

Trust Board – 28 January 2025

Chief Executive's Report

Purpose of the Report

This paper provides an update on current local issues and national policy developments since the last meeting. The details below are drawn from a variety of sources, including local meetings and information published by NHS England, NHS Providers, the NHS Confederation, and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Analysis of the Issue

National Developments

We continue to see increased demand on our healthcare services across the country from a range of viruses including Flu, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and norovirus, compounded with cold health alerts issued by UKHSA for the country. Locally, we are working closely with our partners in the system, across health and social care, to ensure our population continue to receive safe and compassionate care during these busier periods. I would like to take the opportunity to thank our staff, volunteers and partners for the additional efforts they are making at a time of extreme pressure.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff and partners in the County for all their hard work and support to keep our population safe during the recent flooding we have experienced.

COVID-19 and flu vaccinations

The latest seasonal vaccination data released shows over 28 million Covid & Flu vaccinations have been delivered so far to those eligible. The national booking system closed on 19 December, however patients can still visit COVID-19 walk-in vaccination sites or find a local pharmacy offering the flu vaccine.

The government has accepted Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice for the NHS to [plan for a seasonal COVID-19 vaccination programme in Spring 2025](#), the cohorts for the spring 2025 programme will cover:

- adults aged 75 years and over
- residents in a care home for older adults
- individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed (as defined in [COVID-19: the green book, chapter 14a](#); Tables 3 and 4)

We will work closely with our ICB to start developing plans for this campaign.

Further information can be found here: [Advice accepted on spring 2025 COVID-19 vaccination programme - GOV.UK](#)

Research

The government has announced £100 million of public-private investment to set up 20 new clinical research hubs across the UK to accelerate research into the next generation of treatments. Commercial research delivery centres (CRDCs) across the UK will act as regional hubs for pioneering clinical trials, creating opportunities to test innovative new treatments with the latest equipment and technology. In support of the 10 Year Health Plan, CRDCs will shift clinical trials into community settings, meaning those in under-served regions will be better able to participate in research. This will boost access to new treatments in the trial stage.

These trials will build UK research delivery leadership into all conditions across multi-specialist centres. This includes cancer and obesity, as well as infectious diseases such as flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). The funding is part of a wider £400 million joint public-private investment scheme - the Voluntary Scheme for Branded Medicine Pricing, Access and Growth (VPAG) Investment Programme. It is a unique partnership between the government and the pharmaceutical industry to boost the global competitiveness of the UK life sciences sector and stimulate economic growth

Further information can be found here: [£100 million public-private health research boost - GOV.UK](#)

Change NHS – 10 year health plan

We continue to contribute to national and regional engagement exercises regarding the 10-Year Health Plan, supporting our population and staff to share their thoughts and feedback through various routes over the coming months ahead of the deadline for final insights/responses on 14 February 2025. We look forward to hearing next steps in Spring 2025.

Further information can be found here: [Change NHS \(https://change.nhs.uk/en-GB/\)](https://change.nhs.uk/en-GB/)

NHS Trial to boost health and support people in work

An NHS world leading trial will see the creation of 'Health and Growth Accelerators' which will look to boost people's health alongside tackling the conditions that most impact people's ability to work – ranging from cardiovascular problems and diabetes to back pain and mental health issues. Alongside these accelerators, NHS England is working with the Office for National Statistics to assess the economic benefits of several health interventions including talking therapies, bariatric surgery, treatment for endometriosis, and the NHS Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Programme.

The trial will cover South Yorkshire, North East and North Cumbria, and West Yorkshire – parts of the country most affected by economic inactivity driven by ill health.

The analysis will also cover the impact on waiting times, employment rates and earnings while feeding into work by the Office for Budget Responsibility and the government on labour market effects.

In line with the broader priority of shifting from treating sickness to prevention, the accelerators will work on preventing diseases that lead to people dropping out of work including diabetes, heart

attacks and strokes. This could include more support for people to manage their blood pressure or diabetes, more action to find people at risk and supporting people to make lifestyle changes.

The accelerators will also test the use of digital tools to support mental health therapy sessions and musculoskeletal pain as well as potentially placing employment advisors into clinical pathways and in GP settings.

If the trials are successful in boosting health and impacting local employment, they could be rolled out by the NHS on a wider scale.

Further information can be found here: [NHS England » World leading NHS trial to boost health and support people in work](#)

National Staff update

The CQC has announced its current chair, Ian Dilks, will not be seeking reappointment at the end of his term on 31st March 2025, a recruitment process for a new chair will begin shortly.

Further information can be found here: [CQC Chair Ian Dilks will not seek reappointment - Care Quality Commission](#)

The National Data Guardian has announced Dr George Fernie as the new chair of the [UK Caldicott Guardian Council \(UKCGC\)](#), the national body for Caldicott Guardians in the UK.

Further information can be found here: [Dr. George Fernie announced as new UK Caldicott Guardian Council chair - GOV.UK](#)

CQC - Regulators ' Pioneer Fund project

In February 2024 the CQC announced they would be working with National Voices and Point of Care Foundation on a Regulators' Pioneer Fund project to develop a voluntary improvement framework for integrated care systems (ICSs) to understand how well their engagement with people and communities is helping tackle health inequalities.

The testing phase took place through Autumn 24 with four ICSs; Black Country ICS, Gloucestershire ICS, Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICS and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS. The testing phase has now been completed and highlighted key opportunities such as;

- **Flexibility:** ICSs appreciated the framework's adaptable structure, allowing them to focus on areas most relevant to their unique contexts.
- **Guidance:** ICSs highlighted the need for clear guidance and examples to support implementation.
- **Impact Measurement:** Feedback emphasised the importance of ensuring the framework helps ICSs measure the tangible outcomes of their engagement efforts on reducing health inequalities.
- **Resourcing:** Integrating the framework with existing strategies for population health to support managing resource limitations while still tracking impact.

The health inequalities improvement framework will launch as part of a dedicated virtual event in February, set to bring together ICS leaders, stakeholders, and partners to explore the framework's practical application and its role in tackling health inequalities.

Further information can be found here: [Developing an engagement and health inequalities improvement framework for integrated care systems: Testing phase complete - Care Quality Commission](#)

[More to do to 'bridge the gap' as children and young people transition to adult mental health services - NHS Providers](#)

First ever men's health strategy

The Health and Social Care Secretary has recently announced plans for a men's health strategy to be published in 2025. The strategy will consider how to prevent and tackle the biggest health problems affecting men of all ages, which could include cardiovascular disease, prostate cancer and testicular cancer, as well as mental health and suicide prevention and will form a key part of the government's 10 Year Health Plan. A call for evidence on the strategy will seek views on what is working and what more needs to be done to close the life expectancy gap between men and women.

Further information can be found here: [Secretary of State commits to first ever men's health strategy - GOV.UK](#)

Refreshed plan for NHS Workforce

To support the 10 Year Health Plan, expected in Spring 2025, the government and NHS will unveil a refreshed workforce plan in Summer 2025 that aligns to the three key messages of the 10 year plan – moving activity from hospital to the community, analogue to digital, and sickness to prevention.

Further information can be found here: [Government to tackle NHS workforce crisis with refreshed plan - GOV.UK](#)

NHS manager proposals

A public consultation was launched on 26 November 2024 seeking views on government proposals to regulate health service managers, ensuring they follow professional standards. The consultation will run for 12 weeks, at which time the responses will be considered and next steps set out.

Patients, health and care staff, and professional bodies are also being asked for their views on whether to introduce a statutory duty of candour which would make NHS managers legally accountable for responding to concerns about patient safety. We have also been invited to share our feedback through the consultation.

Further information can be found here: [New protections for whistleblowers under NHS manager proposals - GOV.UK](#)

Innovation for Healthcare Inequalities Programme: Impact and learning report

The Innovation for Healthcare Inequalities Programme: Impact and learning report was published on 6 December. The NHS England's InHIP programme is a collaboration between the Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC), NHS England's National Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme and the Health Innovation Network, delivered in partnership with integrated care systems (ICSs).

It aims to address local healthcare inequalities experienced by deprived and other under-served populations.

Project teams (comprising of clinical and non-clinical expertise) from across the country are working together with their local communities to identify, address and minimise healthcare inequalities through projects to improve access to the latest health technologies and medicines.

These technologies and medicines are focused on five clinical areas of priority that closely align with the national [Core20PLUS5](#) approach to reducing healthcare inequalities, which includes maternity, mental health, respiratory, cancer diagnosis and cardiovascular disease.

As highlighted in the report, over 34,000 people from underserved groups or deprived areas have benefitted from InHIP Wave 1 interventions, with around 8,000 patients gaining access to an innovative product on a treatment pathway.

Over 1,200 project sites were able to deliver a new pathway and / or innovation to patients. Almost 4,000 patients had broader health needs identified that resulted in them being referred on to additional services beyond the original core project focus.

We shall be reflecting on the recommendations within this report to inform our own local efforts to tackle health inequalities.

A copy of the report can be found here: [Innovation for Healthcare Inequalities Programme: Impact and learning report](#)

Local Developments

National Staff Survey 2024

More colleagues than ever from our LPT family took the time to use their voice and contribute to this year's National Staff Survey.

The Trust response rate of 58.4% was a 4% increase from last year, equating to just under 4000 colleagues, making it our highest response rate in the last five years. Feedback brought together diverse voices from all areas across our Trust.

We also had a record number of valued bank staff complete the survey (35% compared to 30% last year).

The national results are due to be published in March 2025, and as always will use this to inform areas of focus to continue to build a great place to work and receive care.

The Bigger Picture – developing our strategy for 2025 and beyond:

Our work towards a new Group strategy representing both Leicestershire Partnership Trust and Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust continues with a second period of engagement. At this stage, a draft mission, vision and core themes have been returned for further thoughts from staff, service users and stakeholders to develop a group strategy for our two separate but connected organisations – thank you to everyone who contributed their thoughts.

Face masks in community hospital wards

We are asking all visitors to our community hospitals (and the CHS wards in the Evington Centre in Leicester) to wear a mask in clinical areas with immediate effect. This is due to an increase in the number of patients with respiratory conditions, including flu and RSV. However, mask wearing is NOT currently a requirement in our mental health wards.

Mask wearing is also a requirement at wards operated by University Hospitals of Leicester. We continue to keep the situation under constant review.

LPT Art Exhibition – The Bradgate Mental Heal

We are pleased to have launched the ‘Inspire’ exhibition as a permanent display in a corridor at The Bradgate Mental Health Unit, which is open to all service user in-patients, visitors, and staff. Funded by the Arts Council we worked with in-patient and out-patient mental health service users at the ArtsCafe Group at The Bradgate Mental Health Unit and at the ArtSpace Group at The Attenborough Arts Centre in Leicester.

The initial community-based part of the project involved an open call out for community models to be body painted live at Inspire events. The designs for the models were based on interviews with them on what inspiration, health, wellbeing, and community meant to them, resulting in a collection of visual interpretations personal to the models. The same design model was used for our service users who created some of the work on display in this exhibition, alongside work from the community.

New ward reopens at St Luke's Hospital

A brighter, better, ward has reopened at St Luke's Hospital. Ward 3 admitted its first patients on Monday (09 December 2024) after a three-month closure to replace its roof, and install new fire doors which meet current safety standards.

Contractors also took the opportunity to "box in" pipework in the patient areas, install dementia-friendly markings, and give the place a thorough redecoration. The 14-bed ward provides care for sub-acute patients, including many who need an intermediate stay between treatment at Leicester's acute hospitals and a return home. St Luke's other inpatient ward provides care for those who have experienced a stroke.

The work was carried out by NHS Property Services, which owns the building, investing approximately £575,000 in essential upgrades at St Luke's Hospital as a part of our commitment to deliver excellent patient care.

Winter wellness campaign to support our local population

With coughs, colds and tummy bugs in infants and children on the rise at this time of the year, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board (LLR ICB) and Leicester Hospitals have teamed up to create new online winter wellness hubs on the Health For Under 5s and Health for Kids websites. The hubs have lots of articles and advice on how to avoid getting ill and when and where to go for help if kids do become unwell. What's more, all the content has been put together by trusted NHS health professionals, including doctors and nurses and contains advice on how to find local support.

The online hubs support parents and carers to easily find the advice they need and feel confident about when to seek further medical help if it's needed, especially as it can also be a really busy time of year in GP practices and hospitals. The information is also being distributed as leaflets to parents through our Healthy Together teams through their community visits.

To view the children's winter wellness hubs, go to: bit.ly/WinterHealth0-5 for advice for 0-5 year-olds and bit.ly/H4KWinter for advice for primary school aged children.

Local businesses participate in our first 'Mind-Fit' networking event as part of Leicester Business Festival

In December, businesses across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland were invited to attend a free charity networking event with NHS professionals on supporting workforce wellbeing this winter, as part of Leicester Business Festival. Organised by LPT's charity Raising Health, the new Mind-Fit Workforce events provide a unique opportunity for private and public sector professionals to connect and explore strategies to support healthier, more resilient employees. The events are

ideal for any business leader looking to learn more about creating sustainable mental wellness strategies and engage our charity at the same time. For more information visit our Raising Health website.

Truck stop event offers mental health support

Lorry drivers and road users had an opportunity to speak to health and wellbeing professionals at Junction 23 M1 Lorry Park in December. The jointly hosted event by LPT's Charnwood CMHT adult team and Leicestershire County Council's Public Health team, Local Area Coordinators (LACs) took place just off the M1 in Shepshed, and followed a previously successful event earlier in 2024.

The truck stop event gave lorry drivers the chance to find out more information about mental health and wellbeing, with each person receiving a goodie bag with a variety of information about services and tips to look after their health and wellbeing.

The initiative is also an ideal chance to target a predominantly male demographic, with mental health charity MIND indicating that 30% of illnesses in the transport and logistics industry are related to mental health, though this figure may be even higher.

Over 95% of the lorry driving industry is male, and men are less likely to address mental health concerns, leading to a higher suicide rate.

Raising a Smile for Christmas appeal delivers £19,137 worth of festive cheer across 37 inpatient wards

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported this year's Raising a Smile for Christmas appeal, which brightened the Christmas season for inpatients across our Trust.

Through the collective generosity of donors, sponsors, and volunteers, the appeal achieved remarkable results:

- 600 Christmas gifts were delivered to 37 inpatient units across the Trust.
- Contributions totalled an incredible £19,137, including gifts-in-kind and financial donations.

These gifts brought festive cheer to our inpatients and made a tangible difference during the season. Find out more here: [Raising a Smile for Christmas appeal delivers £19,137 worth of festive cheer across 37 inpatient wards - News - Raising Health](#)

Relevant External Meetings attended since last Trust Board meeting

Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive external meetings

December 2024	January 2025
Mental Health Trust CEO Event	CEO at Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust
CQC Engagement Meeting	NHS CEOs/UEC collaborative leads
NHS CEOs/UEC Collaborative Leads Meeting	LLR Recovery and Sustainability Group
East Midlands Alliance Board	East Midlands Alliance Lead
Joint Board Workshop with NHFT	NHS LLR Integrated Care Board - Development session
Joint Executive Workshop with NHFT	LLR Integrated Care Board System Executive Committee - Development session
NHS England CEO & Secretary of State Winter Preparedness Webinar	East Midlands Alliance CEOs
Together Against Racism meeting with NHFT	LPT-NHFT Joint Working Group
Browne Jacobsen	Mental Health Trusts CEO's meeting
LLR Recovery and Sustainability Group	Director of Operational Improvement NHSE
NHS Employers Policy Board	Weekly Urgent & Emergency Care
LLR ICB Board	LRF Executive Board
LLR I&I –Various Discussion	Group Interview panel
Management and Leadership Advisory Group NHSE	LLR ICB CSO Shortlisting
LLR ICS Urgent and Emergency Care Collaborative	LLR ICB CSO Interviews
LLR ICB System Executive Committee	LLR ICS UEC Collaborative Transformation Group
East Midlands Alliance CEOs	LLR ICS UEC Collaborative
University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust CEO	Monthly Chief Operating Officer/Medical Director/Director of Nursing call
NHSE Midlands CEOs	COO Introductory Call - Lincolnshire NHS FT
NHSE Regional Roadshow - Midlands & East of England	LPT Quality Review
Group CEO Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation and Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust	SCG - LLR Flooding
UHN & UHL CEO	SYNC
Weekly Urgent & Emergency Care Meeting	SROs with LLR UEC Operational Group
Monthly Chief Operating Officer/Medical Director/Director of Nursing call	*African Heritage Alliance Health Partners Working Group
LPT Quality Review	*Midlands and East Mental Health CEO Network
World AIDS Day webinar	*NHSE Operating Model Workshop Midlands Region
Strategic Leadership Planning Group - Extreme Operational Pressures	*Joint Executive Workshop with NHFT
Health & Wellbeing Board	*LLR ICS Urgent and Emergency Care Collaborative
PA Consulting	*CEOs/Chairs NHS Northants /LLR
PA Consulting Perinatal Review	*Healthwatch
Ulysses Demonstration/Scoping session	*LLR Mental Health Shadow Collaborative Group
LPT/NHFT Talent Workshop for TAR Workforce	

- Indicates meeting scheduled but not took place at time of drafting the report.

Proposal

It is proposed that the Board considers this report and seeks any clarification or further information pertaining to it as required.

Decision Required

The Board is asked to consider this report and to decide whether it requires any clarification or further information on the content.

Governance Table

For Board and Board Committees:	Trust Board – 28 th January 2025	
Paper sponsored by:	Angela Hillery, Chief Executive	
Paper authored by:	Sinead Ellis-Austin, Senior Business Manager	
Date submitted:	20 th January 2025	
State which Board Committee or other forum within the Trust’s governance structure, if any, have previously considered the report/this issue and the date of the relevant meeting(s):	None	
If considered elsewhere, state the level of assurance gained by the Board Committee or other forum i.e. assured/ partially assured / not assured:	n/a	
State whether this is a ‘one off’ report or, if not, when an update report will be provided for the purposes of corporate Agenda planning	Routine board report	
STEP up to GREAT strategic alignment*:	Great Outcomes	All
	Great Care	
	Great Place to Work	
	Part of the Community	
Organisational Risk Register considerations:	List risk number and title of risk	
Is the decision required consistent with LPT’s risk appetite:	Yes	
False and misleading information (FOMI) considerations:	None	
Positive confirmation that the content does not risk the safety of patients or the public	Confirmed	
Equality considerations:	None	