

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 our latest opportunities here. **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.**

Becoming a volunteer within Lincolnshire's hospitals

We are looking recruit additional volunteers into roles across all of our hospital.

With this winter expected to be challenging for the Trust, volunteers can make a tremendous difference to the patient experience particularly in ward areas.

If you or anyone you know are interested in becoming an active volunteer with us, details of current volunteer vacancies, and how to apply can be found on our website at www.ulh.nhs.uk/getting_involved/volunteering or email us at voluntary_services@ulh.nhs.uk or ring 01522 597838



Patient representatives to help with staff awards judging

This year, the Great Patient Experience category of the ULHT staff awards is open for nominations from patients only.

We'd like our Trust members to help in judging entries for this category.

If you're interested in getting involved in a panel in January 2016 to long-list the awards nominations, please get in touch.

Good news!

Two services triumph in national awards



A service developed to transform the way patients with respiratory illnesses are treated has won a prestigious healthcare award.

Nurses, doctors and support staff at ULHT won the Frontline Innovations category at the East Midlands Innovation in Healthcare Awards, for their work developing a service to assess the needs of patients with COPD more quickly, ensuring they are able to leave hospital sooner.

In addition, Grantham's ground-breaking "hospice in the hospital" has been announced as the winner of the End of Life Care Development award at the Building Better Healthcare Awards 2015

The hospice, a joint venture between ULHT and St Barnabas Hospice, was recognised for its innovative unique approach of providing care to patients under the responsibility of GPs but with access to hospital nurses, doctors and therapists.

New Trust Chief Executive

We are pleased to announce that Jan Sobieraj will start as the new chief executive of ULHT on **Monday 7 December**.

Jan joins us from the NHS Leadership Academy, and we are grateful that they have allowed him to start with us earlier than expected.

Kevin Turner will continue as acting chief executive until Jan starts.

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.

£1m boost for x-ray in county hospitals

Lincolnshire patients will benefit from faster and more effective treatment following a £950,000 investment in new x-ray equipment.

ULHT has upgraded its x-ray departments at Lincoln County Hospital and John Coupland Hospital, Gainsborough so that both units now provide fully digital x-ray images and radiography.

This will improve the experience of patients, help doctors to provide much faster diagnoses and health professionals to access the information at the touch of a button.

Direct digital radiography is faster than the alternative film, with images produced in seconds. The quality of the images are better which increases the accuracy of diagnoses and reduces the amount of radiation received by a patient.

Make the right choice this winter

The NHS in Lincolnshire is asking people to think twice before visiting A&E.

During autumn and winter, NHS services are very busy particularly hospital and community services. Lincolnshire people can help by using the alternative urgent care services available in the county.

Dr Suneil Kapadia, medical director for ULHT said "I urge everyone to think twice before they go to A&E. If it's not serious or life threatening, you shouldn't be there."

"Many illnesses can be better treated by visiting your local pharmacy, calling 111, visiting your local GP or GP out of hours services, or attending a walk in centre or a minor injuries unit."

More information on non-emergency healthcare services is available at www.choosebetterlincs.co.uk or www.nhs.uk for a list of pharmacies.

Attendance at Grantham Health and Safety Committee by Michael Cassidy October 2015

- Trust website needs updating regarding location of services at Grantham hospital.
- Issues with disabled access to PAU at Grantham raised with facilities team.
- Question over uniforms for agency staff being different to permanent staff– causing confusion.

Hygiene audit at Grantham hospital by Michael Cassidy October 2015

- Generally all areas met the standard, no areas for concern.