

# Agenda Item 4

		<b>THE HEALTH SCRUTINY 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

Report to	<b>Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire</b>
Date:	<b>8 November 2017</b>
Subject:	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b>

## 1. **Centre for Public Scrutiny Event: Scrutinising Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships**

On 9 November 2017, I am due to attend a course entitled Scrutinising Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs), which is being run by the Centre for Public Scrutiny. The course states it aims to explain how STPs are intended to alter service delivery. The course will also explore some of the new terminology associated with STPs such as accountable care systems, new models of care and vanguards. The intention is that the course will help delegates better to hold health partners to account. I will provide feedback on the course at the Committee's December meeting, and share any materials that are available.

## 2. **Targeted Enhanced Recruitment Scheme – General Practitioners**

On 12 October, 2017, the Department of Health announced that from 2018, GP surgeries in some areas will benefit from the *Targeted Enhanced Recruitment Scheme*, which will offer a one-off payment of £20,000 to attract GP trainees to work in areas of the country where training places have been unfilled for a number of years. To support this initiative, the Department of Health has also asked Health Education England (HEE) to seek that many of the 1,500 additional medical training places that will be funded from next year are located in priority areas, including rural and coastal communities.

The Department of Health has also announced a new international recruitment office will be set up by NHS England to help local areas to recruit GPs from overseas, with plans to expand fast-track routes into general practice for doctors trained outside the European Economic Area in countries such as Australia.

### **3. Flu Vaccination and Managing Winter Pressures**

On 12 October 2017, NHS England, Public Health England, the Department of Health and NHS Improvement jointly announced measures to increase the uptake of flu vaccinations. This will include providing free flu vaccines for care home staff at a cost nationally of up to £10 million. NHS trusts are urged to ensure they make vaccines readily available to their staff and record why those who choose to opt out of the vaccine programme do so. Doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers will be reminded of their duty to protect patients by being vaccinated.

As part of the announcement, contingency actions have been identified to respond to pressures on frontline services this winter, which include setting up a new National Emergency Pressure Panel to provide independent clinical advice on appropriate regional and national responses.

### **4. Annual Reports and Accounts of Lincolnshire Health Organisations**

The four Clinical Commissioning Groups and the three main NHS providers in Lincolnshire have been holding annual meetings during September and October. The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire has been represented at most of these meetings.

At these annual meetings, annual reports and accounts for the previous year are highlighted by the organisations. The annual reports and accounts for 2016-17 are available at the following links:

NHS Lincolnshire East Clinical Commissioning Group: -

<https://lincolnshireeastccg.nhs.uk/about-us/key-documents/annual-report-1/2016-2017-1>

NHS Lincolnshire West Clinical Commissioning Group: -

<http://www.lincolnshirewestccg.nhs.uk/LibraryDocs/annual-report-2016-2017/>

NHS South Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group: -

<https://southlincolnshireccg.nhs.uk/about-us/key-documents/annual-report-1/annual-report-2016-2017>

NHS South West Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group: -

<http://southwestlincolnshireccg.nhs.uk/about-us/key-documents/annual-report-1/annual-report-2016-2017>

Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust

<https://www.lincolnshirecommunityhealthservices.nhs.uk/about-us/our-publications/annual-reports>

Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

<http://www.lpft.nhs.uk/about-us/accessing-our-information/annual-reports-and-accounts>

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust: -

<https://www.ulh.nhs.uk/about/trust/annual-reports/>

## **5. East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust - New Operating Model**

In July 2017 NHS England announced that all ambulance services in England would move to a new set of performance standards, through the national Ambulance Response Programme (ARP), by the beginning of winter this year. Details of the ARP were reported to this Committee on 13 September 2017.

The East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EMAS) has provided an update on the new operating model and confirmed that it implemented the ARP in July and together with NHS England highlighted the benefits that it would bring.

EMAS has stated that it now needs to introduce a new operating model (its vehicle and staff skill mix and rotas) to ensure it can deliver the ARP's key benefits for patients.

ARP has been introduced nationally to give a more clinically appropriate response to 999 calls and to improve response times to critically ill patients. EMAS's operating model change (including a current rota consultation with its staff) is about improving services for its patients. EMAS has stated that it needs the right operating model to deliver ARP and ensure it has the right balance of ambulances and fast response cars, and the right staff on duty at the right time and in the right place to respond to 999 calls.

EMAS has stated that its new operating model will not result in any reduction in the overall number of staff available in its divisions, and the way that people access the 999 emergency ambulance service will not be different as a result of this change. People will still ring 999 and the Emergency Operations Centres will ask the same questions that they do now to determine the best response for each patient.

EMAS is currently consulting with its staff to work with them to implement the necessary changes and the intention is to launch its new operating model on 2 April 2018.

## **6. Head and Neck Cancer Surgery at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust**

On 25 October 2017, I received a letter from NHS England (Specialised Commissioning East Midlands) which advised that with effect 24 October 2017 United Lincolnshire Hospitals Trust (ULHT) had ceased to provide major or complex head and neck cancer surgery, or transoral laser resection.

This change followed a review by independent experts, which identified some risks about the complex head and neck cancer services provided at ULHT. The review did not raise any concerns around the quality of the surgery undertaken at ULHT.

Most patients that require this major or complex surgery already have this surgery at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (NUH). The plan is that all of the complex surgery is done in Nottingham. It is understood that this affects one to two patients per month who have been receiving surgery at Lincoln County Hospital. In effect the change is the transfer of a low volume of surgery from a non-specialist centre to a specialist centre.

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