

## Integrated Care Board

<b>Date of meeting</b>	19 March 2026
<b>Title of paper</b>	Permanent Cessation of Level 3 ICU services at Furness General Hospital
<b>Presented by</b>	Craig Harris, Chief Commissioning Officer
<b>Author</b>	Jayne Mellor, Director of Acute Commissioning
<b>Agenda item</b>	15a
<b>Confidential</b>	No

### Executive summary

In line with the Service Change policy, and following recommendations from HOSC, colleagues at UHMBT with support from ICB commissioners and communication team have completed the Case for Change in relation to making the current temporary closure of level 3 intensive care bed at Furness General hospital a permanent closure. The case for change outlines the rationale for the proposed permanent cessation of the level 3 beds, the public engagement outputs and the alternative provision for the level 3 beds to be provided at Royal Lancaster Infirmary. NHSE SME feedback has been received and as agreed with NHSE will be incorporated into the Pre-Consultation Business Case. Attached at appendix 1 is the Case for Change, that is compliant with the service change policy.

### Public and Stakeholder Engagement

#### Public engagement programme

#### Stakeholder updates specifically to do with ICU:

- UHMBT
  - 19 Sept 2024
  - 26 Sept 2024
  - 8 November 2024
  - 4 December 2024
  - 14 April 2025
- ICB
  - 11 Sept 2025 – elected members update
  - 14 November 2025 – letter to Unite in response to their correspondence
  - 17 December 2025 – engagement report shared with Michelle Scrogam MP
  - 18 December 2025 – elected members update

#### UHMBT colleague briefings (written)

- 19 Sept 2024
- 26 Sept 2024
- 8 November 2024
- 4 December 2024
- 14 April 2025

### **UHMBT virtual / face-to-face colleague briefings**

- 15 July 2025 (affected colleagues)
- 15 July (wider FGH colleagues)
- Covered in various CEO/Exec-led engagement sessions in late 2024 and throughout 2025

### **UHMBT Council of Governors**

- 19 November 2024
- 19 August 2025
- 18 November 2025
- 7 January 2026

### **MP briefings**

- UHMBT
  - 15 July 2025 (joint with HASC)
  - 18 August 2025 - single item meeting with Michelle Scrogham MP and ICB/Trust
  - 8 October 2025 - update covered in meeting with Lizzi Collinge MP
  - 1 December 2025 - update covered in meeting with Michelle Scrogham MP
- ICB
  - 18 October 2024 – Michelle Scrogham MP in-person meeting with Kevin Lavery
  - 30 July 2025 – Letter in reply to Michelle Scrogham MP
  - 18 September 2025 – Tim Farron MP general update with ICB Chair
  - 18 August 2025 – Michelle Scrogham MP met with Aaron Cummins, Sam Proffitt, Craig Harris, and David Rogers.
  - 10 October 2025 – Email from Sam Proffitt to Michelle Scrogham MP
  - 26 November 2025 – Letter (sent via email) from Aaron Cummins in response to MP letter
  - 11 December 2025 - Michelle Scrogham MP met with Aaron Cummins and Neil Greaves.

### **W&F HASC briefings**

- UHMBT
  - 15 July 2025 (joint with MPs)
- ICB
  - 2 September 2025 – Covering letter
  - Wednesday 24 September 2025 formal W&F HASC meeting in public in Barrow Town Hall
  - Wednesday 18 February 2026 informal W&F HASC meeting via Teams

### **ICB Public engagement**

- 8 October - in the Nan Tait Centre in Barrow-in-Furness
- 10 October - at Millom Community Hub
- 16 October - via Microsoft Teams
- 22 October - in the Coronation Hall in Ulverston
- 30 October - in the Nan Tait Centre in Barrow-in-Furness
- 6 November – Poverty Truth Commission in the Nan Tait Centre in Barrow-in-Furness
- 20 November – VCSFE third sector leadership group in the Nan Tait Centre Barrow-in-Furness
- 24 November – Barrow Resolve CIC – in Coffee D’Ash Barrow-in-Furness

- 7 November 2025 - Healthwatch Westmorland and Furness offices in Barrow-in-Furness town centre. – Drop in
- 12 November 2025 - The Lonsdale Grill public restaurant at Furness General Hospital – Drop in
- 14 November 2025 - Healthwatch Westmorland and Furness offices in Barrow-in-Furness town centre – Drop in
- 15 December 2025 – ‘Listening to communities’ report issued to attendees to events

#### ICB Digital engagement

- September 2025 - ICB webpage created
- 19 September 2025 – 14 November 2025 – social media promoting events
- 15 December 2025 – ‘Listening to communities’ report published on website.
- Website FAQs updated throughout

#### Recommendations

The ICB Board are requested to;

- Approve appendix 1 Case for change

#### Which Strategic Objective/s does the report relate to:

		Tick
SO1	Improve quality, including safety, clinical outcomes, and patient experience	✓
SO2	To equalise opportunities and clinical outcomes across the area	✓
SO3	Make working in Lancashire and South Cumbria an attractive and desirable option for existing and potential employees	
SO4	Meet financial targets and deliver improved productivity	✓
SO5	Meet national and locally determined performance standards and targets	✓
SO6	To develop and implement ambitious, deliverable strategies	✓

#### Implications

	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Associated risks			✓	
Are associated risks detailed on the ICB Risk Register?		✓		
Financial Implications		✓		

#### Where paper has been discussed (list other committees/forums that have discussed this paper)

Meeting	Date	Outcomes
Service change oversight group	08/01/2026	Submit Case for change, first draft to Execs for review
Permanent cessation of Level 3 ICU services at Furness General Hospital	13/01/26	Endorsed Case for Change

#### Conflicts of interest associated with this report

Not Applicable

#### Impact assessments

	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Quality impact assessment completed	✓			
Equality impact assessment completed	✓			

Data privacy impact assessment completed			✓	
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<b>Report authorised by:</b>	Craig Harris, Chief Commissioning Officer
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