



Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership

MP Briefing – February 2025

This briefing is to provide you with updates from across Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership which may be of interest to you and your constituents.

Key highlights, updates and services

NHS Federated Data Platform to improve patient experience

Hospitals in Humber and North Yorkshire are making steps to improve patient experience and increase efficiency gains by adopting one of the new NHS Federated Data Platform (NHS FDP) solutions.

This month Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust has introduced the patient discharge information tool OPTICA. This follows from Hull University Teaching Hospital Trust, Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust, and York and Scarborough Teaching NHS Foundation Trust introducing the system during 2024.

OPTICA is a digital tool developed as part of NHS England's FDP initiative to improve patient discharge processes and outcomes. By integrating real-time data and advanced analytics, OPTICA streamlines communication across teams, reduces delays for patients no longer needing hospital care, and supports timely and appropriate discharges. Benefits include increased discharge rates, reduced administrative workload, and improved collaboration between organisations to ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

The recent [report by Lord Darzi](#) highlighted that there must be a major tilt towards technology to unlock productivity including through the benefits of using digital systems. The NHS FDP represents a major strategic shift in the way that the NHS can use data to transform the delivery of healthcare services including:

Improved patient experience: The NHS FDP will use innovation to help to get patients treated as quickly as possible, maximising capacity, and support patient readiness to streamline care. Pilot sites have seen discharge delays reduced, enabling patients to leave hospital and get home sooner. The FDP also has solutions to help reduce waiting lists and optimise patient pathways which will be being explored by the ICB.

Efficiency gains: Local teams will be better able to prioritise waiting lists, manage theatre capacity and identify staffing needs. It will help local teams make more effective use of their resources ensuring that tasks are clearly allocated within multidisciplinary teams to treat patients and reduce backlog delays.

You can find out more about the impact of the NHS FDP on the [NHS England website](#).



Centre for Dental Development pilot programme to launch

This is a short update further to previous communications regarding establishing Centres for Dental Development.

We are delighted that a pilot programme has been agreed to be based in Orchard Park, Hull and is due to be operational from February 2025. This initial pilot will focus on training and workforce, with a small cohort of local patients with urgent access needs being contacted directly – **patients should not directly attend or contact the site.**

The initial one-year pilot period will be used to understand expected outcomes and opportunities to assist with consideration of expanding the programme further in the future.

Potential Benefits of Centres for Dental Development:

- Bring together education and training at all levels with service delivery models, particularly in areas of identified need (i.e. areas remote from dental schools and/or specialist services)
- Support recruitment and retention of the dental workforce in areas of need.
- Support undergraduate training and the transition into postgraduate Early Years training (Dental Foundation)
- Develop novel Middle Years and Speciality training in parallel with service provision.
- Support the Primary Care Dental Workforce in training and developing skills leading to Level 2 and Level 3 accreditation and Dental Care Professionals (DCP) pathways – including the Oral Health Practitioner role.
- Support future models for training dental care professionals (e.g., Dental Therapist Apprenticeships, Overseas Dentist equivalence training and preparation for GDC registration)
- Provide experienced Primary Care Dental practitioners with career pathways as Educational Supervisors, helping to retain the NHS workforce in areas of need.

Women's Health Hubs launched across Humber and North Yorkshire

Six Women's Health Hubs have been launched in Humber and North Yorkshire. Primary Care Networks, groups of GP practice which work together to deliver health service in their local community, will host the Women's Health Hubs.

A pilot Women's Health Hub is in each place across Humber and North Yorkshire:

- Holderness Health PCN (East Riding)
- Venn PCN (Hull City Council)
- North Lincolnshire South PCN (North Lincolnshire)



- Meridian PCN (North East Lincolnshire)
- Whitby Coast and Moors PCN (North Yorkshire)
- Priory Medical Group PCN (York)

Clinicians at each Women's Health Hub will receive training in Women's health skills, including menopause care and fitting of contraceptive devices. Clinicians from across health providers will work together in a menopause multi-disciplinary team, ensuring women can receive the menopause care they need close to home. Sexual health providers in York and Hull are working in partnership with GP practice to provide practical training in contraceptive fitting. Further primary care networks are now being invited to form additional Women's Health Hubs.

Development of hubs follows publication of the [Women's Health Strategy for England](#) in 2022. The strategy sets out an ambitious ten-year plan to address the poor experiences and worse health outcomes that women experience.

To find out more information about Women's Health Hubs in Humber and North Yorkshire, please visit [Women Living Well Longer Programme - Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership](#)

Key public messages

As the colder weather continues, we wanted to take this opportunity to again share some useful tips on staying healthy this winter. The following items provide some handy advice and updates to support people to look after themselves during the colder months.

Looking after yourself and others during cold weather

Those living across Humber and North Yorkshire are being urged to keep warm and look out for friends, family and neighbours who might be vulnerable to the cold weather.

Cold weather can have serious consequences for health, and older people and those with heart or lung conditions can be particularly at risk. Keeping warm can help prevent colds, flu, and more serious health problems such as heart attacks, strokes, pneumonia, and depression. There are some simple steps you can follow to stay well during the low temperatures:

- **Heat your home to at least 18°C (65°F).** You might prefer your main living room to be slightly warmer.
- **Keep your bedroom window closed on winter nights.** Breathing cold air can be bad for your health as it increases the risk of chest infections.
- **Keep active when you're indoors.** Try not to sit still for more than an hour or so.
- **Wear several layers of light clothes.** Several layers trap warm air better than one bulky layer.



- **Food is a vital source of energy** and helps to keep your body warm so have plenty of hot food and drinks.
- **Keeping well** will allow you to do more and keep your independence. Being cold isn't just uncomfortable it can be bad for your health. Sitting or sleeping in a cold room is not good for you and increases the risk of heart attacks, stroke and breathing problems.
- **Don't let the cold catch you out**, check the weather forecast and be ready for cold weather.
- **Wear shoes with a good grip** to prevent slips and falls.
- **Make sure you have spare medication** in case you are unable to go out.

You can find lots more information and helpful tips to help you [stay warm this winter](#), including local information for your area.

It is important anyone struggling to heat their homes ensure they get all the help they are entitled to. Grants, benefits and advice are available to make homes more energy efficient, improve heating or help with bills. You can find out more [ways to save energy in your home from GOV.UK](#), or call the government helpline on 0800 444 202.

[Find out more from GOV.UK about benefits and financial support for those on a low income.](#)

NHS 111: Your first stop for urgent care this winter

As we enter 2025 and the winter continues, the local NHS in Humber and North Yorkshire is encouraging people to use NHS 111 to get the medical help they need.

Traditionally the busiest time of the year for the NHS, the increase in demand across services can put a strain on the local healthcare system.

However, using NHS 111 to “get the “right care, first time” can help to reduce pressure on the NHS, including in hospital A&E departments, meaning doctors and nurses can focus on treating those people who need it most.

In order for staff to prioritise care for those who are sickest and most vulnerable, people who need urgent medical help are encouraged to use NHS 111 [online](#), via the NHS App, or telephone.

Highly trained advisors at NHS 111 will assess and direct people to the most appropriate local service, including hospital urgent treatment centres, GP practices, and consultations with a pharmacist. If needed, staff can also arrange a call back from a nurse, doctor or paramedic.

Crisis mental health support, access to emergency prescriptions and signposting to emergency dental help are also available via NHS 111.

In serious or life-threatening emergencies, people should still use 999 or A&E as normal.



People urged to 'Think Pharmacy First' this winter

People with minor illnesses are being urged to 'Think Pharmacy First' this winter. Under the scheme, launched last year, patients can get [treatment for seven common conditions](#) directly from their local community pharmacy, without needing a GP appointment or prescription.

Pharmacists are able to supply prescription-only medicines, including antibiotics and antivirals where clinically appropriate, to treat:-

- Sinusitis
- Sore throat
- Earache
- Infected insect bite
- Impetigo (a bacterial skin infection)
- Shingles
- Uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women.

Four in five people in England can reach a community pharmacy within a 20-minute walk and there are twice as many pharmacies in the most deprived communities, making access to care quicker and more convenient. To find the nearest pharmacy, visit www.nhs.uk/find-a-pharmacy.

Get winter strong with important vaccinations

Throughout the winter we have been urging eligible groups, including older adults, children, pregnant women, and those with certain health conditions, to get vaccinated against flu, COVID-19, and RSV this winter. We previously provided information on [the importance on keeping up to date on vaccinations](#).

Whilst the latest COVID vaccination programme comes to an end on 31 January, flu vaccines remain available for those eligible until 31 March 2025. People can check their vaccine eligibility and find a local vaccination centre at www.letsgetvaccinated.co.uk

Update from Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance

Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance trains hair and beauty salon staff to raise awareness about cervical cancer

Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance has been working with hair and beauty salon staff in Hull, Goole, Scarborough, Scunthorpe and Grimsby during January's Cervical Cancer Awareness Month to encourage their customers to attend their cervical cancer screening appointments and educate them about the symptoms of the disease.

Every day, two women die of cervical cancer in England, yet 99.8% of cases are preventable. The best way to reduce your risk of cervical cancer is to attend your cervical screening appointment if you are invited.



The Cancer Alliance has offered a free training course to salons in these low screening take-up areas to equip the staff with the skills to have conversations about cervical cancer with their customers. By taking part, salon owners and their staff can break down the barriers that may stop one of their customers from booking a screening appointment.

The campaign has been well covered by the region's media outlets, recently featuring on BBC Online, BBC Look North, ITV Calendar, BBC Radio Humberside, BBC Radio York, Hull Daily Mail, and Greatest Hits Radio (formerly Viking FM) to name a few.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the Cancer Alliance's Cervical Cancer Awareness Month campaign and to find out how you can raise awareness among your constituents.

NHS Targeted Lung Health Checks update

People in Scunthorpe and the outlying west Hull villages are continuing to take up the offer of a free NHS targeted lung health check – with thousands more people in North Lincolnshire and East Riding of Yorkshire to be invited to have their check in the coming months.

Lung health checks are currently being offered to people in parts of North Lincolnshire and East Riding of Yorkshire following successful roll-out phases in Hull (from 2019) and North East Lincolnshire (from 2023). Lung health checks are due to be offered to residents in the York and North Yorkshire areas in phases from April 2025.

Since November's briefing, past and current smokers, aged between 55 and 74, who are registered with one of the following GP practices in Scunthorpe are now being invited for a lung health check:

- Ashby Turn Primary Care Centre
- Church Lane Medical Centre
- Cambridge Avenue Medical Centre

Eligible people living in the outlying west Hull villages who are registered with one of the following GP practices are now being invited for their lung health check:

- Wolseley Medical Centre
- Calvert Surgery
- Newington Surgery
- The Oaks Medical Centre
- Hastings Medical Centre
- Princes Medical Centre
- Modality Partnership (West Hull Health Hub)
- Clifton House Medical Centre
- St Andrew's Surgery

Since the Humber and North Yorkshire Lung Health Check programme launched in 2019/20, 87,210 people have been invited to have their lung health check, with 38,981 accepting the offer and having a lung health check.



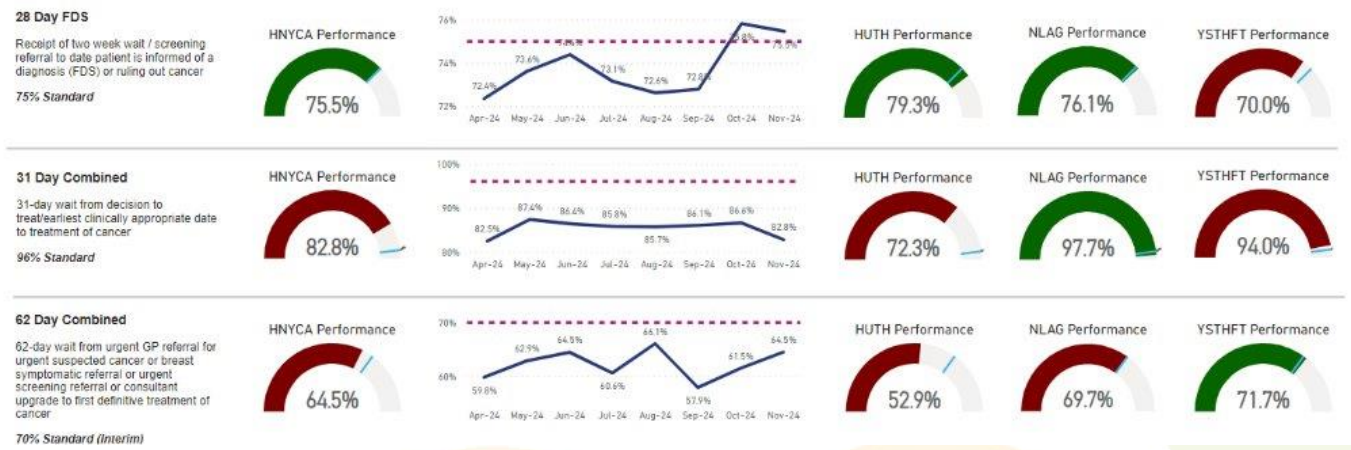
Of those people who received an initial lung health check assessment, 19,037 required and received a low-dose CT scan.

Visit lunghealthcheck.org.uk to find out more about the Humber and North Yorkshire Lung Health Check programme.

Monthly cancer waiting time performance

We appreciate that many of your constituents might be undergoing diagnosis and / or treatment for cancer, or will have loved ones who are, so they will be keen to understand the position relating to cancer diagnosis and treatment in Humber and North Yorkshire.

We therefore share the table below which shows the November 2024 cancer waiting time (CWT) figures for Humber and North Yorkshire and for the three hospital trusts which provide cancer services. Please note that these results are the latest available.



For further information or to discuss these themes in more detail, please contact:
hnyicb.mpqueries@nhs.net.

With best wishes

Sue Symington
Chair

Amanda Bloor
Deputy Chief Executive



Glossary

Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership is one of 42 **Integrated Care Systems (ICSs)** which cover England to meet health and care needs across an area, coordinate services and plan in a way that improves population health and reduces inequalities between different groups. The Partnership comprises of NHS organisations, local councils, health and care providers and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations.

NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) is a core member of the Partnership and is accountable for NHS spend and performance for the 1.7million people across the region.

Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) is a standalone statutory committee between the ICB and Local Government. The focus of ICPs is on the wider connections between health and wider issues including socio-economic development, housing, employment and environment. It should take a collective approach to decision-making and support mutual accountability across the ICS.