

# Agenda Item 8

		<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

## RESPONSE OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE TO NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE CONSULTATION (July – September 2020)

1. To help us understand your response better, please can you tell us if you are answering this questionnaire on behalf of...

- A current or former patient of rehabilitation services
- A member of the public
- A carer/friend/family member of an individual who is accessing/has accessed rehabilitation service
- An organisation (please specify in the box below)

**Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire**

2. To what extent do you support or oppose the proposal to create a NHS Rehabilitation Centre at the Stanford Hall Estate near Loughborough?

- Strongly support
- Slightly support
- Neither support or oppose
- Slightly oppose
- Strongly oppose

3. The NHS Rehabilitation Centre would provide 63 rehabilitation beds – an increase of 39 beds across the East Midlands. As a result, we propose to transfer the service currently provided at Linden Lodge at Nottingham City Hospital to the Regional Rehabilitation Centre.

To what extent do you support or oppose the transfer of the service at Linden Lodge at Nottingham City Hospital to the NHS Rehabilitation Centre?

- Strongly support
- Slightly support
- Neither support or oppose
- Slightly oppose
- Strongly oppose

4. If you have any comments about the transfer of Linden Lodge, please provide them in the comment box below.

**The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire accepts the rationale for the closure of the 24 bed Linden Lodge unit in Nottingham (as set out on page 10 of the consultation document). The key point is that the proposed rehabilitation centre aims to provide an improved service for a greater number of patients throughout the East Midlands.**

5. The NHS Rehabilitation Centre would be located at the Stanford Hall Rehabilitation Estate near Loughborough. The 360-acre countryside estate hosts the Defence and National Rehabilitation Centre, which provides rehabilitation facilities for military personnel.

The Defence Medical National Rehabilitation Centre would continue to operate independently and prioritise military rehabilitation, while a regional rehabilitation centre would provide treatment for NHS patients only. NHS patients would be able to benefit from the state-of-the-art facilities that the DNRC has (for example the hydrotherapy pool, the gait analysis system and the Computer Aided Rehabilitation Environment).

The location would provide peaceful, tranquil surroundings for NHS patients to focus on their rehabilitation.

Do you think treating NHS patients on the same site as military personnel will be suitable?

- Yes, definitely
- Yes, to some extent
- Not sure
- No

If no, please explain why in the comment box below.

**The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire fully supports the location of the proposed rehabilitation centre on the same site as the same campus as the unit providing rehabilitation to military personnel.**

6. If you wanted to visit patients at the NHS Rehabilitation Centre, how easy would this be for you?

A regional rehabilitation service as part of the NHS Rehabilitation Centre development would be situated on the Stanford Hall Rehabilitation Estate at Stanford Hall near Loughborough.

- Very easy
- Easy
- Neither easy nor difficult
- Difficult
- Very difficult

If you feel this would be difficult, please provide a brief explanation in the comment box below.

**From the point of view of visitors to Stanford Hall, parts of Lincolnshire, such as the Grantham area, are approximately 50 minutes away from Stanford Hall by private car. Parts of the east coast of Lincolnshire, such as Mablethorpe and Skegness, are over two hours away from Stanford Hall by car. However, the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire recognises that most Lincolnshire major trauma patients would be treated in the first instance at the**

**Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham – the East Midland's major trauma centre – so many visitors of Lincolnshire patients would to an extent be familiar with journeys to an out-of-county setting.**

**The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire strongly supports discussions with voluntary and public transport providers (page 9 of the consultation document) on exploring options for voluntary and public transport to the site. The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire looks forward to more information being made available on the outcome of these discussions.**

7. To reduce the travel impact for relatives, friends and carers, it is proposed that the NHS Rehabilitation Centre would provide free family accommodation with three family rooms available, free parking as well as super-fast broadband to enable patients to keep in touch with their families via communication channels such as FaceTime and Skype. Discussions are also taking place around enhancing local public transport.

Do you feel that the factors listed above (i.e. family rooms, free parking & super-fast broadband) would help reduce the impact of increased travel time that some might face?

- Yes, definitely
- Yes, to some extent
- Not sure
- No

If no, do you have any further suggestions in how we could support family, friends and carers who may be visiting someone at the Regional Rehabilitation Centre?

[Redacted area]

8. What do you think the benefits are of being located on the Stanford Hall Rehabilitation Estate?

**The main benefits are as follows: -**

- (1) a net increase of 39 rehabilitation beds across the East Midlands region, which will lead to improved access to rehabilitation facilities, in turn leading to better outcomes for patients;**
- (2) co-location with the Ministry of Defence rehabilitation facility on**

**the Stanford Hall campus, which will provide a core of expertise on the same site;**

**(3) potential to reduce the waiting times for Lincolnshire patients, which are higher than other counties in the East Midlands;**

**(4) the provision of family rooms, with the aim of reducing feelings of isolation for patients.**

9. What do you think the issues are of being located on the Stanford Hall Rehabilitation Estate?

**The estate is located in a rural location, and is currently not accessible by any form of public transport, other than by a taxi. The Committee supports discussions with voluntary and public transport providers (page 9 of the consultation document). The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire looks forward to more information being made available on the outcome of these discussions.**

10. The NHS Rehabilitation Centre will take a fresh and innovative approach to rehabilitation, putting the patient at the centre of care.

It would be staffed by a multi-disciplinary team consisting of rehabilitation consultants, orthopaedic consultants, other speciality consultants (e.g. for cancer treatment), therapy assistants, physiotherapists, mental health nurses, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, social workers and other professionals as needed.

There would be a focus on occupational and vocational rehabilitation to help people get back to work.

Each patient would be assigned a dedicated person (a clinical case manager) to co-ordinate their care throughout – from referral through to discharge.

There would be an increase in the number of hours of therapy per patient per week (both one-to-one and group sessions), with patients being able to spend their additional time on the rehabilitation estate supported by occupational and vocational therapists.

Patients would have access to facilities such as a gym, hydrotherapy pool and a system to help patients practice their mobility and balance on a range of different surfaces.

What are your thoughts about the care that patients would receive at the NHS Rehabilitation Centre?

Excellent

Very good

Good

Fair

Poor

11. What are your thoughts about the range of health and social care professionals that patients would have access to at the NHS Rehabilitation Centre?

Excellent

Very good

Good

Fair

Poor

12. We recognise that it is important that a patient's mental wellbeing is equally considered alongside their physical rehabilitation. It is therefore essential that proposals for the NHS Rehabilitation Centre take mental health, particularly helping patients to avoid feelings of isolation and boredom, into consideration. This will be done in relation to:

- The way in which clinical and other staff will help patients create an environment of support, helping to minimise any feelings of social isolation.
- Making assessment of patient's mental health part of ongoing assessments at least three times a week.
- Support provided by a mental health nurse.
- The design of the social facilities and use of the grounds. Evidence suggests that 'green spaces' are linked to improvements in patient wellbeing, mental health, levels of stress and positive behaviours.

Based on the information above, what are your thoughts on the approach to managing the mental wellbeing of patients during their time at the NHS

Rehabilitation Centre?

- I feel confident that patients' mental health has been taken into account.
- I feel that patients' mental health has been taken into account, but more needs to be done.
- I feel that more needs to be done to manage patients' mental health.

If you feel more needs to be done to manage patients' mental health, please provide your suggestions in the box below.

**The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is fully supportive of the proposals to manage the mental health of patients. The Committee assumes that there will be a high level of expertise in this area. The Committee would like to highlight the importance mental health assessments at least three times per week, as stated in the consultation document.**

13. Do you have any other comments that you would like to make with regard to the development of the NHS Rehabilitation Centre?

**The consultation document includes the following statement (page 4):**

***"We will be undertaking work with neighbouring NHS commissioners in Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Lincolnshire to determine which of their patients might benefit from treatment at the NHS Rehabilitation Centre."***

**The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire would like to see the Lincolnshire commissioners fully engaged in this work, so that as many Lincolnshire patients as possible are offered the benefits of the new rehabilitation centre, and waiting times are improved.**

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