

# 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>21 February 2024</b>
Subject:	<b>Chairman's Supplementary Announcements</b>

## 1. Information Requested at Previous Meeting

### NHS Digital Data on GP Practices

NHS Digital compiles experimental statistics which captures a wide range of information from GPs. This information includes:

- the total number of appointments offered, including the number of same-day appointments;
- the number of appointments where patients did not attend;
- whether appointments were in-person or by telephone/online;
- the number of appointments recorded in Primary Care Network appointment systems;
- the number of appointments offered, analysed by the time between the booking date and the appointment date;
- the number of appointments undertaken by a GP or other healthcare professional;
- the number of appointments offered each day, including weekends, over each monthly reporting period;
- the number of Covid-19 vaccination appointments.

Whilst there is an extensive range of data, NHS Digital statistics do not include information on the number of appointments per annum analysed by patient age cohort.

### Other Information Requested at the Last Meeting

The other requests for information made at the last meeting in relation to 1(b) [*East Midlands Ambulance Service*] and 1(d) [*Use of Former RAF Scampton Site for Asylum Seekers*] will be circulated when available.

**2. Government Consultation on Giving the General Dental Council Powers to Register Dentists on Temporary Basis**

On 16 February 2024, the government announced a consultation on proposals to give the General Dental Council (GDC), which regulates dentists in the UK, powers to provisionally register dentists trained abroad. Currently dentists, who have overseas qualifications and who seek to register in the UK, are required to pass exams over several years. The government states that the proposals would attract more dentists trained abroad to the UK as part of a plan to improve access to dentistry services. Around 30 per cent of all dentists on the GDC register qualified outside of the UK, and in 2022, 46 per cent of new additions to the register were trained overseas.

Under the proposals, the GDC would be given autonomy to set the terms for provisional registrations to ensure high levels of patient safety and quality of care. Those on the provisional register would be able to work in the UK, but only under the supervision of a fully GDC-registered dentist. Following conclusion of the three-month consultation, responses will be analysed and used to finalise the required legislation.

The government states that the consultation forms part of the wider dental recovery plan. Measures in the plan include payments for dentists taking on new NHS patients and 'golden hellos' worth £20,000 over three years for working in underserved areas. These and other measures are expected to create an additional 2.5 million dental appointments.

**3. Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, King's Lynn - Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete**

On 16 February 2024, Queen Elizabeth's Hospital (QEH) King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust, which is used by many patients in the south east of Lincolnshire, issued its latest newsletter. The newsletter states that an 18-month project on Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in QEH, which began in December 2023, is progressing well. This work is being carried out by a team of specialist structural engineers, to assess the condition of the RAAC panels in the walls and to carry out any preventative work. The teams are working hard to keep disruption to a minimum for both patients and staff and a schedule of work is in place to keep noise to a minimum.

**4. Group Chief Executive Officer: Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust and United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust**

As previously reported, Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) and United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT) are adopting a group arrangement, with a single senior management structure, with effect from 1 April 2024. Elaine Baylis, who has been designated as the Group Chair, has announced that Andrew Morgan, who is the current joint Chief Executive of LCHS and ULHT and who had been due retire on 31 March, has agreed to continue in these roles, as Group Chief Executive, until the end of June 2024. This will allow both recruitment into this important senior role and a period of transition for the new postholder.