

Wishing all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Come along to our locality forums in January

Our quarterly locality forums are open to everyone.

The next set of meetings in January will provide an opportunity to meet our new Chief Executive Jan Sobieraj and to find out the latest on the Trust's five-year clinical strategy, and help shape its development. Please contact us for an agenda if you wish to come along.

Location	Venue	Date	Time
Lincoln	Lecture Theatre	Monday 11 January	2pm– 4pm
Louth	Thoresby Suite	Thursday 14 January	2pm– 4pm
Grantham	Meeting Room 3	Thursday 21 January	2pm- 4pm
Boston	Committee Room 1	Monday 25 January	2pm– 4pm

Getting involved with our hospitals

There are a number of ways in which members can get involved with Lincolnshire's hospitals. Please find details of our latest opportunities below.

Some are only open to members who have been through our Trust members training programme so please contact us if you are interested in being trained.

Patient representatives on job interview panels

We are looking to introduce patient representatives on some of our job interview panels. It is recognised best practice for patients to input into the appointment of the caring staff in our hospitals. We are at the early stages of planning how this will be introduced from April 2016.

If you'd be interested in further training to sit on some job interview panels, please get in touch and let us know.

Staff awards judging

Patient representatives are being sought to help in the shortlisting of the Great Patient Experience category of the ULHT staff awards for 2016. This category is open to patient nominations only. This time around, patient representatives will also be judging entries for the awards to decide on the longlist. The longlisting session has been booked for 1pm on Friday 22 January. Please let us know if you'd like to be a part of it.

East Lincolnshire listening event

East Lincolnshire CCG is hosting a patient listening event to give patients in the area a chance to share their experiences of healthcare services they have used in Lincolnshire.

Everyone is invited to attend. It will take place from 1.30pm to 4.30pm on Thursday 4 February at Boston United Football Club.

Orthopaedic governance group

We are looking for a patient representative to get involved in the orthopaedic governance group at Pilgrim hospital. The role will involve providing a patient perspective on the orthopaedic services and the day to day issues encountered by the patients on the ward or outpatient department.

For any enquiries, comments and to express an interest in any of our meetings or activities, please contact the membership office on (01522) 572301 or email members@ulh.nhs.uk

Good news!

Growing local talent for Lincolnshire NHS



The Trust has just launched its school careers events, aimed at helping to improve the recruitment of staff into Lincolnshire's hospitals by focusing on development of local talent.

The first round of careers events for pupils from across the county were held at Pilgrim Hospital in Boston, Grantham and District Hospital and Lincoln County Hospital. The events focused on careers in nursing, physiotherapy, dietetics and occupational therapy.

Apprenticeship Programme Project Manager at ULHT, Claire Flavell, said: 'We developed these events in response to numerous school enquiries. Each of these events was hosted by professionals working within hospitals, provided an insight into the roles whilst familiarising students with the fast paced and dynamic hospital environment.

These events supported a total of 120 students from across Lincolnshire over the three days.

Hospitals bring new surgery to Lincolnshire

The first Lincolnshire patient has been treated within the county using a new technique for a potentially life-threatening condition called AAA (abdominal aortic aneurysm which forms when the main artery weakens and expands).

The technique involves small incisions being made and a stent put in through the artery to strengthen the wall.

Previously, when an AAA was detected, patients then had to travel to hospitals outside of the county to have the AAA repaired using keyhole surgery.

What we've been doing

When members take part in patient representative activities, they are required to fill out forms to log attendance and feedback contribution and questions, here are some of the points members wanted to feed back in the past month:

To all trained members– Reporting forms do not need to be filled out for attendance at locality forums or pathway review visits, but forms are required for any activity you wish to claim expenses for.

£22,000 donation to boost cancer care at Pilgrim Hospital.

Cancer patients at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston will now benefit from a £22,000 donation from a local charity.

The charity, DOCATEF (Detection of Cancer and Treatment Equipment Fund), have provided the urology department with two video flexible urethrosopes for the diagnosis of bladder cancer, costing £22,000. The charity also donated £7500 to the oncology ward for the purchase of pumps and accessories for the delivery of chemotherapy to patients.

Nazeer Dahar, consultant urologist said, "DOCATEF has been a long term supporter of the urology service at Pilgrim. Their support and equipment donations are high cost and high tech and have benefitted thousands of patients, particularly with early diagnosis and treatment of urological cancer disease."

New A&E service for Grantham and District Hospital

A major new service has been launched at Grantham and District Hospital which will provide faster, better care for patients who are well enough to be seen and discharged on the same day.

The new assessment and ambulatory centre (AAC) provides urgent, same day treatment for patients, so that they don't have to be admitted to hospital if there is no requirement for this.

Patients with certain symptoms who arrive via A&E or are sent by their GP are fast tracked for assessment and appropriate tests by the acute medical team, enabling them to be treated quickly and sent home.

This provides a more positive experience for patients and frees up hospital beds for those who really need them. The service will also play a significant role in reducing the workload in A&E, particularly in the busier winter months.

The new unit at Grantham has been created through a joint investment by United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust and the South West Lincolnshire CCG.

Attendance at Estates Infrastructure and Environment Committee by Peter Palmer November 2015

- Discussed potential for further income streams, particularly relating to staff accommodation at Pilgrim Hospital

Clinical Effectiveness Steering committee attended by Pat Davies November 2015

- Noticed that some of Trust's policies are old and written in different formats. It was agreed that all new policies and procedures will inform Trust's policy for developing implementing clinical documents.