

#NHS100Challenge gets off to a flying start

The Lincolnshire Talent Academy, established by ULHT, is leading the way in an ambitious countywide bid to recruit 100 extra apprentices into the local NHS by June 2019 - part of our continuing work to address staffing shortages and find new ways to use our workforce differently to benefit our patients.

Begun during National Apprenticeship Week in March, the Talent Academy launched the innovative **#NHS100Challenge** across United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT) and its partners at Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) and Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) in a bid to increase the numbers of apprenticeships being taken up across each of the organisations.

In the first three weeks of March alone 20 new recruits were signed up to posts at ULHT across a range of clinical and non-clinical programmes, which include a variety of apprenticeship pathways from health care support worker roles to senior leadership masters programmes.

In total, 36 staff were recruited to apprenticeship programmes across the three Trusts combined during the first three weeks of the challenge which runs until Tuesday 11 June.

Throughout Apprenticeship Week, ULHT and Lincolnshire Talent Academy staff hosted a number of system-wide roadshows across each of our hospital sites, promoting the benefits of apprenticeships to new and existing staff and the wide-ranging development opportunities they can offer.

The **#NHS100Challenge** was launched in Lincolnshire in view of the national shortage of staff in key roles across the NHS, to take proactive steps to grow our own talent within Lincolnshire, using the apprenticeship programme to deliver our range of structured career development pathways that offer accredited training for our future workforce.

With apprenticeships at their heart, career pathways offer individuals of any age the unique opportunity to work, train and study towards a range of professional roles whilst employed locally.

There are currently 165 staff undertaking apprenticeship programmes across ULHT, ranging from trainee nursing associate and pharmacy roles to posts in finance and business administration.

To find out more about the various career paths available to explore across the NHS, visit the Talent Academy website – www.lincstalentacademy.org.uk or email nhs.talent@ulh.nhs.uk. You can also find them on Facebook and on Twitter and Instagram @LincsTALAC.