



Integrated Care Board Board Meeting Bulletin | 28 November 2023

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.

The Chair acknowledged the recent change of Secretary of State, highlighting that the incoming MP Victoria Atkins' constituency is in Lincolnshire.

The recent endorsement of Lincolnshire's devolution arrangements at government level was also acknowledged, having been announced by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC). The proposal for a combined Greater Authority for Lincolnshire and Greater Lincolnshire does not include health directly but health and wellbeing may experience significant benefits should it proceed.

The Deputy Chief Executive recognised the work of colleagues across the system. Significantly, the system has successfully exited the National Oversight Framework (NOF) Level 4, moving into Level 3. This signifies Lincolnshire's move out of the Financial Recovery Programme and is a marker of our improved long term financial sustainability.

Our ICB Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) Core Standards Assurance Assessment 2023/24 has received confirmation of Substantial Compliance (at 89%, an increase of 17% on last year for which the EPRR team were commended).

Congratulations was also offered to the Better Births team for their recent win of the Health Service Journal's Military and Civilian Health Partnership Award with their submission about The Lincolnshire Military Project, a service which focuses on the support networks and local connections made available to military families in the county, many of whom don't have extended family and friend networks close to the military bases they live near in Lincolnshire.

1. To improve outcomes in population health and healthcare

The Director of Public Health provided a report, warning that there was a gradual increase in measles nationally and the need to highlight the continued importance of vaccination. The recent CQC rating achieved by LCC's Adult Social Care Service as 'Good' was praised.

The operational reports regarding service performance were delivered. Highlights included the successful protection of much of Lincolnshire's cancer activity during the recent industrial action periods, as well as the continued reduction of the cancer recovery backlog, and the recent positive impact of LPFT's recruitment drives across their services. Our vaccination service remains the best performing in the region, though there is always more work to do.

Challenges remain in some areas. Like the rest of the country, planned care performance has been impacted by industrial action, and the reopening of the Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit has been delayed due to a legionella outbreak which is being carefully managed by the team at LPFT.

The Director of Strategic Planning, Integration and Partnerships presented an update on change proposal to the ULHT Paediatric service at Boston Pilgrim Hospital, which recommended the temporary service changes which have been in place since March 2019 become permanent. This was approved by the board on the basis that the service provision and patient outcomes and experience have improved since the changes were made. The service performance is now resulting in high levels of family satisfaction, low level of complaints and last year received a 'Good' rating from the CQC.

2. To tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access

The population profiles that have been developed at Primary Care Network (PCN) level were outlined after the delivery of a report on Primary Care Access by the workstream lead, which described good progress in delivery.

An overview of the winter plan was provided by the Winter Director. Coupled with the positive comments that were received in the post assurance visit letter from NHSE, the board were assured regarding the plan, which was supported.

3. To enhance productivity and value for money

The Deputy Chief Executive updated on the current financial position, which is largely unchanged since the previous update to the board. He confirmed that the NHS in Lincolnshire was on track to deliver the cost improvement plans committed to at the start of the year, the measures to reduce run rate of agency expenditure were successful meaning the system would achieve a £17m (30%) reduction on an annualised basis, and that acute and community headcount had remained flat throughout the year. This points to a significant improvement in underlying productivity.

He also clarified the unplanned costs due to the ongoing Industrial Action, inflationary pressures and prescribing costs remain challenging. Capital investment is behind plan currently but there was significant assurance that plans would accelerate in the final months of the year and our capital funds would be fully utilised.

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

No item was received in relation to this core purpose. The next report is expected at the next board meeting.

To read the Board papers and minutes (as they are published) in full, click the link below:

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