

Integrated Care Board

Date of meeting	13 November 2024
Title of paper	Chair's Board Report
Presented by	Emma Woollett, Chair, Integrated Care Board
Author	Debra Atkinson, Company Secretary/Director of Governance Maria Louca, Senior Assistant and Corporate Affairs Manager
Agenda item	6
Confidential	No

Executive summary				
<p>This is the first Chair's report since taking up appointment in September 2024. This report aims to provide an update for the Board on the engagement and work undertaken by the Chair and any current and pertinent issues.</p> <p>The report includes key areas to consider over that period and will be enhanced where appropriate by a verbal update where things have occurred after the report was published.</p>				
Recommendations				
The Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board is requested to note the updates provided.				
Which Strategic Objective/s does the report relate to:				Tick
SO1	Improve quality, including safety, clinical outcomes, and patient experience			X
SO2	To equalise opportunities and clinical outcomes across the area			X
SO3	Make working in Lancashire and South Cumbria an attractive and desirable option for existing and potential employees			X
SO4	Meet financial targets and deliver improved productivity			X
SO5	Meet national and locally determined performance standards and targets			X
SO6	To develop and implement ambitious, deliverable strategies			X
Implications				
	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Associated risks			X	
Are associated risks detailed on the ICB Risk Register?			X	
Financial Implications			X	
Where paper has been discussed (list other committees/forums that have discussed this paper)				
Meeting	Date		Outcomes	
N/A	N/A			

Conflicts of interest associated with this report				
not applicable				
Impact assessments				
	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Quality impact assessment completed			N/A	
Equality impact assessment completed			N/A	
Data privacy impact assessment completed			N/A	

Report authorised by:	Emma Woollett, Chair, Integrated Care Board
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Integrated Care Board – 13 November 2024

Chair's Board Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is the first Chair's report since taking up appointment in September 2024. This report aims to provide an update for the Board on the engagement and work undertaken by the Chair and any current and pertinent issues.
- 1.2. The report includes key areas to consider over that period and will be enhanced where appropriate by a verbal update where things have occurred after the report was published.
- 1.3. It will incorporate any major updates on ICB and system governance and any decisions made under Chair's action for ratification by the board.

2. Engagement

Since our last board meeting in September, I have spent time having introductory meetings with colleagues and getting up to speed on the current challenges and issues we face here in Lancashire and South Cumbria. As part of my introductions, I have met with colleagues within the ICB and across NHS organisations as well as with our partners, including Local Authority Leaders and Universities. It is clear to me already from these meetings that there is enormous enthusiasm and appetite to work collaboratively across organisational boundaries to improve what we do and how we do it in a way that better meets the needs of the population we serve.

- 2.1. In early October, NHS England held their annual board meeting in Blackpool, which was followed by a number of visits to local services. I visited Whitegate Health Centre with the NHSE Chair where we learnt about the huge opportunities for acute primary care services to meet many urgent care needs locally, often instead of requiring a hospital visit. I also visited the wards at The Harbour mental health hospital, which provides care and treatment for adults who cannot be safely treated at home. I was delighted to hear about the transformation that has taken place there to create such a well-run and caring place of sanctuary. I was hugely impressed with both visits and want to thank the staff working across those services who welcomed us.
- 2.2. I had the privilege to be included in the ICB's staff development day in early October. The day involved meeting more than 600 of our staff and I heard more about our vision and individual commitments to the long-term vision and behaviors that we want to see within our organisation going forward. The passion and commitment within Lancashire and South Cumbria was palpable at that event and, while I recognise it's been quite an organisational journey for all over

the last few years, I was really impressed by the level of energy for making positive change for patients over the next few years.

- 2.3. And finally, Kevin and I were pleased to play a part in the recruitment of the new chair for Lancashire Teaching Hospital this month. As with the recruitment of James Wilkie at Blackpool a couple of months' ago, an excellent appointment has been made.

2. Governance

2.1 Given the challenges we are currently facing I will be helping the board work through what is important and to focus on the priorities for the short and medium term. This includes the need to support transformation and focusing on the medium and long-term priorities, including organisational development and improving the culture of the organisation.

2.2 I am keen to ensure that the board maintains a strategic focus, and that its committees and wider governance arrangements are working as effectively as possible to support the board in doing this. I am getting up to speed with the current governance arrangements and have observed some of the ICBs committees and I am struck by the commitment and contributions of board members and staff in these committees. I intend to undertake a review of our current arrangements in the coming weeks and to look at any opportunities to strengthen these. This review will include full engagement and contributions from non-executive and executive members.

3. Non-Executive Members

3.1 Since our last board meeting in September, I'm pleased to inform you that Jim Birrell will continue as a non-executive member until December 2025. We still have a board vacancy for a non-executive member, and I will be looking to start the appointment process for this role early in the new year.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Board is requested to:

- Note the contents of the report.
- Receive a further report at its meeting in January 2025

Emma Woollett

6 November 2024