

Healthwatch Lincolnshire - Thematic Escalation Report

Statement regarding:	Cancer 62 day treatment from urgent GP referral
In response to:	Failed service performance since September 2014
Statement prepared:	20 May 2018
Statement circulation:	<p>For action - Four Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group; United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust;</p> <p>For Information - Lincolnshire Health Scrutiny Committee; Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board; Healthwatch England; NHS England; St. Barnabas Lincolnshire; Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie</p>

Why is Healthwatch Lincolnshire (HWL) bringing this to your attention?

For over 3 years Healthwatch Lincolnshire has received information which confirms Lincolnshire patients are not receiving treatment for cancers within the national recommended requirements.

Our organisation has raised on numerous occasions concerns about performance for cancer services in Lincolnshire. We appreciate there are over 200 types of cancer with some more common than others, and we are keen to know which cancer services are directly attributed to the under-performance of the 62 day wait for treatment.

According to BBC Health site <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-41483322> Lincolnshire performance figures for March 2018 were as follows:

United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust	England
75.5%	84.8%

- United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust ranked 121 out of 133 trusts
- The national target is that 85% of patients should begin treatment within 62 days of urgent GP referral

How does Healthwatch Lincolnshire feel this affects patients?

It is widely known that treatment for cancer should be at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure patients have the best chance of a positive outcome. Any delay in treatment will surely lead to potential risk of harm and it is Healthwatch Lincolnshire’s role on behalf of patients to raise this as a serious issue.

Next steps and actions (response to the points below from 4 Lincs CCGs and ULHT)

Healthwatch Lincolnshire feel it is important to now seek formal reassurance from both commissioners and providers of cancer services that:

- No patients are at risk of harm as a result of under-performance, and importantly how your response to this can be clarified.
- On behalf of patients potentially at risk of requiring cancer services, we wish to receive an update as to what actions are being put in place to rectify this situation.

This statement has been prepared on behalf of Healthwatch Lincolnshire Public Experience Committee by:

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