

Agenda Item 4

		THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE	
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

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	20 March 2024
Subject:	Chairman's Supplementary Announcements

1. Information Requested at Previous Meetings

East Midlands Ambulance Service

On 24 January 2024, the Committee requested additional information on:

- Response Rates for Staff Survey
- Future National Trajectories for percentages of patients treated via 'Hear and Treat' and 'See and Treat'.

This information will be circulated when it is available.

Use of Former RAF Scampton Site for Asylum Seeker Accommodation: Impact on Local NHS

This information requested by the Committee on 24 January 2024 is set out in Appendix A.

2. Government Blood Pressure Campaign

On 11 March 2024, the Government announced an additional 2.5 million blood pressure checks in community pharmacies, as part of the *Pharmacy First* programme. The checks are aimed at those aged 40 years and over, and are free, and there is no need to book. The campaign, which is supported by a number of organisations, such as the British Heart Foundation, the Stroke Association, and Heart Research UK, comes as data indicate that up to 4.2 million people in England could be living with undiagnosed high blood pressure. Evidence suggests that 41% of people are unaware that, if left untreated, high blood pressure can lead to heart disease, and over a 22% of people are unaware that it can cause strokes and heart attacks.

3. Healthwatch Lincolnshire – Your Voice Event

Healthwatch Lincolnshire has announced that its next *YourVoice@healthwatch* event will be held on Friday 26 April 2024 at Boston United Football Club, Jakeman's Community Stadium, Boston, PE21 7NE, between 10 am to 1 pm. Healthwatch Lincolnshire advises those interested in booking a place to email: info@healthwatchlincolnshire.co.uk or phone: 01205 820892.

Healthwatch Lincolnshire states that the event will provide an opportunity to meet expert speakers about the challenges facing the NHS and social care. The invited speaker is Derek Ward, Director of Public Health, Lincolnshire County Council. In addition, Healthwatch's *Our Marketplace* will also be available, with stands from different organisations to give an insight on their resources and services.

IMPACT ON NHS OF THE USE OF THE RAF SCAMPTON SITE

**RESPONSES FROM NHS LINCOLNSHIRE INTEGRATED CARE BOARD
ON OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS (24 JANUARY 2024)**

- (1) How much is in the funding package agreed between the Home Office and the Integrated Care Board for the provision of health services on the former RAF Scampton site?**

The Home Office have agreed that funding will be provided to support the following:

- Undertaking health assessments and communicable disease screening upon arrival and for any vaccinations and immunisations in line with UKHSA guidance.
- Providing access to on-site health services in line with the BMA's Guidance for Common Health Challenges of Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Monday – Friday daytime and Saturday mornings.
- Cost of prescribed medications and delivery of prescribed medications to site by community pharmacy provider.
- Emergency Dental provision via 111.
- Translation service provision by Language Line.

The final funding settlement is subject to the outcome of discussions between the Home Office, Department of Health and Social Care, and NHS England.

- (2) How many staff will be employed to provide:
(a) primary care; and
(b) mental health services?**

Discussions are ongoing on the number of people who will be accommodated at the former RAF Scampton. The following is based on the proposal to provide accommodation for up to 2,000 residents:

- (a) 1 full-time GP/Advanced Nurse Practitioner; 1 part-time Advanced Nurse Practitioner; 1 full time Practice Nurse; 1 full time Health Care Assistant; 4 full-time admin staff; 1 full-time manager, plus additional clinical staff to undertake healthcare assessments and screening for all new arrivals.
- (b) 2 full time Psychological Interventions Facilitators and/or Counsellors with access to Mental Health Professionals and Advanced Clinical Practitioners as required.

(3) What types of ailments is the screening appointment on the day of each asylum seeker's arrival at Scampton seeking to discover?

Upon arrival a full trauma informed mental and physical health assessment and public health screening will be undertaken. This will be in line with UK Health Security Agency Guidance, utilising the Ardens Management Asylum Seeker Assessment Template¹.

Routine bloods will be taken to test for tuberculosis, blood-borne viruses (hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV); and for diphtheria and scabies, if symptoms presented either prior or during assessment.

(4) How will be health care professionals be recruited given that there are recruitment challenges for the NHS in Lincolnshire?

The provider will recruit additional staff to support the onsite services. Early indications suggest it is likely that the clinicians will be a mix of directly employed and locum clinical staff, who have a personal interest or speciality in supporting the same or similar patient cohorts.

(5) As there has been experience and learning from the Wethersfield Site in Essex, and the Bibby Stockholm in Portland, Dorset, can an indication be given to the following:

(a) What percentage of asylum seekers following their medical screening on their day of arrival are immediately referred to secondary or other health services?

(b) What is the ongoing impact on secondary care or other health services?

We do not have access to data reports from other sites but feedback from colleagues have identified that most referrals made after the medical screening have been for emergency dental provision. Numbers requiring secondary care intervention have been very small.

(6) Will there be any consideration given to organisations such as the Lincolnshire Refugee Doctors Project, which supports refugees who are medically qualified in their home country to register with the GMC to continue their careers in the UK and support the NHS?

Information has been shared with the GP Provider of the Lincolnshire Refugee Doctors Project as candidates may be able to support in volunteering roles. However, to be employed they would need to be fully registered with the GMC to practise clinical roles and be suitably proficient in English (written and verbal) to undertake administrative roles.

¹ [Asylum Seeker & Refugee Health Assessment : Ardens](#)