

**ULHT General Update:** This was to be discussed at the March meeting but this was deferred to April 17 because all the senior management are involved in the recruitment of the new Chief Executive.

**Humber Acute Service Review Decision** - The Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board ran a consultation from last September to early January, consulting on proposals to transfer services from Scunthorpe Hospital to Grimsby. The services all related to urgent and emergency care. A decision had been scheduled for March 13 but this has now been put back to May or early June...or even at a later date!! This is put down to the volume of responses received and the extension of the consultation to January 5. The Health Scrutiny Committee will review the decision at its June meeting.

**Protocol between the Committee and NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board** - the new regulations were reviewed on February 21, including the guidance on Ministerial Intervention. As a result of the changes to the powers on NHS service reconfigurations it was agreed there should be draft protocol drawn up. Given the importance of this document debate on the issue has now been deferred to the May meeting.

**Pilgrim Hospital Emergency Department** - The construction of the new facility has started following the demolition of the building next to the existing A and E. The foundations have been poured and the concrete infrastructure is being installed. The estimated opening date is 2026.

**New Payments for NHS Dentists** - The government is hoping to create 2.5m more dental appointments so from March 1 dentists have been offered payments for each new NHS patient. These payments range from £15 to £50 for patients who have not been treated for two years. There will be an update on the latest situation at the April meeting.

**Government Blood Pressure Campaign** - On March 11 the government launched a scheme to provide 2.5m free blood pressure tests in local pharmacies. The checks are aimed at residents aged 40 and over and there is no need to book. It is estimated there could be up to 4.2million people in this country living with undiagnosed high blood pressure. Evidence suggests that 41 percent of people are unaware that if its left untreated it could lead to heart disease and 22 percent are not aware it could cause heart attacks and strokes.

**Healthwatch Lincolnshire** - Their next YourVoice@Healthwatch will be staged at the new Boston Football Ground on Friday April 26 between 10am and 1pm. If you are interested in attending you can book on [info@healthwatchlincolnshire.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchlincolnshire.co.uk) or ring 01205 820892. Dr Derek Ward, the county's Director of Public Health will be the guest speaker and there will be stands from a range of organisations providing an insight on their resources and services.

**Care Quality Commission 2023 Maternity Survey** - This is carried out annually at each Maternity Unit, when women who have given birth are asked questions about their care and their treatment at individual units. A score out of 10 for questions covering 24 topic areas. The scores for our local units can viewed at the following weblink: [Agenda Document for Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire, 20/03/2024](#), page 18 refers.

**Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Update:** This Trust is the principal NHS provider of mental health services and also provides some learning disability, autism and social care services in the county. The updates will cover the themes as per the agenda:

**Hartsholme Centre** (the male psychiatric intensive care unit). This has been temporarily closed since October 2022 following concerns about levels of staffing which in turn affected patient and staff safety. Since the closure there have been substantial efforts to recruit and it was hoped to open again with a new staffing team last November. However, then legionella was discovered and cleansing is ongoing. The aim is to open in May and staff are in place ready for the opening.

**Maplethorpe Unit, Dementia Ward at Grantham Hospital.** This has been temporarily closed but the Trust had hoped to reopen the Ward last July but with the changing profile of patients it was decided to continue to pilot home treatment. This extended pilot is due to be evaluated by the East Midlands Clinical Senate in May, so a decision on the way forward is pencilled in for September this year.

Review of the Vales at Discovery House-female patients supported on female wards has grown more complex, so patients need longer in-patient care. This has particularly felt on female high dependency rehabilitation at the Vales at Discovery House, where patients present with complex trauma, personality difficulties and other problems such as eating issues. So a review into provision started this January, engaging patients and staff, including patients who have been in the ward in the last five years. When this is complete the data will be analysed and the way ahead will be decided.

**Ring NHS 111 Mental Health Option** - From April 2 there will be the ability to access urgent mental health care through this number. Sufferers, their friends and family can access the service by choosing Option 2. This expansion of the 111 service enhances the offer by giving a direct line free for those in crisis needing urgent help. If it is serious, it can be escalated to the local crisis team for support. Children and young adults needing help are also able to call LincolnshireHere4You advice line which is also open 24/7. The staffing recruitment campaign is said to be very good.

**Virtual Autism Hub** - As part of the increase in support for autistic people in Louth, the Trust has worked with the Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board to provide a new £150,000 grant programme for volunteer led Community Groups that support autistic adults, children, young people, their families and carers, as well as bringing together a hub of information on groups and agencies that could support the autistic community. The new Virtual Autism Hub officially launches this month with specialist navigators already in post and dealing with enquiries. The service can be accessed by ringing 01522 458 588 or [www.lpft.nhs.uk/virtual-autism-hub](http://www.lpft.nhs.uk/virtual-autism-hub).

**Expanded Eating Disorder Support** - The adult eating disorders service is expanding to offer a dedicated specialist support for those with mild to moderate eating disorders for those 16 and over and this will ensure the Lincolnshire service meets national standards. Those under 16 will continue to receive support through the children and adolescent mental health eating disorder team. The service will mostly offer support in the form of guided self help and group treatment using a cognitive behavioural model. This service will be rolled out over the county but initially is available at two doctor practices in the Lincoln area.

**Recruitment and Retention** - This continues to be a challenge but significant work has been done to proactively recruit, find new roles and ways of working to help retain staff working in the organisation. Between April and December 2023 there were 638 new starters and this is expected to hit 800 for the whole year. There has been the usual staff turnover but it is expected there will be 300 more whole time equivalents than in previous years. Staff survey results are awaited.

**Waiting Times:** These continue to be longer than desired, but much work is being done to increase capacity and productivity to reduce waiting to target times.

**Child and Adolescent Mental Health** - Waiting times are a particular challenge especially at CAMHS. Improvements have been made following additional investment and numbers are down from 283 in

February 22 to 130 in February 2024 (a reduction of 54 percent) There are currently 14 young people who have been waiting over 35 weeks but they do have personal plans in place and their risks are being monitored.

**Autism Diagnosis** - There had been high waiting times for the adult pathway following an increase in referrals thanks to increased awareness and a pause in assessments due to the pandemic. The Trust is working hard to tackle the backlog and there is now only one adult who has been waiting for over a year. The average wait for assessment is 13 weeks now.

**Lincolnshire Talking Therapies** - This initiative continues to hit the national target of 75 percent of patients starting treatment within six weeks and 95 percent within 18 weeks. Recent recruitment has been successful but meanwhile an external provider has supported the Trust to reduce the wait. Early Intervention in Psychosis: There had been difficulties in hitting the two week wait but the team is now almost entirely recruited to. Remodelling work and additional investment means the service is hitting the required standard again.

**Adult Community Mental Health Teams** - There is a variable picture across the county but the Trust is continuing to develop and implement transformation work with a new aspirational target of a four week wait. There are now 67 percent of patients being seen within the four week target.

**Memory Assessment:** There is a target of 18 weeks for first appointments but the Trust is averaging seeing people within 12 weeks. Work is being carried out to look at how the Trust could provide a dedicated memory assessment service, which would significantly help with managing demand. New technology solutions are being introduced such as online virtual assistants and digital pathways for this who wish to use this as an option.

**Quality Accounts 2023-2 024** - This is done annually, it is not about accounts it's to judge the progress of health providers as part of a legal framework. Each report, which runs to between 70 and 100 pages, lists three or more priorities for improvement over the coming year and the progress on last year's priorities. Each organisation will publish their final reports by June 30 but before then draft reports have to be circulated to a number of statutory organisations such as Health Scrutiny. Priorities must reflect the priorities of local people, ensure nothing has been omitted, the provider has to demonstrate the involvement of patients and the public in the production of their Quality Account, it must be clearly presented and statements from Health Scrutiny Committees need to be provided in the final published statement (1000 words). In 2023 a working group was established to look at the Quality Accounts of the Ambulance Service, Lincolnshire Community Health Services, Northern Lincolnshire and Goole Foundation Trust and United Lincolnshire. This will again look at the chosen Trusts.

**Priorities for the East Midlands Ambulance Trust over the past year were:**

1. Develop a metric to enable measurement of dignity and compassion.
2. To continue to promote the safe and appropriate use of alternatives to emergency departments.
3. To improve performance against national guidelines.
4. To continue to learn from when things go well as well as when things go wrong to improve the quality of patient care
5. To improve the timeliness and efficiency of managing safeguarding referrals.

### **Priorities for the Lincolnshire Community Health Services Trust**

1. Delegation of insulin administration- to increase the number of suitable healthcare support workers competent to administer insulin safely and monitor this competency.
2. Care of Falls Patients with Possible or Evident Head Injury by refreshing the pathway.
3. Patient Engagement in the Patient Incident Investigative Process.

### **Priorities for Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust**

1. Safer Management of self injury and suicide.
2. Improving Physical Healthcare including falls
3. Safe and Appropriate Restrictive Practice
4. Improving Patient Experience and Safety
5. Improving Carer Involvement.

### **Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust**

1. End of Life - improve personal palliative and end of life care so people have a good death.
2. Deteriorating Patient = improved recognition and responding to deteriorating patients aged 16 plus.
3. Sepsis - improve recognition and responding to sepsis in patients
4. Medical safety - to improve safety of prescribing weight dependent medication to adults.
5. Mental capacity - improve the compliance and quality of Mental Capacity Act assessments and best interest recording.

### **North West Anglia NHS Foundation**

1. Promoting equality and addressing health inequalities
2. Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response
3. Mortality - improve ratios
4. Patient Safety Incident Response Framework
5. Infection Prevention and Control
6. Safer Maternity Care
7. Patient, Staff and Family Engagement following a Patient Safety Incident
8. Maternity
9. Feedback from Minority Groups
10. Care Quality Commission - embed single assessment framework, deliver maternity improvements as per the 2023 CQC Report.

### **United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust**

1. Implementation of our "You Care, We Care to Call" programme over 38 Wards
2. Improve clinical effectiveness and best practice principles by prioritising cardiovascular pathways
3. Maximise safety of patients in Trust's Care through learning from Incidents.

Anyone wanting to follow up the 2022 Reports can access them through the Trusts' websites.

The Overall Ratings for the Quality Care Commission can be viewed at the following weblink:  
[Agenda Document for Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire, 20/03/2024](#) page 56 refers.

**Lincolnshire Voluntary Engagement Team:** There was a presentation to update the contribution this organisation makes to improving health outcomes in Lincolnshire. LVET works with voluntary organisations delivering health and social care, it plays a vital role in key health strategy areas including the delivery of social prescribing and personalisation, creating significant social value despite increasing pressures on delivery cost and the increased demand for support. The scheme started in 2017 as part of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations and the King's Fund and now has a membership of 139 charities, community interest companies and other non-profit organisations. Almost three quarters are small to medium organisations and 55 percent are registered as charities. Collectively they calculate there is a workforce of 8500 people of which 3531 are paid. Since 2020 LVET's core activities have been financially supported by LCC but LVET has also brought in additional monies - there is an estimated yield of £2.4m of social value. It also helps with identifying organisations which need access to funding which has brought in considerable funds. There were 80 organisations present at last year's AGM. They helped to deliver Ukrainian Refugee Resettlement, Support and Empowerment and worked with the Lincolnshire Care Association to provide volunteers as Visitor Hosts at care homes across the county. It spearheads innovation and development activity, benefitting organisations both large and small. It has helped drive the "Personalisation Agenda", been central in the social prescribing initiative and works with the Lincolnshire Volunteer Programme, which launched last November. Already there are 150 organisations signed up to this programme, with 397 potential volunteering opportunities and 221 volunteers already registered. Of special interest to this area is the link with the Integrated Care Board using the Core20Plus5 populations over health inequalities. It also brought in an innovative digital mapping tool to the county and this was trialled in Horncastle and Spalding to understand better how people and groups are connected.

**North West Anglia NHS Trust update on Stamford and Rutland Hospital** - a new Day Treatment Centre is planned for Stamford so that day case patients can be treated nearer to home, alongside the delivery of outpatient appointments and diagnostic services. This new Day Treatment Centre will ensure there are no problems with concrete by 2030. The new treatment centre will include three specially equipped treatment rooms with three cabin style changing rooms with en-suite facilities and two recovery bays. Day surgery will comprise dermatology, urology, trauma, orthopaedics and pain management. This will all help reduce waiting times for patients and will also see the sale of unused land on the hospital site.

**The next meeting will be held on 17 April 2024.**