

# Agenda Item 5

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|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
|  |                                | <b>THE HEALTH SCRUTINY<br/>COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE</b> |                               |
| Boston Borough Council  | East Lindsey District Council  | City of Lincoln Council                                   | Lincolnshire County Council   |
| North Kesteven District Council   | South Holland District Council | South Kesteven District Council                           | West Lindsey District Council |

## Open Report on behalf of United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Report to | <b>Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire</b>             |
| Date:     | <b>17 May 2023</b>  |
| Subject:  | <b>Update on Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, Paediatric Service</b> |

### Summary:

This paper advises the Committee of a planned twelve-week public consultation on the future of the paediatric service at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, which since August 2018 has been operating as a twelve-hour Paediatric Assessment Unit.

Since 2018 the paediatric model of care at Pilgrim has developed and now enables almost every child or young person to receive all of their care at Pilgrim Hospital. The Trust is now looking to make this model of care permanent, and is planning to launch a public consultation on this proposal.

### Actions Requested:

The Committee is invited:

- (a) to note the progress made in developing a proposed future service model for the paediatric service at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston;
- (b) to support the launch of a twelve-week public consultation on making the current service model a permanent arrangement; and
- (c) to contribute to the consultation as respondents, once it is launched in June 2023.

## **1. Background**

This paper advises the Committee of a planned twelve-week public consultation on the future of the paediatric service at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston.

In August 2018, staffing challenges culminated in the service model being adapted from a children's inpatient ward at Pilgrim Hospital to a twelve-hour Paediatric Assessment Unit, with children requiring a longer length of stay generally being transferred to Lincoln County Hospital for part of their care.

Over the past four years, in response to patient and clinician feedback, the model has been developed into one that enables almost every child or young person to receive all of their care at Pilgrim Hospital, without the need to transfer to other hospitals. Having stabilised the service at Pilgrim, we are now hoping to make the current model a permanent arrangement, which will give certainty around the long term future of the service, help with staff recruitment and also ensure ongoing support for Boston-area children and their families.

The Paediatric Assessment Unit now:

- retains a rapid assessment and discharge profile; and
- allows for a number of patients to remain longer on the ward, when clinically necessary.

The reduced length of stay has been maintained even with very few children needing to transfer from the hospital, except those children following specific specialist pathways, which was always the case. Appendix A is a summary of the current service model.

Subject to United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust Board approval in June 2023, a twelve-week public consultation to make this model a permanent arrangement is planned in June 2023, running until August 2023.

## **2. Consultation**

This item advises the Committee of a planned consultation on the paediatric service at Pilgrim hospital, Boston, beginning in June 2023.

## **3. Conclusion**

The Committee is invited to note the progress made in developing a proposed future service model for the paediatric service at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston; and to support the launch of a twelve-week public consultation on making the current service model a permanent arrangement. The committee is also requested to contribute to the consultation as respondents, once it is launched in June 2023.

#### 4. Appendices

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| These are listed below and attached at the back of the report |   |
| Appendix A  | Pilgrim Hospital Paediatric Service (United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust) |

#### 5. Background Papers

No background papers, as defined within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972, were used in the preparation of this report.

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