

Agenda Item 4

		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:	13 September 2023
Subject:	Chairman's Announcements

1. Councillor Ray Wootten

I would like to say a few words about Ray Wootten, who passed away on 27 August 2023. Ray, who was first elected to Lincolnshire County Council in 2009, served as a county council representative on the Health Scrutiny Committee from July 2019. As a committee member, he was dedicated to health issues across the whole county, but he will be remembered for his championing of health services for people in Grantham and the surrounding area, in particular for overnight urgent and emergency care at Grantham and District Hospital.

2. Rosemary Kaberry-Brown

I would also like to say a few words about Rosemary Kaberry-Brown, who passed away on 3 August 2023. As a South Kesteven District Councillor, Rosemary represented that district on the Health Scrutiny Committee from May 2011 until January 2022. In her eleven years on the Committee, Rosemary always made thoughtful and valued contributions, when challenging the NHS on its services.

3. New Community Diagnostic Centres in Lincolnshire

On 4 August 2023, the Government announced plans for the opening of a further 13 community diagnostic centres (CDCs) in England. Two of these will be in Lincolnshire: Lincoln and Skegness, with investment totalling £38 million. They will join Grantham CDC, which opened in April 2022 and has undertaken 59,000 diagnostic tests to date, to bring the total to three CDCs in the county.

A CDC provides provide a range of patient diagnostic services, such as x-ray and ultrasound, and are designed to be 'one stop shops' that are able to check, test and scan patients for a range of conditions from cancer to heart or lung disease.

The new CDCs will be modular buildings, which means that they can be built relatively quickly and cost efficiently. With the funding now confirmed the expectation is that, whilst the CDCs are under construction, a mobile MRI service will commence on both sites from December 2023 providing additional capacity for Lincolnshire patients. Further services will then be added with the CDCs being fully operational by September 2024. This will include CT, X-ray, ultrasound, and other supporting diagnostics.

In July 2022, NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board consulted this Committee on its preferred location for the second CDC in Lincolnshire, subject to the completion of satisfactory business cases and approval by NHS England. At that time the Committee's preference was for a hub and spoke model, with the hub in Boston and spokes in Skegness.

4. Manthorpe Unit, Grantham and District Hospital – Engagement Events

On 3 August 2023, Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) announced further engagement events on the temporary closure of the Manthorpe Unit at Grantham and District Hospital, together with an online survey. These details were emailed to members of the Committee on 3 August, as several of the engagement events were due to be held during August and early September. The remaining engagement events (from the despatch date of this agenda on 5 September) are:

- 6 September (10am – midday), Dementia Coffee Morning, Alford Memorial Hall, Alford.
- 6 September (1pm – 2pm), Alford Surgery, Alford.
- 8 September (9am – 1pm), Isaac Newton Shopping Centre, Grantham.
- 13 September (9.30 am – midday) Grantham and District Hospital (outside restaurant).
- 14 September, Lincolnshire Housing Partnership Mayfield, Boston.
- 19 September (2pm – 4pm), Welland Seniors Forum, United Reformed Church Hall, Spalding.
- 20 September (6pm – 7pm), Senior Citizens Advice Group, Grantham.
- 21 September (10 am – 3pm), Boston Primary Care Network Neighbourhood Networking Event, Boston.
- 28 September (10.30 am), Square Hole Club, Deepings Sports and Social Club, Market Deeping.
- 29 September (11 am – 3pm), the Care Fair, Guildhall Arts Centre, Grantham.
- 29 September, Age Friendly Lincolnshire Conference 2023, New Life Centre, Sleaford.

Details of the engagement activity and a link to the online survey can be found at : <https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/get-involved/service-user-and-carer-engagement/expansion-hospital-home-pilot>

5. Care Quality Commission Report on Two Children's Wards at Lincoln County Hospital

On 2 August 2023, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published a report following an inspection of two children's wards at Lincoln County Hospital, which had taken place on 31 May 2023. The CQC issue a new rating for the service, following the inspection, so the previous rating of *good* remains in place. The full report may be found at: [Lincoln County Hospital - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications-reports/lincoln-county-hospital)

In its report the CQC summarised its findings as follows:

- The service had systems and processes to prescribe and administer medicines safely.
- Staff learned from medicine incidents to improve practice.
- Action was taken and lessons were learnt.
- The service had enough staff to care for children and young people and keep them safe.
- However, the service did not have specialist equipment to support children and young people to meet their individual needs.

6. Care Quality Commission Report on Caskgate Street Surgery, Gainsborough

On 2 August 2023, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published an inspection report on Caskgate Street Surgery in Gainsborough. This followed an inspection which took place on 24 May 2023, and gave the GP practice an overall rating of *inadequate* and placed it in special measures. The service will be inspected again within six months, to see if sufficient improvements have been made. The full report and evidence table for the inspection may be found at: [Caskgate Street Surgery - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications-reports/caskgate-street-surgery).

In its report, the CQC summarised its findings as follows:

- The practice did not provide care in a way that kept patients safe and protected them from avoidable harm.
- Safety alerts were not being received and acted upon, which put patients at risk.
- There were gaps in systems to assess, monitor and manage risks to patient safety.
- Not all patients received effective care and treatment that met their needs. Patients with long term conditions were not always reviewed effectively.
- Staff did not have the information they needed to deliver safe care and treatment.
- Staff dealt with patients with kindness and respect and involved them in decisions about their care.
- Patients could access care and treatment in a timely way.
- Patients' needs were not assessed, and care and treatment was not delivered in line with current legislation.
- Leaders could not demonstrate they had the capacity and skills to deliver high quality sustainable care.
- The overall governance arrangements were inadequate.

7. Seasonal Vaccination Programmes for Covid-19 and Influenza

On 10 August 2023, the Government announced that it had accepted the final recommendations from the Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation on the seasonal vaccination programmes for Covid-19 and influenza. These programmes will now begin on 11 September 2023. The groups to be offered a Covid-19 booster vaccine are:

- residents in a care home for older adults;
- people aged 65 years and over;
- persons aged 6 months to 64 years in the defined Covid-19 clinical risk group;
- frontline health and social care workers;
- persons aged 12 to 64 years who are household contacts of people with immunosuppression; and
- persons aged 16 to 64 years who are carers and staff working in care homes for older adults.

The following groups will be eligible for an influenza vaccine:

- people aged 65 years and over;
- those aged 6 months to under 65 years in the defined influenza clinical risk groups;
- pregnant women;
- all children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2023 and primary school aged children (from reception to year 6);
- those in long-stay residential care homes;
- carers in receipt of carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person;
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals; and
- frontline workers in a health or social care setting.

8. NHS Annual Public Meetings 2023

Set out below are the dates for the four annual public meetings of Lincolnshire-based NHS organisations. All these meetings are taking place remotely and there is no requirement for registration in advance. Details of each are available at each link, including the arrangements and closing date for submitting questions at each meeting.

Date / Time	Trust	Hyperlink for Further Details
11 September 10 am	Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Annual Public and Members Meeting LPFT
18 September 2.00 – 3.00 pm	United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust	Annual Public Meeting - ULHT
19 September 12.30 - 1.30 pm	Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust	Annual Public Meeting - LCHS
26 September 4.30 – 6.00 pm	NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	Annual Public Meeting Lincolnshire ICB

Details of the meeting of Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation were emailed to members of the Committee on 21 August 2023.

9. Healthwatch Lincolnshire Forward Vision Event – 31 October 2023

Healthwatch Lincolnshire has announced that its *Forward Vision Event* is being held on 31 October 2023 from 10 am to 3 pm, at Bishops Grosseteste University, Longdales Road, Lincoln LN1 3DY.

Healthwatch Lincolnshire will present its annual report and plans for the coming year, and as previously there will be a panel of Lincolnshire's health and social care leaders to discuss their challenges and opportunities. The panel will include: John Turner, Chief Executive, NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board; Glen Garrod, Executive Director for Adult Care and Community Wellbeing, Lincolnshire County Council; Andrew Morgan, Chief Executive, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust and Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust; and Sarah Connery, Chief Executive, Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Details, including the link to register for the event can be found at: [Healthwatch Lincolnshire Forward Vision Event 2023 | Healthwatch Lincolnshire](#)

10. GP Patient Survey 2023

On 13 July 2023, the results of the 2023 England GP patient survey was published. In Lincolnshire 24,956 questionnaires were issued and 9,872 were returned, representing a response rate of 40%. There is a significant amount of data arising from this survey, which may be found at: [Statistics » GP Patient Survey 2023 \(england.nhs.uk\)](#) and in greater detail at [GP Patient Survey \(gp-patient.co.uk\)](#).

Just as a snapshot, in response to the question on how you would describe your GP practice, in Lincolnshire 71% responded to either 'good' or 'fairly good', while 14% responded 'poor' or 'fairly poor'. These figures directly correspond to the national average. Also in line with the national average are the responses to the question how easy it is to get through to the GP practice on the phone: 'easy' 50%, 'not easy' 50%.

84% of respondents in Lincolnshire found receptionists at GP practices 'helpful', compared to the national average of 82%. The number of respondents who described their overall experience of making an appointment 'good' was 57%, again higher than the national average of 54%.

11. Intermediate Minor Oral Surgery – East Midlands Stakeholder Briefing

Since 1 April 2023, the five NHS integrated care boards in the East Midlands have been responsible for commissioning NHS Dental Services, including primary, community and secondary care. A stakeholder briefing has been issued on behalf of the five integrated care boards on Intermediate Minor Oral Surgery, which is attached to these announcements at Appendix A.

Intermediate Minor Oral Surgery East Midlands Stakeholder Briefing

1 Introduction

The purpose of this briefing paper is to provide an update to Health and Wellbeing Boards, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and key stakeholders on the East Midlands Intermediate Minor Oral Surgery (IMOS) services procurement process and next steps.

2 Background Information

From 1 April 2023, the five East Midlands ICBs are now responsible for commissioning NHS Dental Services e.g. primary, community and secondary care to meet the local population needs.

Intermediate Minor Oral Surgery (IMOS) is a referral service for over 16 years and is provided within a community setting. The service provides specialist treatment e.g. complex dental extractions by a clinician with enhanced skills and experience that is either on the oral surgery specialist list or accredited in line with national guidance. Treatment may be provided under local anaesthetic and the clinician may use quality behavioural management techniques or provide treatment under conscious sedation where appropriate for minor oral surgery procedures. Once the one-off treatment has been completed, the patient is then returned to the referring General Dental Practitioner.

The IMOS contracts are commissioned using a Personal Dental Services (PDS) Agreement, the earliest of which commenced in 2008/09 and are due to expire. The existing contractual agreements have no Units of Dental Activity (UDA) contracted activity nor financial value, financial payments are made in arrears based on claims submitted for cost per case for either assessment, assessment and treatment or assessment, treatment and sedation.

There are 36 IMOS providers across the East Midlands area, which cover Northamptonshire, Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Due to historic contracting arrangements, the service arrangements are on different contracting terms and payments rates. Within the existing contracting arrangements treatment may be provided under conscious sedation in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. However, there is limited access in Lincolnshire/Northamptonshire and no access in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. In 2019/20, the service accepted approximately 37,000 referrals and treated 33,000 patients.

A Midlands IMOS service specification has been developed in line with the NHS England Oral Surgery Commissioning Guide to standardised the service model, payments and reduce inequalities in access/treatment under conscious sedation, where appropriate. Approval was obtained to enable new Personal Dental Services Agreement with a contracting term of 10 years (7 years with the option to extend for a further 3 years).

An East Midlands Minor Oral Surgery Needs Assessment was refreshed to support with developing commissioning intentions to meet population need. Engagement and consultation processes were undertaken to seek feedback from patients and public, dental profession and key stakeholders. The consultation proposal sought views on 10 proposed locations across the East Midlands. The feedback was considered, and the proposed locations were revised from 10 to 17.

3 Procurement Process and Outcome

The IMOS procurement process was published on 25 August 2022 following market engagement webinar and due to the large scale of the procurement exercise being undertaken, bidders would be notified of the outcome in May 2023. This is to enable sufficient time for bids to be evaluated. The new contracts to commence on 1 December 2023 following a 6-month mobilisation period. All bids were assessed to determine they were compliant e.g. all sections have been completed to enable them to pass through to the evaluation phase. As part of the evaluation, bids were required to pass mandatory questions and meet a quality threshold of 60% and the bidder with the highest score for each individual lot who met this criteria would be identified as the preferred bidder. A project group of Subject Matter Experts evaluated the bids.

Bidders have been advised there has been a slight delay regarding outcome notification. There has been a 3-month delay to notifying bidders of the outcome of the procurement exercise to enable internal governance processes to be undertaken.

We can confirm that there was sufficient interest shown across all 17 Lots (new contracts), however, upon evaluating submissions the general quality was poor with a surprisingly high level of bids which failed at various gateway stages of the process. The commissioners have therefore taken the decision to abandon the procurement in its entirety and not to award any contracts in respect of any of the 17 lots on the basis that to commission any of these IMOS services on a piecemeal basis, and to continue with this procurement, would result in an unworkable and unmanageable mixed economy of old and new service models, which would negatively affect equity of access for patients and increase budget pressures.

Bidders have been notified of the outcome the procurement process on 30 August 2023 and assurance has been given that the strategic need to recommission IMOS services across the East Midlands has not diminished or changed.

4 Next Steps

Due to the outcome of the procurement exercise, it has been agreed to extend existing IMOS services across the East Midlands for an initial period of 1 year and then up to 2 years in 6-month intervals, if required, to maintain patient access to the specialist tier 2 IMOS service. This will enable the commissioners to use lessons learned from this process to engage in pre-procurement market engagement activities to support potential providers, in order to support and educate on the tendering process in a way that the commissioners hope will significantly increase the quality of bids received. The commissioner is planning to launch a second procurement exercise within the next 12 months. We will continue to update Health and Wellbeing Boards, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and key stakeholders on our recommissioning plans.