



**HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR
LINCOLNSHIRE
16 MARCH 2022**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR C S MACEY (CHAIRMAN)

Lincolnshire County Council

Councillors L Wootten (Vice-Chairman), M G Allan, R J Cleaver, S R Parkin, T J N Smith, Dr M E Thompson and R Wootten.

Lincolnshire District Councils

Councillors B Bilton (City of Lincoln Council) and Mrs A White (West Lindsey District Council).

Also in attendance

Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Simon Evans (Health Scrutiny Officer).

The following representatives joined the meeting remotely, via Teams:

Alison Christie (Programme Manager, Strategy and Development), Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Simon Evans (Health Scrutiny Officer), Tim Fowler (Assistant Director of Contracting and Performance, Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group), Andrew Morgan (Chief Executive, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust), Anna Richards (Associate Director of Communications and Engagement), Laura White (Head of Nuclear Medicine, ULHT) and Karen Dunderdale (Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Nursing).

77 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs L Hagues (North Kesteven District Council), Mrs S Harrison (East Lindsey District Council), G P Scalese (South Holland District Council), Mark Whittington (South Kesteven District Council), S Woodliffe (Boston Borough Council) and B P Wookey (Healthwatch Lincolnshire).

Note: Councillor M Whittington observed the meeting remotely, via Teams.

Apologies for absence were also received from Councillors C Matthews (Executive Support Councillor for NHS Liaison, Community Engagement, Registration and Coroner's Services) and Mrs S Woolley (Executive Councillor NHS Liaison, Community Engagement, Registration and Coroner's Services).

78 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

**HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE
16 MARCH 2022**

Councillor M E Thompson wished it to be noted that he had an appointment scheduled with United Lincolnshire NHS Hospitals Trust.

79 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE MEETING
HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2022

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire meeting held on 16 February 2022 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

80 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Further to the Chairman's announcements circulated with the agenda, the Chairman brought to the Committees attention the supplementary announcements circulated on 15 March 2022. The supplementary announcements referred to:

- Information requested from the last meeting of the Committee held on 16 February 2022;
- Covid-19 update;
- The reshaping of health services in Nottinghamshire;
- The NHS proposed new standards for the treatment of cancer;
- The Health and Care Bill; and
- National trade media report in relation to United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust.

During discussion, some concern was expressed to the rising number of Covid-19 cases across Lincolnshire.

One member also enquired whether Ashley House, Grantham would be re-opening after being temporarily closed. The Committee was advised that a request would be made for this to be included in the update from Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust which was due to be received at the 13 April 2022 meeting.

RESOLVED

That the Supplementary Chairman's announcements circulated on 15 March 2022 and the Chairman's announcements as detailed on pages 17 to 23 of the report pack be noted.

81 UNITED LINCOLNSHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST - CARE QUALITY COMMISSION
INSPECTION REPORT - FEBRUARY 2022

Consideration was given to a report from United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT), which invited the Committee to consider the information presented on the inspection report

by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), and the Trust's actions in response to the inspection report.

The Chairman invited the following representatives from United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust: Andrew Morgan, Chief Executive and Karen Dunderdale, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Nursing, to remotely, present the item to the Committee.

In guiding the Committee through the report, mention was made to the unannounced core-service inspection and the announced 'well-led' inspection during the months of October and November 2021; the findings of the CQC report published on 8 February 2022, these were shown in Appendix A to the report; and Appendix B provided the Committee with details of the key findings of the report for their consideration.

It was reported that overall, the CQC had recognised the widespread improvements made by the Trust in the quality and safety of services since the last inspection in 2019. Positive comments were also received about the Trust having a strong cohesive team with collective leadership at Board level. The Committee was advised that the overall Trust CQC rating remained as being 'Requires Improvement'. It was highlighted that the overall rating of ULHT was not able to be changed, as the CQC had not inspected all services on all sites.

Comparison information with the previous 2019 ratings were set out on pages 27 to 30 of the report for the Committee's consideration.

In conclusion, the Committee noted that the ULHT Board of Directors had considered the CQC report at their meeting on 1 March 2022, at which they had acknowledged the widespread improvements made and recognised that further improvements were required. They had also endorsed the preparation of an action plan to be submitted to the CQC, as required, by 10 March 2022.

During consideration of the item, the Committee raised some of the following comments:

- Some concern was expressed that Lincoln County Hospital still required improvement;
- The good rating for Grantham and District Hospital and the excellent service provided by staff at the hospital. The Committee noted that Grantham Hospital remained a key part of the Trust's services; and confirmation was given that not all services could not be provided at all sites, as the Trust needed to ensure that services operated within safety standards and remained sustainable;
- The need for the Committee to have access to the latest action plan;
- The 2017 special measures. The Committee was advised that the Trust was put into special measures because of quality, safety, and financial issues by NHS England (NHSE). It was noted that the CQC had written to the NHSE concerning the recovery programme status, and it was hoped that the Trust would soon be exiting special measures and the recovery programme. The Trust offered to share the action plan with the Committee at its May meeting;

- Medicine Storage. It was reported that significant work had been undertaken to ensure that medicines were stored safely and correctly and at the right temperature and that staff were aware of the procedures in place;
- Staffing shortages. The Committee was advised that ULHT was now in a better position than it was two years previously. The Committee noted that the Trust had been successful in recruiting health care support workers and that more recently, the Trust had received some good applicants for consultant positions. It was noted that widespread improvements had raised the reputation and profile of ULHT; as people now wanted to come to Lincolnshire to work for its location, the high standard educational provision for children but also for the attraction of ULHT being at the cutting edge of new development, for example the introduction of robotic surgery;
- Bottom of Page 40 - areas for improvement relating to urgent and emergency care with regard to child protection information sharing. The Committee was advised that this particular comment related to how the hospital system/GP system picked up the flags for looked after children as it had been identified that the approach taken was not consistent. It was reported that work had taken place with the local authority to ensure that this had now been rectified;
- Whether the Trust had made progress regarding the comment on the bottom of page 43 of the report relating to the organisational culture not always encouraging openness and honesty at all levels. The Committee was advised that the Trust was not yet in the position where it wanted to be with regard to this matter, and that work was in progress to change procedures and processes to make things easier for staff. One scheme mentioned was the recruitment of a "Speak up Guardian" whereby staff could speak to an independent person concerning their issues;
- Bullying and harassment. The Committee was advised that there had been incidents of bullying. The Committee was advised further that bullying was not tolerated by the Trust. It was reported that mechanisms had been put in place to help mitigate any situations;
- Reassurance was sought as to whether the Trust was meeting its legal requirement (as highlighted on pages 40 and 41 of the report pack). Reassurance was given that since 2019, the Trust had made significant improvements; and that there had been sufficient evidence offered to the CQC to support the progress made;
- Whether staff morale had improved. The Committee was advised that the staff survey conducted in October 2021 still highlighted areas of concern. It was noted that a further staff survey was due to take place shortly;
- What measures were being put in place to improve the flow of patients into Lincoln County Hospital's urgent and emergency department. It was noted that this was an issue nationally, as well as locally. Measures were in place to encourage A& E to be used appropriately and where possible patients should initially be signposted to 111, GPs etc. It was also highlighted that there were also wider issues in the health and care system and the Trust was working with partners to help mitigate the situation; and
- When would the Trust be moving away from paper records on to a digital way of working. The Committee was advised that this was an area that needed

improvement, and at the moment, further investment would be required to make that happen.

RESOLVED

1. That support be recorded for the efforts of United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, in making a range of improvements across a number of services, as reported by the Care Quality Care Commission.
2. That a further update on improvements in line with the action plan be received by the Committee at its 18 May 2022 meeting.
3. That a recovery update be received by the Committee at its 18 May 2022 meeting.

82 PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE NUCLEAR MEDICINE SERVICE AT UNITED LINCOLNSHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

Consideration was given to a report from United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT), which invited the Committee to comment on the service proposals, and to formulate a formal response to the public consultation on Nuclear Medicine Services at ULHT, which was due to close on the 23 May 2022.

Attached at Appendix A to the report was a copy of consultation document for the Committee's consideration.

The Chairman invited Laura White, Head of Nuclear Medicine ULHT and Anna Richards, Associate Director of Communications and Engagement ULHT, to remotely, present the item to the Committee.

In guiding the Committee through the report reference was made to:

- the background to the nuclear service at ULHT;
- the challenges faced by nuclear medicine nationally;
- the challenges faced by the nuclear medicine service in Lincolnshire with the shortage of clinical technologists. Staffing information was provided on page 69 of the report pack for the three sites currently providing nuclear medicine services;
- the case for change, it was noted that at present staff and services were spread so thinly across the three sites, and that low levels of staff absence impacted on the amount of work the service could perform; and
- the options appraisal, this identified that the safest way to provide a sustainable, long-term service was to reduce the number of where sites nuclear medicine was provided, which would then reduce the redundancy of equipment and create a greater capacity to replace aged equipment and allow for better staff cover. Details of all the options were shown on pages 72 to 80 of the report pack.

During consideration of item, the Committee raised some of the following comments:

- As there was a shortage of technologist nationally, how were other hospital trusts managing the service. The Committee noted that all areas were in a similar position, as this was a national problem. The problem was training and retaining staff whilst still providing a service. It highlighted that Lincolnshire had converted one of its technologist posts to an apprentice post in a bid to grow their own technologists. It was also highlighted that there was a shortage of radiologists in Lincolnshire who held an Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee (ARSAC) licence and trained Medical Physics Experts;
- Some concern was expressed that equipment had not been replaced earlier and to the proposed reduction in the service at Grantham Hospital;
- Whether the service had experienced any supply issues of radioactive materials. Reassurance was given that cancer patients were prioritised, but it was not known what the longer-term effect would be;
- Some members felt that the consultation appeared to be pre-determined;
- It was highlighted that the NHS nationally should have confronted the issue of a shortage of specialist staff earlier and should have ensured that training was available to ensure continuity of the service. The Committee was advised that ULHT was trying to run an efficient service and reducing the number of sites nuclear medicine was provided from was a sustainable option; and
- Concern was expressed that centralising services would mean that residents of Lincolnshire would have to travel further. Further concern was raised that car parks provided at the selected sites were already at full capacity.

RESOLVED

1. That thanks be extended to United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust for presenting its consultation document on Nuclear Medicine.
2. That a draft response be compiled based on the comments raised and that the draft response be submitted to the next scheduled meeting of Committee on 13 April 2022 for approval.

83 COMMUNITY PAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICE - UPDATE

The Committee considered a report from NHS Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (LCCG), which provided an update on the Community Pain Management Service (CPM).

The Chairman invited Tim Fowler, Associate Director of Contracting and Performance, to remotely, present the item to the Committee.

In guiding the Committee through the report reference was made to: the background behind the service; the LCCG commentary, which included a Covid-19 update, quality reporting and key performance indicator information.

In conclusion, the Committee was advised that the CPMS had made improvements in access and performance over the last six months, and it was expected that these would be sustained for future months. It was also highlighted that the service continued to be commissioned and delivered in accordance with the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and British Pain Society guidance.

The Committee was also advised that no quality concerns had been identified, and that reported patient's experiences, and outcomes were good.

Appendix A provided Key Performance Indicator summary details for the period April 2021 to January 2022 for consideration by the Committee.

During consideration of the item, the Committee raised the following comments:

- The type of treatment offered to patients. The Committee noted that the service was delivered in accordance with the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and British Pain Society guidance. However, it was noted that in some circumstances patients did continue to receive injections;
- The strain of chronic pain on an individual's mental health. One member enquired whether people were being referred to the service by GPs in a timely way. The Committee was advised that GPs were all well aware of the service; but there was unfortunately no evidence that patients were being referred at the right time. One member also highlighted that someone not being referred in a timely manner could also have an impact on their mental health and in some circumstances could lead to suicide. The Associate Director agreed to look into the matter further and report back if there were any concerns regarding referrals and whether there was a link to suicide rates;
- Clarification was given that the data provided was point-in-time data;
- What was the outcome from the CCG raising the issues found from the negative feedback with Connect Health and what lessons had been learnt. The Committee noted that no issues had been raised;
- Had the pandemic affected the level of demand for the service. The Committee was advised that the demand for service had slightly reduced, but had now started to return to normal levels; and
- Confirmation was given that the contract was due for renewal in April 2024.

RESOLVED

1. That the Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group be thanked for presenting information on the Community Pain Management Service.
2. That the Committee's consideration of regular updates on the Community Pain Management Service since October 2019 be noted and in view of the sustained improvement of the service and positive patient feedback, no further updates be

received, unless a significant change in performance of the service would merit the Committee's consideration.

84 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE QUALITY ACCOUNTS 2021-2022

Consideration was given to a report from the Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer, which invited the Committee to consider its approach to the Quality Accounts for 2021/22 and to identify its preferred option for responding to the draft Quality Accounts, details of which shown on pages 91 and 92 of the report pack.

During consideration of this item, the Committee agreed to consider the following statements on the draft Quality Accounts for 2021/22 for the following providers: East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust and North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust.

The following Committee members volunteered to be part of a working group: Councillors R J Cleaver, C S Macey, S R Parkin, Mrs A White, M A Whittington, L Wootten and R Wootten.

RESOLVED

1. That statements on the draft Quality Accounts for 2021/22 be made on the following local providers of NHS-funded services: East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust; United Lincolnshire Hospitals Trust; and North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust.
2. That the working groups include the following Councillors: R J Cleaver, C S Macey, S R Parkin, Mrs A White M A Whittington, L Wootten and R Wootten.

85 HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE - WORK PROGRAMME AND WORKING GROUPS

The Chairman invited Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer, to present the report, which invited the Committee to consider and comment on its work programme as detailed on pages 98 to 99 of the report pack.

The Committee was invited to consider setting up a working group to consider and respond to the consultation of the Lincolnshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment as detailed in section 4 of the report.

The Committee also considered the establishment of a working group to consider access to mental health services but agreed to wait until after its next meeting on 13 April 2022, as the Committee was due to receive a general update report from Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. The suggestion for a working group had been made on 16 February 2022 following the Committee's consideration of an item on Suicide Prevention.

It was confirmed that as GP Practices were NHS funded services, it was appropriate for the Committee to give consideration to them, in particular how they delivered their contractual obligations.

It was requested that the item from Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust on 13 April 2022 make reference to the Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions.

RESOLVED

1. That the work programme presented be agreed subject to the inclusion of the items/suggestion raised above; and the inclusion of the United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust Recovery and Action Plan in response to the Care Quality Commission report, and the Committee's draft response to the Nuclear Medicine Consultation for the 18 May 2022 meeting.
2. That a working group be established to respond to the consultation draft of the Lincolnshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. The working group to include the following members: Councillors C S Macey, Mrs A White, L Wootten and R Wootten.

The meeting closed at 12.35 pm