



Dear colleagues,

We have continued to encourage all staff members to have their Covid vaccine and in particular we have focused on our BAME colleagues and those who work on the bank, as we have seen a lower uptake among these groups.

We are doing all we can to make it easy for everyone to have their vaccine, including mobile vaccinators attending some of our larger sites to reduce the need for colleagues to travel.

Around 60% of all staff at the Trust have now been vaccinated and our vaccination team is starting to vaccinate inpatients who are in the target groups.

We are also welcoming health and social care staff from other organisations to our vaccination site at Ribble House, Bamber Bridge.

I am incredibly grateful to everyone who is involved in our vaccination programme, they are constantly showing how adaptable they are as they constantly seek ways to administer the vaccine to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible.



To support the programme, we have been marketing all vaccination sites that are available to our staff.

Our promotional materials are being positively received, particularly those focused on personal stories about team members.

I will continue to provide a snapshot weekly of the activity carried out by Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust (LSCft) not just in response to the global coronavirus

pandemic, but including important information, good practice, innovation and some good news too.

Please feel free to share this with any colleagues who might find it useful.

Caroline Donovan,  
Chief Executive, Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

## Weekly headlines

### Crisis Line Calls Soar

The number of calls to the Trust's Crisis Line have dramatically increased during the winter months with an extra 500 members of the community seeking help last month compared with December.

The telephone assessment and referral service is there to help people in mental health distress or those who are worried about someone who is struggling. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 0800 953 0110.

Crisis Line Service Manager, Lorraine Khalaf, said: "We really are the first port of call in times of crisis. The Crisis Line is staffed by trained mental health professionals who are able to provide assessment and referrals to appropriate services.

"In December 2020, we had 1,200 calls and in January it jumped, with 1,700 people ringing for help.

"We've had a huge number of callers not known to NHS services so we're really adding a valuable and very much needed service to the people of Lancashire and South Cumbria.

"We're able to do an assessment over the telephone and refer to the relevant service which people like at the moment – it keeps everyone safe and socially distant and it helps keep people out of A&E relieving pressures on the system.

"It also helps service users access the help they need at the very earliest opportunity, meaning they don't get lost in the system. At a time like this when everybody is living under pressure, the value our service adds to the community really is immeasurable."

### 'Flu Clinics

We are in the final weeks of our vaccination campaign to protect colleagues from the 'flu.

The team is working extremely hard to make it as easy as possible to receive the vaccination

Thousands of colleagues have already had their flu jab through a variety of



clinics, peer vaccination sessions, vouchers to receive it from their local pharmacy and a mobile clinic visiting colleagues at work.

The effort is being supported by a team of people led by the Infection Prevention Control (IPC) team who have trained colleagues as peer vaccinators.

For the final weeks of our campaign, peer vaccinators have put together a busy schedule of mobile clinics that are being held across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

### **Mental Health Act Remote Assessments**

There have been questions and uncertainties in relation to the recent ruling at the High Court around remote assessments under the Mental Health Act.

Following the case **Devon Partnership NHS Trust v SSHSC [2021]**, NHS England has issued advice that with immediate effect all new assessments for Part II MHA detentions, renewals and extensions of CTOs must be conducted on a face to face basis and not as previously allowed under Covid guidance as a remote video assessment.



## **Mental Health Act 1983**

The court acknowledged the difficulties that this decision causes for Trusts, but took the view that it is for Parliament to decide how to address those.

Also included in this are assessments for CTO application and Guardianship until further notice.

The Trust is currently considering the implications of this judgement for all patients subject to MHA assessments since the Covid guidance was issued last year.

### **Captain Sir Tom Moore Funds**

Last week the nation mourned the sad loss of Captain Sir Tom Moore, who died aged 100 of Covid.

He has not only inspired people across the country but he has left a legacy that is supporting NHS organisations, including ours.

Last year we asked colleagues to put forward bids for funding after we received a generous donation from the NHS Charities Together, raised by Sir Tom from his daily walks during the first lockdown.

More than 60 bids for funding were put forward and the Trust's Charity

Trustees are delighted to support many interesting and exciting developments. We are currently notifying all bidders about the outcome.



Captain Tom raised over £32m for the NHS which has been distributed nationwide. It is being used to enhance the wellbeing of patients and service users, their families and carers as well as staff and volunteers impacted by Covid-19.

### **LGBT+ History Month Celebrations**

The Trust is marking LGBT+ History month with a series of events and activities, which started last week with a webinar hosted by our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) team.

One speaker was Lewis Turner from Lancashire LGBT who revealed his story as a gay man in his 20s in 1980s Manchester. He spoke about growing up at a time when LGBT people were oppressed during the AIDS crisis – which is currently being highlighted in the television drama 'It's a Sin'.



Moud Gobo, from Micro Rainbow, an organisation that promotes the integration of LGBTI asylum seekers and refugees, shared her story as a Black African Lesbian woman who had to flee Zimbabwe and seek asylum in the UK. She shared her thoughts on how important it is to look through an intersectional lens when working with refugees.

Both Moud and Lewis spoke of their personal struggles but now lead work that helps and encourages the inclusion and integration of LGBT people.

Many staff joined the webinar and shared their own stories in the live chat. One participant said: "The webinar was such an eye-opener, I wouldn't have even thought about LGBT+ affecting refugees, so powerful to hear your experiences."



## Good news, good practice and transformation

### Best In Class

Our Undergraduate Medical Education Department have received awards for best placement and teaching at LSCft.

Dr Simon Belderbos and Kate Cookson, Medical Education Facilitator, have won an award for 'Best Clinical Placement' from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust for their work with medical students from Manchester Medical School.

Nick Mullin, Senior Medical Education Facilitator, was also commended by Liverpool Medical School for teaching medical students on placement at LSCft.

Aleisha Dawson, Medical Education Administrator said: "During placements at LSCft, medical students from Liverpool and Lancaster Medical Schools wrote a number of articles for GPs on an A to Z of unusual psychiatric conditions, ranging from Alcoholic Hallucinosiis to Zoophilia.

"This is currently being published in the GM Medical Journal, but only came to fruition due to the support of LSCFT staff with these students whilst on placement." These articles can be found [here](#).

### Storytelling in the Teepee

Ribblesmere's Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) celebrated National Storytelling Week recently with story time every day.

The Mums were able to pick a story and read aloud from their brand-new story corner Teepee, decorated by mums, babies and staff.

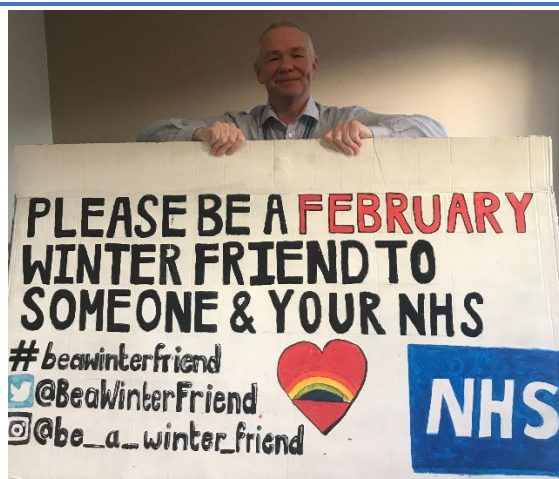


Louise Sargeson, Health & Wellbeing Support worker on Chorley Ribblesmere MBU tweeted: "Enjoyed by all who attended [#LoveWhatIDo](#)"

### Poster Perfect

The #BeAWinterFriend campaign continues to combat loneliness during the third lockdown, and now has a new poster thanks to organizer Kevin O'Hara's daughter.

The campaign encourages the people of Lancashire to check in on their family, friends and neighbours during these challenging times.



It has received wide endorsement from organisations across Lancashire and South Cumbria – thank you to everybody who is supporting this worthwhile initiative.

It has also won the backing of local high profile personalities, including Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Lindsay Hoyle and Britain's Got Talent comedian Steve Royle.

Please continue to support this campaign by sharing messages on social media, using the hashtag #BeAWinterFriend

### With Thanks

It's always nice to hear about the positive impact teams make on our service users' lives, particularly during difficult times.

The Central Rapid Intervention and Treatment Team (RITT) received a lovely thank you card and box of treats from a service user's family, after they agreed to support a patient as he transfers to respite care in Ormskirk.



The card read: "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all you have done for my dad.

"You have not only cared for my dad with care, compassion, dignity and understanding but us as a family also in what has been one of the most difficult times in our lives."

Nicola Smith, Team Manager for the Preston, Chorley and South Ribble RITT said: "We were so overwhelmed with the lovely words on the card!"