



Dr Nigel Wells, Clinical Chair of the Governing Body

This was a well-attended meeting from members of the public and I thank them for taking the time to come and hear the session.

- A section of the meeting was dedicated to Public Health and the Governing Body received a very interesting presentation from Dr Lincoln Sargeant, the Director of Public Health at North Yorkshire County Council.
- Public health budgets in local government are no longer protected and we made a commitment to work with all local government partners to ensure that this does not change the emphasis on important work around prevention and treatment.
- A percentage of children are living in poverty across North Yorkshire and the ways that these children are identified and offered help needs to improve.
- There are also some very deprived areas in North Yorkshire and partnership working to reduce health inequalities is needed.
- The Protected Learning Time event for our primary care colleagues was welcomed widely. The Opiate Aware session has already produced actions for improving safety and patient care.

- The excellent work within our local Continuing Healthcare system is creating better, more tailored assessments for patients. This work has been viewed positively by our regulators, NHS England.
- Unity Health has recently received a 'Good' rating by the Care Quality Commission. This great news highlights the practice's hard work which has been supported by the CCG and the LMC.
- Conversations between hospital specialists and GPs to review treatment pathways are progressing well. We hope these continue despite the local system's financial issues.
- The Governing Body discussed the recent increase in referral activity and the work underway to understand the reasons for this.
- Members also discussed the recent and larger than expected rates of infection within YTHFT. Investigations are being led by the CCG.
- The local healthcare system's financial position is still an issue despite the assurances from all system partners to work together on a five year plan that will benefit the whole system. So far there is limited evidence from some partners.

One of my aims as Clinical Chair is to continue the focus on better patient safety, enhanced treatment and pathway effectiveness and improved health outcomes and this will continue to happen despite the arguments over money.

I'll leave you with some reflections from Drs Ebbs and Walker who were also at the meeting.

This month the focus on Public Health was extremely helpful to guide how we meet the needs of our population. Much of the information presented was already understood, but the scale of our challenges was clearer.

We spent a lot of time discussing the progress of primary care networks (PCN) and the Public Health Team's ambition to support PCNs with local data and intelligence. Our Public Health colleagues are keen to integrate with us to ensure we co-design improved services for patients and reduce duplication of activity at a PCN level.

As a GP representative on the Governing Body I continue to provide clinical feedback about changes, developments and proposed projects. This feedback is centred on the impact of changes on patients and services, both positive and negative.



Dr Helena Ebbs, North Locality GP representative



Dr Ruth Walker, South locality GP representative

We had a great session in public this month. It was good to have our Public Health colleagues Dr Lincoln Sargeant, Kathryn Ingold and Sharon Stolz contributing to the conversations.

Lincoln's presentation was engaging, focusing on health inequalities, mental health, obesity and the ageing population. Life expectancy varies nine years between the least and most deprived wards in North Yorkshire. As a CCG we were challenged to do more to tackle health inequality and I will ensure this remains a focus for our Governing Body.

Lisa Marriott presented a very good paper shaping the CCGs Community Strategy which clearly links with the NHS Long Term Plan and the development of Primary Care Networks. The details are available in [Item 9 of the Governing Body papers](#).

Nigel continues to drive forward closer working between primary and secondary care in the development of patient pathways and there was a good meeting with the elderly care team and GP representatives at the end of the day.

The next Governing Body meeting takes place on Thursday 2 May 2019. The meeting venue is to be confirmed and will be published on the CCG's website.