


Agenda Item 5

		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

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	9 November 2022
Subject:	Supplementary Chairman's Announcements

1. Temporary Closure of Lincolnshire's Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit for Men (Hartsholme Centre, Lincoln)

On 1 November 2022 Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) announced the temporary closure of the Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at the Hartsholme Centre, Long Leys Road, Lincoln, suspending new admissions with immediate effect. The Hartsholme Centre is a ten-bed PICU for men and provides a service for the whole of Lincolnshire. The service offers intensive psychiatric care to patients with complex and challenging needs, who may require an increased level of staff support and who may not be managed on other mental health wards.

LPFT stated that it had taken the decision to close the Hartsholme Centre temporarily, because despite significant work to recruit staff and retain the current workforce, it had become clear that LPFT no longer had enough staff to safely and effectively run all of its adult mental health wards. Furthermore, recruitment in the NHS nationally remains a challenge and LPFT, like all mental health trusts, is experiencing difficulties attracting people to work in Lincolnshire.

As of 1 November 2022, the Hartsholme Centre had four patients, all of whom already had plans prior to the decision to close to step up or step down their care. The Trust would be working with its other services to find suitable alternative placements.

During the temporary closure the Trust has stated that it will continue to provide a robust crisis, assessment hospital service for those with mental health needs, however, a small number of men who require higher levels of care, may have to travel outside of Lincolnshire to alternative psychiatric intensive care sites.

LPFT also stated that it will be working closely with neighbouring services to minimise any distance travelled and continue to support patients and their carers and families throughout their admission.

A report on the temporary closure has been requested for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting of the Committee on 14 December 2022.

2. Spalding GP Surgery – Dispersal of Patient List

Between 13 July and 9 September 2022, NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) held a public consultation to inform its approach to seeking expressions of interest from alternative providers following the ICB's decision to disperse the patient list of the Spalding Surgery. The Committee had previously been given a dispensation to make its response at its meeting on 14 September, which owing to the period of national mourning did not proceed.

An informal response to the consultation was prepared in consultation with members of the Committee, and submitted to NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board on 23 September 2022, in which the importance of resilience and capacity of other GP practices; and continuity of care were stressed. The response also referred to the plans for the continuation of services at the Johnson Community Hospital in Spalding.

On 4 November 2022, the ICB announced that patients registered at the Spalding GP Surgery would be transferred to the Gosberton Medical Centre. The surgery currently has over 7,500 patients on its list and is rated as *Good* by the Care Quality Commission. The GP Patient Survey shows that 91% of patients describe their overall experience as good. The GP Partners at Gosberton have stated that they are looking forward to welcoming the new patients in the coming weeks.

The ICB has also stated that Gosberton Medical Centre is keen to develop plans with the ICB, including delivering services at Johnson Community Hospital. The ICB has stated that patients should not experience any disruption and should continue to access services at Spalding GP Surgery until informed otherwise. Further details are being developed, and Spalding GP Surgery patients will receive letters to confirm the changes.