

# 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>13 October 2021</b>
Subject:	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b>

## 1. Information Requested at the Last Meeting – 15 September 2021

Lakeside Healthcare, Stamford, Action Plan (Minute 28) – The Committee's request for action plan from Lakeside Stamford in response to the Care Quality Commission's report remains outstanding.

North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust Two Year Recovery Plan (Minute 31) – At this stage the two year recovery plan by North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust is still in development and will be circulated when it becomes available.

Health Infrastructure Plan: Future New Hospitals Programme (Minute 27) – It is not expected that any detailed information will be published before the Department of Health and Social Care moves from the expressions of interest stage to the long-listing stage of its decision-making process, which is due to take place later this year.

## 2. Decisions of Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Board

On 30 September 2021, Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) Board approved two service changes, which had previously been considered by this Committee on 21 July 2021:

### Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services – Crisis and Enhanced Treatment Team

The LPFT board approved the Crisis and Enhanced Treatment Team as the permanent model of care, a decision which was also supported by NHS England. This Committee had given its in-principle support to this and had requested that LPFT continue to monitor the number of young people treated at out-of-county general adolescent units; and to report any significant increases in their use to the Committee.

## Older Adults Mental Health Services

This Committee supported a proposal for make the closure of the Rochford Ward at Pilgrim Hospital permanent, with the continuation of the Home Treatment Service. A request was made for monitoring of demand for in-patient beds, particularly form the east of the county. The KLPFT Board made its decision as set out in the proposal.

### **3. Covid-19 Recovery**

The Committee has previously recorded information on the recovery of the local NHS from the impacts of Covid-19. On 29 September, the Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group Board received the following summary information on the impacts of Covid-19:

#### Demand for NHS Services

"All NHS services in Lincolnshire are continuing to experience exceptional levels of patient demand. This is particularly noticeable in urgent and emergency care services, where GPs, Urgent Treatment Centres, A&E services and EMAS Ambulance Services are reporting continuous levels of demand beyond that experienced in the depths of winter. It is anticipated that this position will continue through to Spring 2022."

#### Elective Operations and Waiting Lists

"With regards to elective operations the increased pressure in hospitals of both Covid Inpatients combined with emergency demand is starting to impact upon elective operations. Many NHS hospital trusts have had to take decisions to cancel routine electives and in Lincolnshire United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust is day by day assessing the ability to operate on patients who would require either an Intensive Care Bed (ICU) or High Dependency (HDU) bed post-surgery.

- a. In July 2021 the total waiting list size for Lincolnshire patients at all hospitals was 80,800 people. This compares to 61,300 in July 2020.
- b. Prior to the pandemic Lincolnshire only had 7 patients waiting longer than 52 weeks for an elective procedure, all of which was for a specialist operation out of county. Today the number of Lincolnshire patients waiting over 52 weeks is more than 2,200 across all providers of which 768 are at Lincolnshire hospitals.
- c. Whilst these patient numbers are a huge concern, Lincolnshire compares well with other systems in England, mostly because of the 'green site' arrangements at Grantham Hospital which meant that many elective procedures were still able to be undertaken.
- d. Within Lincolnshire NHS our surgical teams are working exceptionally hard to improve our position for patients, and we are also supported by the Independent Sector.

- e. We have recently launched a communications initiative aimed at supporting patients who are waiting for appointments at hospital guiding them to the most appropriate place for queries."

#### Cancer Waiting Times

"Cancer Waiting times are beginning to rise again due to the operational pressures felt in acute trusts and the impact that has on ICU/HDU beds post-surgery. The largest backlogs remain in surgical specialities that are the same regionally therefore mutual aid to support is constrained.

- a. Trusts continue to clinically prioritise patients with the focus on treating those cancer patients that are clinically urgent - these are Priority 1 patients who need surgery within 72 hours, and Priority 2 patients who need surgery within a month.
- b. We currently have no Priority 1 patients waiting, and Priority 2 patients are treated within an average of 4.1 weeks which is slightly above the regional average.
- c. The NHS locally is exploring further with Independent Sector Providers to give additional support to assist with cancer patients."

#### Mental Health

"Within mental health, both 24/7 mental health helplines (one for adults, and one for children) continue to be available to our population across the county. In addition, we are supporting Primary Care with funding to support patients with Severe Mental Illness and along with the County Council have launched a series of engagement workshops to support the delivery of the National Autism Strategy."

#### **4. Department of Health and Social Care Ministerial Team**

Following the recent cabinet reshuffle the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care (The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP), and the Minister of State for Health (Edward Argar MP) continue in their roles. Gillian Keegan MP has been appointed as the Minister of State for Care and Mental Health. There are three other new ministers (parliamentary under-secretaries): Maria Caulfield MP (Patient Safety and Primary Care); Maggie Throup MP (Vaccines and Public Health); and Lord Kamall (Technology, Innovation and Life Sciences).

#### **5. Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust – Appointment of Chief Executive**

On 17 September 2021, Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) announced that Maz Fosh had been appointed as its permanent Chief Executive with immediate effect, following a national recruitment process. Maz had been acting in an interim capacity for the last two years.

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