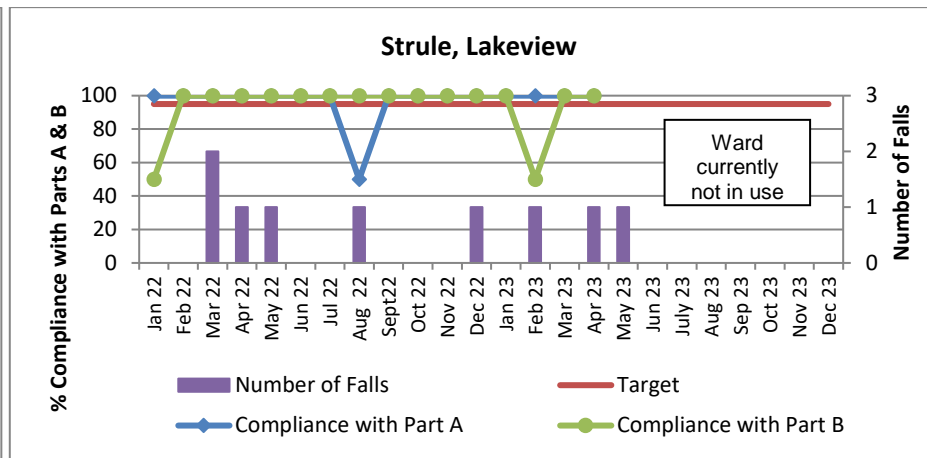- Compliance with Part B

FallSafe Bundle (Parts A & B)

Target: To continue to monitor and improve compliance with the Fallsafe Bundle, to improve prevention of falls
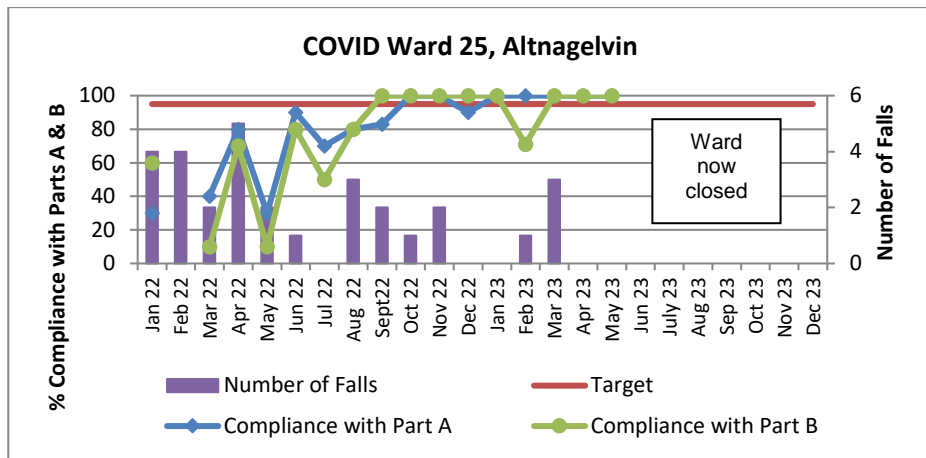

Western Trust Overall Compliance