

Agenda Item 4

 Lincolnshire COUNTY COUNCIL <i>Working for a better future</i>		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:	15 December 2021
Subject:	Supplementary Chairman's Announcements

1. Covid-19 Update

An update on Covid-19, including data up to and including 30 November 2021, was circulated with the agenda. A further update will be circulated following the meeting, based on a report due to be submitted to Lincolnshire Local Outbreak Engagement Board on 15 December 2021. Since the issue of the agenda, there have been two significant announcements:

Plan B Measures

On 8 December 2021, the Government announced the implementation of the Plan B measures, which included:

- From 13 December 2021, office workers who could work from home should do so.
- From 15 December, certain venues and events would be required to check that all visitors aged 18 years or over were fully vaccinated, had proof of a negative test in the previous 48 hours, or had an exemption.

Booster Vaccinations

On 12 December 2021, the Prime Minister announced that by 31 December 2021 a booster (or third) vaccination would be offered and administered to every adult over 18, who had had a second dose of the vaccine at least three months before. This announcement superseded a previous target date of 31 January 2022. The Prime Minister also advised that as a result certain hospital and GP appointments would need to be postponed until the New Year.

More information on the accelerated booster programme in Lincolnshire will be circulated when it is available. As of 14 December 2021, according to the NHS website walk-in booster vaccinations are available in Boston (Princess Royal Sports Arena) and Lincoln (the Lincolnshire Showground). Walk-in vaccinations are also available in Grimsby, King's Lynn, Nottingham, Oakham and Peterborough.

2. Lincolnshire Community Diagnostic Centres: Phase 1 Survey

The Lincolnshire NHS has launched a survey on its plans to introduce community diagnostic centres (CDCs). The NHS's rationale for introducing CDCs is that demand for diagnostic services in England has risen at a greater rate than any increases in capacity. The Covid-19 pandemic has worsened the situation, resulting in increases to waiting lists and waiting times for some diagnostic services. CDCs in Lincolnshire would ease these pressures and support quicker patient diagnosis.

The Lincolnshire NHS states that CDCs will provide a broad range of elective diagnostic services located away from the main acute hospitals, providing easier and quicker access to tests and greater convenience to patients, as well as relieving pressure on the main hospitals by reducing outpatient referrals and attendance.

As part of phase 1 the following are proposed:

- a CDC in Grantham, at Gonerby Road, providing cardiac ECHO, non-obstetric ultrasound, and plain film x-ray with opening hours to be decided; and
- a plain film x-ray room in Lincoln, either at the Think Tank, Ruston Way, or at St Mark's Retail Park, near the University of Lincoln.

The NHS states that it is currently in the process of planning phase 2 of the CDC programme and there will be further discussions with the public, patients, and clinicians on this. Over the next five years, subject to national funding, the NHS in Lincolnshire aims to rollout additional CDCs and its initial thoughts for these locations are: Louth, Spalding and Skegness. The NHS is looking at mobile locations, such as Mablethorpe and Sleaford.

Follow this link to the Survey:

https://nhslincolnshire.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cUCr1UxvIXSfrP8

3. NHS Services at Louth County Hospital

A list of the NHS services provided at Louth County Hospital is set out in Appendix A.

NHS SERVICES AT LOUTH COUNTY HOSPITAL

There are three providers of NHS services at Louth County Hospital, which are listed below by provider.

(1) Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust

Service	Description of Activity	Opening times
Urgent Care	Urgent Treatment Centre supporting walk in and booked appointment patients who require support with minor illness and minor injuries	7 days a week 24 hours a day
Archer Ward	16 bedded unit supporting patients with Frailty, Palliation and rehabilitation needs. Currently working as 20 beds.	24hrs a day
Archer Assessment Unit	8 bedded unit supporting patients with Frailty and rehabilitation needs for 72 hours assessment. 6 assessment chairs for day services.	24hrs a day
Community Nurses	Community Nurses support the needs of patient in local community accepting referrals from GP's and secondary care providers to aid patients in the local area. Based at Community Hospital but meeting individuals needs at home.	8am-6:30pm Daily
Adult Community Therapy and Lincolnshire Stroke Team	Occupational and Physiotherapists deliver therapy assessment and rehabilitation in patients own homes when they are predominately housebound and unable to access rehabilitation elsewhere	0800-1800 Daily
Podiatry	Patients with complex Podiatric needs are seen in clinic.	3 days per week
Continence Services	Continence clinics are run on site to support patients with new or ongoing continence support requirements	Twice a month
Diabetes Team	Diabetic clinics are run for enhanced input for diabetic patients. Group diabetic session for self-care awareness and understanding are also run which are due to be restarted in new year.	3 times monthly with additional sessions for group teaching
Cardiac Rehabilitation	Specific rehabilitation programmes for patients recovering from cardiac illnesses.	Once per week

(2) Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust

Current Services

- Community Midwifery
- Phlebotomy, by appointment only in response to Covid-19

Services Currently Suspended at Louth Owing to Covid-19 - These services are provided either at Diana Princess of Wales Hospital, Grimsby, or remotely:

- Rheumatology
- Children's Outpatients Clinics
- Cardiology Outreach
- General ENT
- Geriatric Medicine
- Gynaecology Outreach

(3) United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust

Current Services

- An Endoscopy Unit
- Fotherby Ward - This is an orthopaedic and surgical ward. There are a range of specialities that operate from Louth including ENT, General Surgery and Ophthalmology.
- Theatres – There are two theatres running five days per week, for a range of specialties, including General Surgery, Ophthalmology, Urology and Orthopaedics;
- Urology Suite - This is an outpatient unit that carries out tests and treatment for patients with urogenital conditions.
- Woldside Unit – This is main unit where ULHT outpatient services are provided.
- Diagnostics – There are a number of diagnostic services, including ultrasound, plain film x-ray and a recently introduced MRI.
- Mobile Cancer Care Unit – In partnership with Hope for Tomorrow, this unit provides cancer care to bring cancer care closer to patients' homes.
- Physiotherapy – Physiotherapy is provided for musculo-skeletal outpatients and also supports the elective orthopaedic day case surgery. The service also sees women's health and neurology outpatients for rehabilitation.
- Occupational Therapy – This service treats outpatients for rheumatology. The department is also a base for the neuro outreach team and the community occupational therapy team.

Services Currently Suspended at Louth Owing to Covid-19 (*)

- Mobile Breast Screening - Owing to reduced capacity to comply with social distancing, it was necessary to move the provision to Lincoln, Boston and Sleaford for a period of time. ULHT is planning to bring the service back to Louth in the near future. ULHT is also developing Community Diagnostic Hubs which should be implemented from 2022. This would provide static machines in community hospital sites, including Louth.