

Questions from the Board meeting held on 26th September 2023

Question One

ICB members will be aware of the proposals to industrialise West Lindsay by building the largest solar farm in Europe in Lincolnshire (<https://tillbridgesolar.com>).

I find it hard adequately to express the stress, misery, anxiety and depression that this is causing in local communities. If these schemes go ahead, the damaging impact on population health and well-being is hard to exaggerate. Public health analysts emphasise the importance of 'green prescribing' (access to open space and countryside) for the benefit of mental health and well-being.

I trust that the ICB will register as an interested party with the Planning Inspectorate and use its influence to oppose these schemes to prevent more pressure on its primary care and mental health services.

Response:

Thank you for your question and raising your concerns. We understand the concerns that are being expressed in relation to this development.

This is a planning development clearly for the local planning department, not for the ICB. The ICB is aware of the numerous developments which are proposed across Lincolnshire about which local residents raise with their planning authority.

Question Two

Given that stroke is a leading cause of death and disability, with stroke survivors leaving hospital with an average of 7 disabilities, many needing complex and life-long care and contributing to delays in discharge and pressures across the health and social care system, how does NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) plan to appropriately fund and resource the Integrated Stroke Delivery Network as the essential delivery mechanism for meeting guideline level standards of care and achieving the Long Term Plan's stroke commitments? What protection and security can you provide to the committed and valuable stroke network staff who are working tirelessly to improve the quality and safety of local services for this clinical priority?

Response

Thank you for your question to the Board, which is really welcomed. The matter of stroke services provision for the people of Lincolnshire has been comprehensively reviewed as part of the Acute Services Review which completed in mid 2022. We are now in the process of working with partners to implement all of the decisions made at that time.

Our Medical Director and Director of Nursing will continue to work closely with clinical colleagues to strive and support them to provide the very best care for the people of Lincolnshire.

Question Three

I am disappointed that sadly like many organisations. Your public meetings are held using online attendance only. There are 3 million people including in Lincolnshire who do not have access to the internet or a mobile phone.

Government organisations including the NHS have to fully conform to the Equality Act 2010. You cannot discriminate against anyone regardless of their age, sex, religion or disability.

I have always felt face to face meetings are more beneficial as “I may get an actual answer” rather than a prepared statement which has no connection to a live question.

I hoped the ICB would bring new ideas about communicating with members of the public who are aware of shortage of beds, staff and services across LINCOLNSHIRE and I would remind you that not everyone lives in Lincoln, Boston or Spalding. We have very diverse and isolated communities who do not have GP or dental services. We also have very poor community bus services.

I do hope you will consider having your meetings at venues across Lincolnshire in public.

Response:

Thank you for your email about our Board meetings. You may not realise that the ICB Board holds its meeting using a hybrid model whereby meetings are held both on a face to face basis and also as live virtual events through Microsoft Teams.

If you wish to join the ICB Board at one of its public Board meetings, you are more than welcome.

Further details about our Board meetings and how they operate can be found on our website:
www.lincolnshire.icb.nhs.uk