



bettertogether

Consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust

Full Consultation Document

Your views on a new NHS Foundation Trust delivering the highest quality
clinical services for the people in East Lancashire

May 2012



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Foreword from the Chief Executive and Chairman

This consultation document sets out our plans for becoming an NHS Foundation Trust (FT). We are applying to become an FT because we believe it is the best way to maintain local services and make sure that our local communities have a greater say in how healthcare services are delivered in the future so that we can develop what we do to better meet the needs of our local communities.

We have been working towards achieving FT status for some time. Our original application was launched in 2007 and we have spent the time since then consolidating and developing our services, culture and personnel to ensure we are in the best possible position to continue to provide healthcare services into the future in an environment of on-going change and challenging financial circumstances across the whole of the NHS. We have completed our service reconfiguration plan, Meeting Patient Needs, and have started to realise the benefits of the changes we have made with:

- the opening of the Lancashire Women and Newborn Centre and midwife led birthing units across the area
- year on year reductions in the number of hospital acquired (post 48 hours) MRSA cases
- year on year reductions in the number of C Difficile cases
- a reduction in our hospital mortality rate
- full achievement of the 18 week referral to treatment median waiting times
- full achievement of all cancer waiting time targets
- full achievement of the accident and emergency target requiring 95%+ of patients to spend a total time of 4 hours or less in Accident and Emergency
- improved health outcomes for patients particularly in cardiology
- consolidation of our recovered financial position
- strengthened clinical leadership across all services
- improving engagement with stakeholders, particularly commissioners
- a relentless focus on continually improving patient safety, outcomes and experience.

We are now moving ahead with our new FT application and we are launching a formal consultation with the public and our staff on 8th May 2012, with the aim of being authorised as an FT from April 2013. Your views on our application and our plans for the future are vitally important to us as we see both the application process and achieving FT status as our opportunity to continue the conversation with our stakeholders and communities about the delivery of healthcare services in our local area.



We are now moving ahead with our new FT application and we are launching a formal consultation with the public and our staff on 8th May 2012, with the aim of being authorised as an FT from April 2013.



We have provided in this document details of how we propose to deliver services into the future, what services we propose to develop over the next five years and why, and how we intend to ensure our local communities, staff and stakeholders can influence service developments and the way we do business. All comments received during the consultation period will be formally recorded and considered and will help shape our application to become an FT which will be made to the Secretary of State in October 2012. If approved, our application will then be passed to Monitor, the independent regulator of Foundation Trusts.

The earliest date of our establishment as a Foundation Trust is April 2013. A report will be prepared at the conclusion of the consultation process detailing the responses we have received and will be available to download from our website at the end of September 2012.

Thank you for taking the time to read about our plans to become an NHS Foundation Trust. This is an exciting time for our organisation as we prepare to join the family of Foundation Trusts across the country and renew our focus on delivering health services across East Lancashire for you and your family.

[Hazel Harding](#)
Chairman

[Mark Brearley](#)
Chief Executive

Introduction

The purpose of this consultation document is to explain why we are applying to become an NHS Foundation Trust (FT). As part of the application process we have to formally consult on our plans for the future. This document summarises our future strategy and is our formal consultation document.

FTs are part of the NHS and are committed to its core principles of treating NHS patients according to their clinical need, free at the point of delivery. They are membership organisations free from central government control.

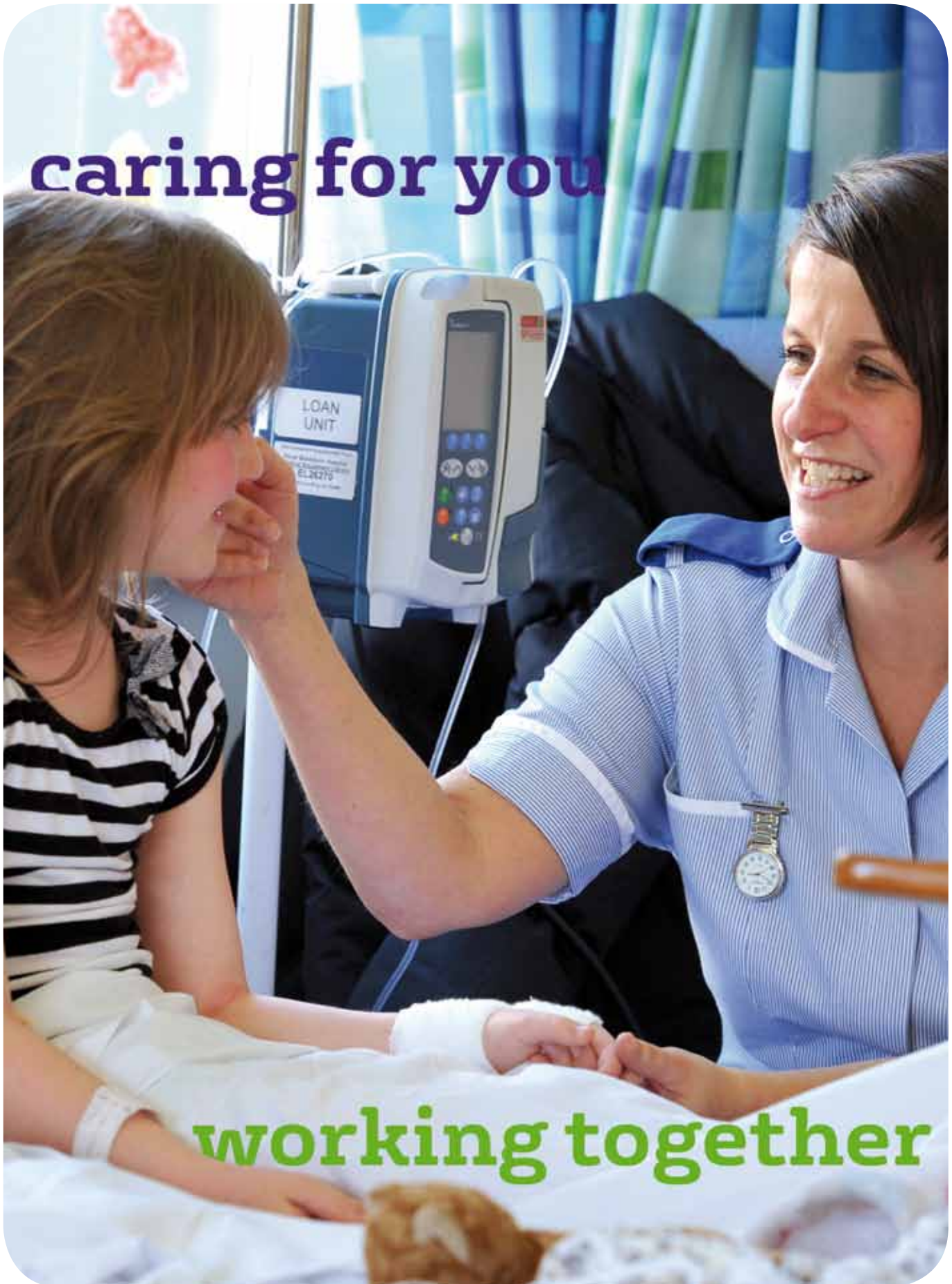
FTs have more freedom to decide how to run their affairs and deliver services and are accountable to local communities and partner organisations for how they run and deliver those services. Becoming an FT is an important development for the Trust and to survive into the future, the organisation must complete a successful application before April 2014.

We really want you to be involved in the future of our organisation both by responding through this formal consultation process and into the future by becoming a Member, or even a Governor, of the Trust. We want to listen to your views on our plans and look forward to receiving your responses to the key questions we have posed throughout the document. There are a variety of ways to respond to our formal consultation process which are set out in the final section of this document.



We want to listen to your views on our plans and look forward to receiving your responses to the key questions we have posed throughout the document.





Who We Are and What We Do

LOCATION

East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust provides care to our local population in a range of community and acute hospital settings. We are located in Lancashire in the heart of the North West of England, with Bolton and Manchester to the south, Preston to the west and the Pennines to the east forming a natural boundary with Yorkshire. We provide healthcare services primarily to the residents of East Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen, which have a combined population of 521,400.

We have a total of 971 beds, comprised of 632 beds at the Royal Blackburn Hospital site, 291 beds at the Burnley General Hospital and Pendle Community Hospital sites, 30 community inpatient beds at Clitheroe Community Hospital and 18 community inpatient beds at Accrington Victoria Hospital.

SERVICES

We provide a full range of services both in the community and from the two main hospital sites, Burnley General Hospital and the Royal Blackburn Hospital. We are a specialist centre for Hepatobiliary, Head and Neck and Urological Cancer services, in addition to being a growing centre for Cardiology services and a network provider of Level 3 Neonatal Intensive Care. Our relentless focus on patient safety and quality has enabled the Care Quality Commission to register the Trust to provide services without conditions. Our key commitment is to the delivery of the best possible healthcare services to the local population while ensuring the future viability of our services by continually improving the productivity and efficiency of services. This core focus

has enabled demonstrable improvement in our key access, quality and performance indicators. There is a strong focus on performance management within the Trust. Performance reporting and improvement plans are a key feature of board and senior management discussions. As a result there is a good record of achievement in delivering against performance targets. The Trust achieved all targets in 2011/12.

STAFF

The Trust is a major local employer employing just over 7,000 people. The whole time equivalent (wte) workforce is 6,200, which includes 860 wtes transferred in April 2011 under Transforming Community Services from adult community services formerly provided by NHS East Lancashire. We recognise that our on-going success is due to the hard work, dedication and commitment of all our staff and volunteers.



We provide healthcare services primarily to the residents of East Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen, which have a combined population of 521,400.





FINANCES

We have delivered consecutive financial surpluses for the years 2007/8 to 2011/12 whilst experiencing activity growth, increases in complex case mix and general cost pressures throughout the period; and we achieved a pre-audit surplus of £3.0m in 2011/12 and delivered cost improvement savings of £18.9m.

There are two private finance initiative (PFI) schemes for parts of the buildings at Royal Blackburn Hospital and Burnley General Hospital sites, valued at over £70m and £20m respectively. In addition to this the Trust has continued to make major investments in its healthcare facilities, predominantly focusing on its commitment to the Burnley General Hospital site, with the £32m development of the Lancashire Women and Newborn Centre.

In April 2011, adult community services transferred to the Trust from NHS East Lancashire with an annual turnover of around £40 million. We are progressing well with our strategy to transform the Trust into a fully integrated healthcare provider.

The Trust's two main commissioners are NHS East Lancashire Teaching PCT and NHS Blackburn with Darwen Teaching Care Trust Plus with NHS East Lancashire Teaching PCT acting as lead commissioner for the local health economy.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Trust Board leads the organisation and is supported by five divisions:

- Surgery and Anaesthetic Services
- Medicine
- Family Care
- Diagnostic and Clinical Support Services
- Community Services.

The divisions are led by Divisional Directors in accordance with our operating principle of being clinically led and management supported. The Divisions are supported by a number of corporate services such as Human Resources, Finance, Governance and Information.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Trust has a contract with the Deanery administered by NHS North West to provide training and education for our medical staff. On average we have 50 BTEC cadets, 360 Professional Students, 575 undergraduate medical students and 343 doctors in training on placement within the organisation on an annual basis in addition to the internal learning and development opportunities we provide for all staff.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Trust is recognised as having a strong research and development culture and is ranked best in the North West for the number of patients taking part in clinical trials.

Our Vision and Values

OUR VISION

The commitment to continually improving quality, safety, patient outcomes and the patient experience is at the core of what we do. Our vision is to deliver the best care with our community, locally.

OUR VALUES

Our values are the beliefs that guide the decisions of the organisation and the behaviour of all our staff.

- respect the individual
- put patients and customers first
- promote positive change
- act with integrity
- serve the community.

OUR OPERATING PRINCIPLES

Our operating principles help us to translate our vision and values into concrete actions and set out our expectations about how everyone in the organisation will deal with their work, each other and external stakeholders. They are:

- Understand the world we live in and deal with it
- We are clinically lead and management supported
- Support departments support the front line
- Everything is delivered by and through the Divisions
- Compliance with standards and targets is a given. They are the things we do to secure our independence and influence.
- Quality is our organising principle – driving quality up and cost down is not mutually exclusive.



The commitment to continually improving quality, safety, patient outcomes and the patient experience is at the core of what we do.





What Are NHS Foundation Trusts and Why Do We Want To Become One?

Our proposals have been developed to ensure that we can take full advantage of the opportunities offered by FT status to benefit our patients, staff and local communities.

FTs are a type of NHS organisation which answers directly to local communities. This means that patients, the public and our staff will have a greater say in what we do in the future and how we do it. The Board of Directors will be responsible for the day to day running of the organisation, however, local people will have the chance to be a member of our FT and elect a Council of Governors who will work with us in developing services and the future direction of the Trust.

FTs are:

- Not run for profit
- Part of the NHS
- Free at the point of use
- Keep to service standards and meet performance targets
- Regularly inspected and monitored.

FTs are established as “public benefit corporations” similar to mutual building societies and cooperatives. Each FT has a licence which sets out the services it must provide and the rules it must stick to. The independent regulator, Monitor, has the power to step in if a Trust does not keep to these rules. To become an FT we must meet the strict requirements set out by Monitor which include demonstrating that we use tax payer’s money well, that we have clear plans for the future and that we are well run.

We are applying to become an FT because:

- We will be able to more closely involve staff, patients, the public and our partner organisations in the delivery of our services
- We want you to be involved in the future of this organisation and help us decide on our future direction
- Patients and staff will be at the heart of our organisation; our new Council of Governors will be responsible for representing the interests of our local communities, patients and their families, the general public and our partner organisations in the stewardship and management of the FT and will be able to influence decisions about spending and service developments
- It will give us greater freedom to grow and develop services to meet the particular health needs of our local communities and continue to improve our patients’ experience of our services
- We will have financial freedoms to borrow money and retain any extra money we earn to invest in new services based on our local health needs rather than having to return money to the Department of Health.



Our proposals have been developed to ensure that we can take full advantage of the opportunities offered by FT status to benefit our patients, staff and local communities.



Patients, staff and local people will have a formal way to be involved in how the Trust is governed and in developing plans for the future. Involvement, as a free member of the Trust, can be as little or as much as you like. As a member you:

- Will be able to vote for somebody to represent you on the Council of Governors or put yourself forward for election as a Governor if you wish. Governors have a number of powers that significantly affect the running of the Trust
- Will be asked for your views on how we should develop services and on how well we are doing
- Will receive information about what we are doing to improve things and invitations to attend events or receive further information about those service areas where you have a particular interest.

Why Do You Want My Views?

We want you to play a role in shaping the future provision of services that meet your needs and those of your family and friends in the local community. You can do that by providing feedback through this consultation process, by becoming a member of the Foundation Trust or by being elected as a Governor of the Trust. These methods enable you to have a more direct impact on the Trust than those currently available to you. We want to be inclusive of our community and genuinely work together to better understand your needs and to help you to understand the way in which health care provision is delivered and why. We welcome your views and advice to contribute to a genuine debate that will ensure the Trust becomes increasingly responsive to the communities we serve.

We are interested in your views on all parts of our application but particularly invite your views on:

- Our plan to become a Foundation Trust
- What we want to achieve and how we will go about it
- Our plans for our services
- Membership arrangements.
- How the Council of Governors will be made up
- The name of the new organisation.

Your views do matter – as part of the application process the results of our consultation will be independently checked and we'll be asked to provide evidence of how we've taken your views into account within our final plans.

At the end of this document you will find details of the various public events that will be taking place during the consultation period. Please feel free to attend one of these events to provide your feedback on our plans or let us know what you think by using the enclosed response form, emailing ftenquiries@elht.nhs.uk.

If you are a community group and would be interested in inviting the Trust to a meeting please contact us.



Your views do matter – as part of the application process the results of our consultation will be independently checked and we'll be asked to provide evidence of how we've taken your views into account within our final plans.





Our Plans for Future Services

The Trust is working closely with its commissioners and key stakeholders to develop a shared strategic vision for the future. Service development plans for the next five years have been progressed through engagement with key partners. The service development plans reflect the ambition of the Trust while recognising the wider economic conditions.

At the heart of our strategy is our clinical strategy which can be summarised as follows:

“We aspire to be a high performing integrated healthcare provider working in close partnerships to deliver high quality, local, sustainable care for the people in the eastern part of Lancashire. Specifically we will deliver excellent clinical services to and in our local community, where we will have an increasing presence. We will also provide high quality, safe and sustainable hospital services for our local population. Where appropriate we will establish or further develop a small number of complex services thereby ensuring some local patients do not need to travel for their specialist care.”

Therefore at the heart of our business plan and clinical strategy is a drive to ensure that we are a provider of quality and value for money services. The Trust has placed quality and safety as a main strategic theme within its clinical strategy. It is our organising principle and the foundation of how we progress service development.

ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICES

The team within the Orthopaedic Directorate have a clear vision to be an ‘Orthopaedic Centre of Excellence’ which meets the orthopaedic needs of the local population.

Over recent years East Lancashire Hospitals Trust has seen unprecedented demand in Orthopaedic activity which it has been unable to deliver due to the sheer volume of work and resulting capacity issues. This demand is driven by an ageing but more active population, a desire to reduce waiting times for elective Orthopaedic surgery and a shift in population in terms of deprivation, health awareness and bone fragility. Our response to this has been to sub-contract activity to the private sector in order to deliver on 18 week referral to treatment time requirements.

It is recognised that there is an opportunity to bring back work from the independent sector and also the opportunity to develop orthopaedic services further by ensuring we are the provider of choice for the local population.



It is our organising principle and the foundation of how we progress service development.



The proposal, therefore, is to accommodate this through a phased approach to represent steady and sustainable growth.

- Phase 1
Bring back work sub-contracted to the independent sector. This commenced with the appointment of the 20th Orthopaedic Consultant with an interest in Paediatrics in February 2012.
- Phase 2
Ensure patients increasingly choose our services for their treatment

OBSTETRIC SERVICES

The Trust also aspires to be the provider of choice for obstetrics not only for the local population, but also, through its strong reputation for quality of care for patients from neighbouring areas.

With the opening of the state of the art Lancashire Women's and Newborns Centre on the Burnley General site in November 2010, the service has the capacity to attract activity from beyond the immediate catchment area. Closure and consolidation of services in surrounding Trusts under the 'Making it Better' initiative provides the service with the opportunity to

correct some of the drift to other providers and attract additional patient flow.

The service aims to optimise the value of the Lancashire Women's and Newborns Centre, by offering high quality services in first class surroundings. The workforce will be developed to deliver 21st century health care using modern tools and techniques for maximum health benefits. By participating in the nationally recognised "Enhanced Recovery Programme" shorter lengths of stay with speedier recovery times will be achieved.

4D scanning will provide opportunities for both commercial and clinical gain. Local women will have access to scanning facilities locally that have previously only been available in the larger teaching hospitals. This means women with complex obstetric needs will no longer have large distances to travel.

REHABILITATION SERVICES

The NHS Operating Framework creates clearer incentives to drive integration between health and social care. Our 2 main commissioners have identified the need to review and re-commission rehabilitation services.

The anticipated outcomes and benefits of the redesign work have been identified as:

- Remodelling and mainstreaming of intermediate care incorporating recovery, general rehabilitation, specialist rehabilitation and dementia care
- Performance measures for integrated health and social care beds
- Integrated health and social care workforce
- Increased level of function and independence for clients
- Flexibility for patients being able to move between the elements according to need
- Facilitate patient flow from acute services and avoid delayed discharges
- Reduction in emergency admissions to Royal Blackburn Hospital and care homes.
- Reduced cost due to appropriate intermediate care being available and avoiding high cost crisis placements
- Reduction in readmissions within 30 days
- Reduction in premature admissions to long term residential care
- Reduction in the use of community health and social care services.

VASCULAR SERVICES

The review of vascular services within Cumbria and Lancashire is part of a wider regional project to reconfigure vascular surgical services and secure the benefits to patients of higher volume centres of excellence and care. The Trust recognises that the crux of the Vascular Society’s model should be a clinical partnership across a number of providers with the aim of

increasing the volume of vascular work undertaken by vascular specialists in a vascular centre to drive up outcomes. The Trust believes that the reconfiguration of vascular services across Lancashire and Cumbria lends itself to the establishment of East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, in partnership with other providers, as a Vascular Centre. The Trust is the most accessible location with the highest catchment population of all the sites currently providing vascular services. There is a catchment population of 2.7m within a 45 minute travelling time. Therefore the Trust as a vascular centre will enable patients to benefit from fast access to specialised care and retain a local service close to home for those less specialised procedures and access to vascular opinion.

PATHOLOGY SERVICES

Pathology is the potential ‘golden thread’ running through care pathways and to delivering better patient outcomes. Pathology has also been identified as one of the Department of Health’s QIPP priority national work streams. The Clinical Laboratory Medicine Department at the Trust has undertaken some scoping work with Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS FT and Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust to identify areas of collaborative working.

To date only high level scoping exercises and discussions have been held. It has been recognised that there are some initial changes that can be made relatively quickly, for example there are a number of tests currently referred away which can be brought back in-house onto one of the three sites. Similarly there is an early opportunity to consolidate some of the esoteric or specialised non urgent testing to a common site. There are a range of joint procurement opportunities that can also be exploited.



Pathology is the potential ‘golden thread’ running through care pathways and to delivering better patient outcomes.



INTEGRATED URGENT CARE SERVICES

East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, NHS East Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen Care Trust Plus are working in collaboration to develop an Integrated Urgent Care Model. The overriding objective is to safely and effectively deliver high quality urgent care to the population of East Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen as close to the patient's home as practicably as possible.

An Urgent and Emergency Care model will be developed along the lines of a Hub and Spoke model, with Hub being the Emergency Department (ED) at RBH and urgent care spokes based in each locality. The Burnley General Urgent care model will provide an integrated co-located urgent care service with streamlined pathways into secondary care at the RBH site as and when necessary.

The urgent care service will build on existing services provided from the hospital site bringing together elements of service from the existing Urgent Care Centre. The service will operate 24 hours a day 365 days a year. It will deliver an integrated model of service working collaboratively and co-operatively with other local providers. The proposed model will deliver a consistent and more integrated urgent care service by bringing primary and secondary care services together, improving convenience, appropriateness and quality of care provision.

ONCOLOGY SERVICES

Surgical and non-surgical oncology is delivered at the Royal Blackburn Hospital and at Burnley General Hospital. Prior to April 2011, the delivery of cytotoxic chemotherapy had concentrated on the tumour sites of breast, colorectal and lung. In April 2011, chemotherapy services commenced repatriation from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LTH) and the Trust is now experiencing the full effect of that repatriation. Rare tumours continue to be investigated and treated at the Rosemere Cancer Centre at LTH or Christie Hospital, Manchester. Our vision is that East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust will be a recognised unit for surgical and non-surgical oncology services for our local population and a centre of excellence for specific tertiary cancer services: head and neck cancer; urological cancer and the flagship specialist hepatobiliary cancers. Underpinning this will be the development of our own cancer infrastructure in respect of non-surgical oncology.

It is further proposed that a dedicated oncology unit is developed in order to provide more appropriate in-patient provision for patients who are admitted non-electively.

Our Proposed Governance Arrangements – How the Trust Is Going To Be Run And Managed

MEMBERSHIP

As an FT we will be supported by members and we are looking to recruit members of the public who have an interest in the delivery of healthcare services to become part of our new organisation. Membership is open to all individuals over the age of 16 who live in our public membership constituency and our staff irrespective of gender, social status, race, political views, disability or religion.

Membership will be free and people who agree to be members will:

- Elect their representatives to serve on the Council of Governors
- Stand for election to the Council of Governors if they would like to
- Have the opportunity to put themselves forward for appointment as Non-Executive Directors on the Board of Directors if they meet the eligibility criteria
- Be kept informed of the plans for the future development of the Trust and have the opportunity to influence the Trust's strategic direction and the services provided
- Be able to attend meetings and events, with regular opportunities to network with their elected Governors, the Board of Directors and senior managers

- Be able to work with the Trust on patient and public involvement initiatives by giving them opportunities to take part in surveys and research projects and offer a strong public and patient perspective on proposed changes to services
- Be given the opportunity to take part in meetings with managers and staff and represent patient and public interests.

The Trust will have two membership categories:

PUBLIC MEMBERSHIP

This is open to members of the public who live in the Burnley, Pendle, Ribble Valley, Rossendale, Hyndburn and Blackburn with Darwen local constituencies with provision also being made for those people who live elsewhere in England and have a special interest in the Trust.

STAFF MEMBERSHIP

We recognise that continually improving our services is dependent upon the commitment and enthusiasm of our staff. We will automatically make all current and future staff part of the membership after being employed for 12 months unless they indicate they do not wish to be a member of the organisation. We have also extended membership to all volunteers who have worked with the Trust for over 12 months.



Membership is open to all individuals over the age of 16 who live in our public membership constituency and our staff irrespective of gender, social status, race, political views, disability or religion.



COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

The Council of Governors is the group of people whose role is to ensure that the Foundation Trust keeps the people it serves informed of what is going on and ensures there is appropriate consultation and will work with the Board of Directors to ensure that the Foundation Trust behaves in a way that is consistent with its constitution and the principles of Foundation Trusts. The Council of Governors has an important role to play in representing the members' views to the Board of Directors when deciding on the future strategy of the Trust. The Council will not be involved in day to day management decisions.

The Council of Governors will:

- Appoint and remove the Chairman and the Non-Executive Directors
- Hold the Board of Directors to account in relation to the Trust's performance in accordance with the licence
- Decide the pay and allowances and other terms and conditions of office of the Non- Executive Directors and the Chairman
- Appoint and remove the External Auditor of the Trust

- Be presented with and consider the Annual Accounts, any report of the Auditor on the accounts and the Annual Report
- Approve the appointment of the Chief Executive
- Hold meetings that are open to all members at least four times per year
- Give the views of the Council of Governors to the Directors for the purpose of preparing the forward planning documents of the Trust which will be given each year to the independent regulator, Monitor
- Respond as appropriate when consulted by the Directors
- Develop the membership strategy and represent the interests of members.

Governors will be elected by the staff and public members and will be appointed by partnership organisations in accordance with the draft constitution. We propose that our Council of Governors will be made up of the following:

Public Governors	Staff Governors	Stakeholder Governors
Blackburn with Darwen (3)	Medical and Dental (1)	Commissioners (2)
Burnley (2)	Nursing, Midwives & Health Visitors (2)	Local Authorities (2)
Pendle (3)	Scientific, Therapeutic & Technical (1)	Education Providers (1)
Rossendale (2)	Healthcare Assistants & Support Staff (1)	Third Sector Organisations (1)
Ribble Valley (2)	Managers & Senior Managers, Volunteers & Others (1)	
Hyndburn (2)	Administration & Estates (2)	
Rest of England (1)		



The Council of Governors has an important role to play in representing the members' views to the Board of Directors when deciding on the future strategy of the Trust.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is legally accountable for the management of the Foundation Trust. The Board will be chaired by the Trust Chairman who will also chair the Council of Governors. The Chief Executive will be the Accounting Officer. 7 Non -Executive Directors will satisfy themselves that the Trust is achieving a high standard of corporate governance. They will scrutinise the performance of the 5 Executive Directors and constructively challenge the way the Trust is performing.

The role of the Board of Directors is to:

- Provide leadership to the FT within the framework of prudent and effective controls that enable risk to be effectively assessed and managed

- Set the Trust's strategic aims, ensuring that the necessary financial and human resources are in place to meet the Trust's strategic objectives and to review management and performance
- Set the Trust's values and standards and ensure that its obligations are understood and met.

The current Executive and Non- Executive Directors will be appointed to the initial Board of Directors in accordance with their current terms and conditions. The future arrangements are that the Chief Executive will be appointed by the Chair and Non- Executive Directors, and the Executive Directors would be appointed by the Chief Executive, in both cases on the basis of open advertisement, based on a person and skills specification. The Council of Governors will approve the appointment of the Chief Executive by a majority vote.



What Will The Foundation Trust Be Called?

The move to Foundation Trust status provides an opportunity to look again at many aspects of the organisation and this includes our name. This has to change anyway to incorporate the Foundation Trust title. As things stand at the moment we hope to become The Royal Lancashire NHS Foundation Trust but we'd also really welcome your views on this as part of this consultation.

About the Consultation Process

The aim of the consultation process is to give you the opportunity to comment on the future direction of the Trust. This is your opportunity to comment on the proposals being made and to suggest other ways of doing things.

WHAT WE NEED TO DO:

- We are organising a number of consultation events across the area throughout the consultation period to enable you to give us your views directly and to give you the opportunity to talk to our staff about our plans for the future
- We will make this document and the summary consultation document available in a variety of formats to enable it to be distributed as widely as possible. Please contact us at ftenquiries@elht.nhs.uk or by telephone on 01254 732110 if you require further copies of these documents or it needs to be provided to you in different formats
- At the end of the consultation period we will produce a summary report about the consultation and what you have said which will be available on our website and will be submitted as part of our on-going application for authorisation as a Foundation Trust to the Department of Health and Monitor, the independent regulator
- We will listen to what you have to say. We might not be able to make all the changes people suggest but we will consider every response carefully and with an open mind and make changes where appropriate.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

- Be brief in your responses to the questions we have asked explaining each point you want to make and put the issues you care about most first so that we can see your main concerns
- Send your response as soon as possible as the earlier you send in your views the longer we have to consider them, and make any changes to our plans where there is support for that view
- Say if you want your response kept confidential. We have to provide a summary of consultation responses in a formal report at the conclusion of the consultation period. Please let us know in your response if you do not wish your comments to be published
- Let us know if you are a community or other group that would like us to come and meet with you and provide a presentation during the consultation period. We will facilitate this where possible
- Come along to the consultation events we have planned and set out at the back of this document – let us have your views in person and take the opportunity to talk to our staff about any concerns you may have about our plans or simply to let us know you support us
- If you wish to become a member of the Foundation Trust please complete the membership application form and return it to us or complete a form online
- If you are interested in becoming a Governor come along to one of our Governor Awareness Events that are being planned – further details can be obtained by contacting us on 01254 732110 or via email at ftenquiries@elht.nhs.uk



- Provide your responses by 6th August 2012 so that your views can be taken into account.

The consultation period will run from the 8th May to 6th August 2012. You can let us know your views by:

- Completing our online response form at www.elht.nhs.uk
- Completing and returning the self-addressed response form at the back of this booklet
- Write to us at FT Consultation, Trust Headquarters, Royal Blackburn Hospital, Haslingden Road, Blackburn, BB2 3HH
- Email us at ftenquiries@elht.nhs.uk

**This document is available in a variety of formats and languages.
Please contact Trust Headquarters for further details.**

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