

SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of: Councillor Glynis P Scalese

To: South Holland District Council Thursday, 29 July 2021

(Author: Christine Morgan Democratic Services Team Leader)

Subject Health Scrutiny for Lincolnshire report

Purpose: To provide South Holland District Council with an update following the latest meeting of the Health Scrutiny for Lincolnshire Committee

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

1.0 Update of Community Health Service NHS Trust following the Covid-19 Pandemic

1.1 Integrated Urgent Care Service Louth, Gainsborough, Skegness and Spalding have been restored as Urgent Treatment Centres which means that the population of Lincolnshire will have full coverage of the comprehensive range of urgent care services.

1.2 The average daily attendance at Spalding pre Covid-19 was 59. Since restoration the site is now a UTC and attendance numbers are recovering well averaging at 36 per day and rising.

1.3 Boston will be eased now that Spalding has been restored and waiting times will have a positive impact on patients.

1.4 Community Nursing services are now fully restored.

1.5 There are currently 320 Community Nurses in Lincolnshire. Training of new intake students is underway and 4 students are to go to Lincoln University for Community Nursing training.

2.0 Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

2.1 Delivery models have been developed safely, rapidly and efficiently to vaccinate eligible cohorts.

2.2 The Boston venue opened on 18 January 2021 and the Lincoln venue opened on 2 February 2021. Both sites are fully operational and have successfully delivered services in line with the national provider and operational specifications.

3.0 United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust – General Update

3.1 The Trust had a very positive well-led domain review with the CQC on 6 May 2021.

3.2 The new Urgent Treatment Centre at Lincoln County Hospital was opened on 5 May 2021. This new £3.5m facility includes a new reception and waiting area that complies with the latest social distancing guidance, ten treatment rooms and a new x-ray and redacted triage area.

4.0 **Infection Prevention and Control Advice**

4.1 As part of a measured approach, given the absence of strong clinical evidence available and the limited roll-out of the vaccine programme at the time, the Trust has kept a segregated area in the centre of the hospital for those patients attending for an elective procedure, endoscopy or chemotherapy. This has been well observed by staff, patients and the public.

4.2 Front line staff continue to take twice weekly lateral flow tests and have had daily temperature checks on site. Patients are swabbed and tested in advance of their attendance.

4.3 The number of patients in hospital in the Trust with Covid-19 varies on a daily basis but is fewer than 10 compared to more than 70 in March and a peak of over 250 in January, 2021.

4.4 Boston currently has one Covid-19 patient.

4.5 Staff vacancies are now much lower and overseas recruiting is still happening and is looking very promising.

5.0 **United Lincolnshire Hospital NHS Trust Urology Services**

5.1 Cancelled operations stand at around 1900 cancelled by the hospital and 600 cancelled by the patient.

5.2 Around 25% of procedures are cancelled on the day the procedure is planned.

5.3 Around 10% of hospital cancelled procedures are due to lack of beds

5.4 Around 7% of hospital cancelled procedures are due to lack of surgeon availability.

6.0 **Planned Surgery**

6.1 At the moment there is a choice of location for planned surgery. This can be Pilgrim Hospital Boston, Grantham & District Hospital, Lincoln County Hospital or County Hospital Louth. Surgery normally takes place at the location with the shortest waiting time. This will not change and patients will still have the choice as planned surgery will continue to be provided at all the sites.

7.0 **Follow Up Care/Outpatient Appointments**

7.1 There are no changes proposed to the location of follow-up appointments or post treatment/surgery appointments. A patient should be able to attend the hospital of their choice for follow-up appointments and there should be no impact on the patient in terms of access to services and distance of travel.

8.0 **Update on Pilgrim Hospital Boston Paediatric Service**

8.1 It is being considered to support moving this service towards a Short Stay Paediatric Assessment Unit with an average length of stay below 24 hours. The remit of this unit will be to deliver both an assessment and short term observation function with the option of some children with defined care plans remaining on the unit beyond 48 hours.

8.2 Staffing levels have improved but more nurses are needed and being recruited.

9.0 **National General Practice Data for Planning and Research**

9.1 Data held in GP medical records of patients is used every day to support health and care planning and research in England, helping to find better treatments and improve patient outcomes for everyone. NHS Digital has collected data from General Practices using a service called the General Practice Extraction Service for over ten years and this is now being replaced. NHS Digital has engaged with doctors, patients, the British Medical Association, the Royal College of GPs, the National Data Guardian and data and governance experts, to design a new process called The General Practice Data for Planning and Research Data Collection.

10.0 **ACRONYMS**

10.1 NHS – National Health Service

10.2 UTC – Urgent Treatment Centre

10.3 CQC – Care Quality Commission

10.4 GP – General Practice

Background papers:-	None
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Key Decision: N

Exempt Decision: N