



Integrated Care Board

Board Meeting Bulletin | 22 November 2022

The NHS Lincolnshire ICB Board recognises colleagues across all our partners within the health and care system are under increasing pressure. We know how challenging it is and want to thank everybody for their ongoing work and commitment. It is very much appreciated.

We are pleased to share the key agreements and updates from November's NHS Lincolnshire ICB Board meeting below, in accordance with our four core purposes:

1. To tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access

- The board heard from Sue Jarvis, Maternity Transformation Programme Manager in Lincolnshire, about the excellent work that the [Better Births programme](#) is delivering for families in the county. Key challenges were described, including congenital abnormalities, consequence of prematurity and maternal smoking in pregnancy.

Tackling these and others is at the heart of the transformation strategy, so the team undertake a high level of local engagement. This has effected numerous changes to pathways e.g. at time of booking carbon monoxide levels are checked. The usual reason for a high reading level is exposure to cigarette smoke, either direct or passive. High levels can also indicate a faulty gas or heating appliance at home or use of a car with a faulty exhaust. Our midwives will then explore the reason and share ways of eliminating exposure, often linking pregnant women into a range of services to support quitting smoking. The Board wish to say thank you and congratulate everyone contributing to this work for the difference it is making to people in the county.

- Healthwatch Lincolnshire reported key areas of public concern the organisation continues to be contacted about. These include:
 - Care not being joined up enough, feelings of being passed around the system, and poor communication between departments.
 - Family worries due to not being able to reach elderly relatives in hospital for updates on their condition, primarily when they were attending A&E.
 - Frustrations due to not being able to access NHS dental services.
 - Numerous pharmacies no longer providing dosette boxes is causing problems for many people with dosage and accurately taking medication.
- £4.9m additional recurrent funding to support social care discharge has been awarded to Lincolnshire, via Lincolnshire County Council and NHS Lincolnshire ICB together. In return for the extra funding, the government is expecting the NHS to deliver a greater number of care packages to enable people to leave hospital when they are ready to do so. This will deliver improved performance on ambulance response times and A&E waiting times. More information can be found here: [Autumn Statement 2022: what you need to know | NHS Confederation](#)
- It was confirmed that our system-wide bid for funding to establish Lincolnshire as a Health Inequalities accelerator site to improve early diagnoses of colorectal cancer has been submitted. If successful, this project would incorporate the co-design of a specific pathway to improve outcomes for patients with Personalisation at its core.



2. To improve outcomes in population health and healthcare

There were a number of updates on services and their impact for the people of Lincolnshire:

- The [Lincolnshire system's Winter Plan](#) was approved by the Board. Our plan prioritises the avoidance of patient harm by adopting an approach that focuses on clinical risk, as recommended by clinicians from across our system at our clinical summit. The full plan can be found within the full board papers here: [ICB Board Meeting | 22nd November 2022 - Lincolnshire ICB.](#)
- ULHT are currently implementing 'Breaking the Cycle' which asks hospital wards to receive a higher number of patients from A&E, reducing the pressures there. In its first two weeks this has significantly reduced ambulance handover delays.
- Lincolnshire's [Mental Health Urgent Assessment Centre \(MHUAC\)](#) is helping approximately 100 people a month, meaning they are able avoid A&E, which is not the right place for them to be.
- [Cancer backlogs](#) in the county continue to reduce. More people who need support at this difficult time are being seen sooner, and we continue to seek reductions in very challenged specialities.
- Our [elective pathway wait lists](#) are also reducing, though we need to do more and plans are in place to support specialities who have the greatest challenges.

3. To enhance productivity and value for money

- NHS finances in the county continue to be challenging. The Board received a report on the system position and mitigating programmes in place, but the difficulty in meeting the challenge and not incurring a deficit at the end of the financial year was shared. Key issues are:
 - Difficulty in recruiting permanent staff, driving high use of bank and agency staff which is more expensive.
 - Excess bed costs, which continue because of delays in building community health and care capacity.
 - Continued costs of managing COVID-19.
 - Challenges realising planned savings.
- The government has asked former Labour Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt to review the role and powers of integrated care systems, with a view to giving them greater autonomy. More information can be found here: [Independent review of integrated care systems - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



4. To help the NHS support broader social and economic development

- The Board agreed the NHS Lincolnshire Green Plan, which can also be found via the link to the Board Meeting Papers below. This sets out key objectives and supporting actions we can all support to help the NHS achieve its ambition of achieving Net Zero by 2045.

To read the Board papers and minutes (as they are published) in full, please click here: [ICB Board Meeting | 22nd November 2022 - Lincolnshire ICB.](#)