

Agenda Item 8

		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

**Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham
Executive Director - Resources**

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	12 October 2022
Subject:	Lincoln Medical School

Summary

Professor Danny McLoughlin, the Associate Dean of Lincoln Medical School, is due to provide a presentation on Lincoln Medical School.

Actions Requested

To consider the information presented on the Lincoln Medical School.

1. Establishment of Lincoln Medical School

Expansion of Medical Training and Creation of New Medical Schools

In 2016, the Government announced its commitment to expanding the number of undergraduate medical training places by increasing the annual intake of medical students in England by 1,500, an increase from 6,000 to 7,500. This would be achieved by both the expansion of existing medical schools and the creation of new medical schools. As there was evidence that doctors were more likely to work in the areas where they trained, one of the aims of the new medical schools was to recruit and attract doctors to parts of the country that had historically a relative shortage of medical staff. Five new medical schools were created in England, and authorised by General Medical Council, and the Lincoln Medical School was one of the five.

Lincoln Medical School

The Lincoln Medical School was established in 2018, as a joint venture between the Universities of Lincoln and Nottingham, and would address the specific aim of improving the recruitment and retention of doctors to Lincolnshire. The first students started their studies in September 2019. The Lincoln Medical School offers two courses:

- the five-year Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery (BMBS) Medicine degree; and
- the six-year Foundation Year and Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery (BMBS) Medicine degree.

New Building and Facilities

For the first two years, students were taught in existing university buildings. In March 2021, a new purpose-built Ross Lucas Medical Sciences Building was completed, which incorporates lecture theatres, laboratories, a clinical skills suite with consultation rooms, a prosection anatomy suite, and a bio-medical and health sciences library. It is the most sustainable building on the University of Lincoln estate and features both solar panels and a 'living wall'.

Student Numbers

The Medical School is expecting the following student numbers for September 2022:

Year 0 -	20
Year 1 -	80
Year 2 -	90
Year 3 -	102
Year 4 -	75
Total -	367

An additional 80 students will enrol in September 2023, at which point the Medical School will be in a steady state.

2. Course Content

The course is split into two phases: the early years, where students can learn the skills and knowledge required to become a doctor and complete a research project; and the later years, called the Clinical Phase, where students put their learning into practice on placements at hospitals and GP surgeries.

The third year begins with a supervised research project in an area of each student's choice and an accompanying research methods module to help with the project. Students are also able to take two optional advanced medical science modules which may or may not be related to their project.

Students will also spend a compulsory week in primary care developing skills to assess patients in a general practice environment and participate in a therapeutics module that aims to develop prescribing skills before they move into the clinical phases of the programme.

The final two years form the majority of the Clinical Phase. Students rotate through a series of placements at hospitals and within primary care across the region. These years are designed to provide the professional knowledge, skills, values, and behaviours to succeed through direct experience.

During both years there will be the option of student-selected modules will end with a six-week elective of choice, which can take place in the UK or abroad, and a medical assistantship to prepare students for the UK Foundation Programme.

3. After Graduation

Following graduation with a BMBS degree, students can obtain provisional registration with the General Medical Council and a licence to practise Medicine, and begin the two-year Foundation Programme ('F1' and 'F2'), which allows graduates to put into practice their learning in preparation for practising as a fully registered doctor in the UK.

Completion of F2 will lead to the award of a *Foundation Programme Certificate of Completion*, which indicates that a foundation doctor is ready to enter a core, specialty or general practice training programme, which can last from three years (for example, for a GP) to six or more years for many other specialties (such as trauma and orthopaedics; and emergency medicine).

4. Benefits of Medical School for Lincolnshire

For many years, the establishment of a local medical school at the University of Lincoln has been supported by the local community, as a means of raising the profile of Lincolnshire, as a place for medical professionals to live, work and develop their careers.

5. Other Health and Care Related Undergraduate Degree Courses at University of Lincoln

The University of Lincoln's School of Health and Social Care continues to provide a number of undergraduate degree courses, which support the training and development of health and care staff. These courses include:

- Midwifery
- Nursing (Registered Nurse – Adult)
- Nursing (Registered Nurse – Child)
- Nursing (Registered nurse - Mental Health)
- Paramedic Science
- Physiotherapy

The University of Lincoln's School of Pharmacy also offers an MPharm degree, accredited by the General Pharmaceutical Council, that allows graduates to take up employment as a pre-registration Pharmacist in the NHS.

6. Consultation

This is not a consultation item.

7. Conclusion

The Committee is requested to consider the information presented on the Lincoln Medical School.

8. Background Papers - No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 07717 868930 or by e-mail at Simon.Evans@lincolnshire.gov.uk