

Agenda Item 4

 Lincolnshire COUNTY COUNCIL <i>Working for a better future</i>		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:	15 February 2023
Subject:	Chairman's Supplementary Announcements

1. Care Quality Commission Reports on GP Practices

Since the last meeting of the Committee, two inspection reports have been issued by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on GP practices, where the rating following the inspection has remained or been *inadequate*.

Hawthorn Medical Practice, Skegness

On 9 February 2023, the CQC published an inspection report on Hawthorn Medical Practice, Skegness. This followed a previous CQC report published on 30 September 2022, which had rated Hawthorn as *inadequate* overall and placed the practice in special measures. Actions in response to the report were considered by this Committee on 9 November 2023.

The February 2023 report, which followed an inspection on 14 December 2022, specifically reviewed compliance with the required actions from 19 previous warning notices. The practice's ratings were not considered, so ratings from August 2022 continue to apply. The CQC will re-inspect within the next six months. The February report found Hawthorn had complied with 15 of the 19 actions; and partially complied with a further two. The two areas of non-compliance related to: acting on patient views; and establishing a patient participation group (PPG). Although the CQC found evidence of efforts to form a PPG, one was still not in place.

All CQC reports relating to Hawthorn Medical Practice are available at the following link:

[Hawthorn Medical Practice - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk)

Branston GP Surgery

On 19 January 2023, the CQC published an inspection report on Branston GP Practice, following an inspection on 9 November 2022. The overall rating for the practices was *inadequate*. The CQC also recorded an *inadequate* rating for two of its domains: are services safe? and are services well-led?

The CQC found that:

- The practice did not always provide care in a way that kept patients safe and protected them from avoidable harm.
- Patients did not always receive effective care and treatment that met their needs.
- The provider did not have effective oversight of the systems and processes designed to deliver safe and effective care.
- Governance systems were ineffective.
- The provider did not have systems and processes in place to identify and manage risk that may affect delivery of safe and effective care.
- Staff did not always have the training and supervision required.

The CQC found four breaches of regulations. As a result, the practice must

- ensure care and treatment is provided in a safe way to patients;
- ensure patients are protected from abuse and improper treatment;
- establish effective systems and processes to ensure good governance in accordance with the fundamental standards of care; and
- ensure sufficient numbers of suitably qualified, competent, skilled and experienced persons are deployed to meet the fundamental standards of care and treatment.

The CQC's reports on Branston GP Surgery are available at the following link:

[Branston Surgery - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk/public/inspections/2023/branston-gp-surgery)

2. Scotter Ward in John Coupland Hospital in Gainsborough

On 7 February 2023, Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) announced that improvement works had begun at Scotter Ward in John Coupland Hospital in Gainsborough. Scotter Ward provides care:

- for patients who need inpatient care or rehabilitation, usually after a transfer from an acute hospital; and
- for some patients who have been seen in an A&E or an urgent treatment centre and a community ward is suited for their needs.

The hospital building, which is owned and managed by NHS Property Services, will undergo necessary improvements at a cost of £3.5 million, and will create three new four-bedded rooms; four single bedrooms; and one larger palliative care suite.

The main features of the works will be:

- fully accessible ensuite shower rooms;
- an improved day room for therapy or visiting;
- a larger medication and treatment room;
- a larger staff room and separate changing rooms;
- ground floor location, allowing easier access for patients and visitors; and
- dementia-friendly decor.

The works are scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2023.

3. Lincolnshire System Recovery Support Programme

Papers submitted to the NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) meeting on 31 January 2023 indicated that the NHS in Lincolnshire would continue to be monitored by NHS England as part of its recovery support programme (RSP) beyond the previous planned exit date of 31 March 2023. A letter from NHS England, dated 14 December 2022, circulated as part of the Board's papers indicated that the Lincolnshire system had not made the required progress against the exit criteria, specifically the delivery of the system financial improvement plan. The letter referred to the next steps, which included a new plan, which would be presented to NHS England's support oversight group in February or March 2023.

System Financial Management

A report on system financial management, also submitted to the NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) meeting on 31 January 2023, stated that the system had a target of £4 million deficit at month nine of 2022/23, and a plan to breakeven against allocations by month twelve. The actual position was a deficit of £19.3 million, which was £15.3 million adverse variance to plan. The report stated that the considerable level of identified and unmitigated financial risk threatened the Lincolnshire system's intention to deliver a breakeven position.

The report stated that the system was working with NHS England to seek to enact a protocol, which would enable reporting of the anticipated deficit position from month ten onwards. The report stated that "enacting the protocol to deliver a financial deficit would bring about a rigorous process for moving away from an approved financial plan with formalised layers of key lines of enquiry and monitoring and management of key controls."

4. The Lincolnshire NHS Strategy - Consultation

The Health and Care Act 2022 requires all NHS integrated care boards and local trusts to prepare a joint forward plan, which for 2023 is required by 30 June 2023. The NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) will refer to its plan as the Lincolnshire NHS Strategy and stated the document will describe how the NHS in Lincolnshire intend to provide NHS services to meet the needs of Lincolnshire populations' physical and mental health needs.

As a starting point, the ICB has launched a survey for members of the public, with a deadline for responses of 21 February 2023. This survey seeks views on the development of local services that work for local people, in line national priorities. The survey is available at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NHSLincs5YearPlan>

The Lincolnshire NHS Strategy is separate from the Integrated Care Strategy, which was considered by this Committee in December 2022. The Integrated Care Strategy is a partnership plan, not solely focused on the NHS, in which all partners will address the wider determinants of health linked to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

5. North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust Recovery Plan

Further to paragraph 2(b) of my announcements circulated with the agenda, performance measures on the recovery of planned care at North West Anglia NHS Trust (NWAFT) are monitored internally on a weekly basis and externally to NHS England, both regionally and nationally.

Reports are also made to the public meeting of NWAFT's board of directors, which meets every two months. The report to the board of directors on 14 February 2023 indicated that as of 6 February 2023, 424 patients were waiting over 78 weeks, a reduction of 52 compared to the previous week. The national requirement is that all patients waiting over 78 weeks will receive an outpatient appointment and first definitive treatment by 31 March 2023. The report provided details on three specialties:

Urology

As of 6 February 2023, there were 109 patients waiting more than 78 weeks for urology care, 16 fewer patients than the previous week. The report indicated that urology was moving ahead of its trajectory, with the weekly rate of appointments remaining strong, with additional capacity secured for January to March 2023.

Ophthalmology

As of 6 February 2023, there were 111 patients waiting more than 78 weeks for ophthalmology, 24 fewer patients than the previous week. As above, the report indicated that ophthalmology was ahead of its trajectory. However, challenges were identified in paediatric and corneal sub-specialties, where there was limited in-house capacity and specialists.

Ear, Nose and Throat

As of 6 February 2023, there were 70 patients waiting more than 78 weeks for ear, nose and throat service, 24 fewer patients than the previous week. The report to the board indicated that this service remained off-trajectory, although all non-admitted patients waiting over 78 weeks were due to be seen by mid-February 2023.