

Welcome to Imaging Insight, the newsletter that aims to keep staff and stakeholders informed on the work of the Lancashire & South Cumbria (LSC) Diagnostic Imaging Network (DIN), and other related updates.

Network Development & Maturity

The next self-assessment against the NHSE national maturity matrix is currently being finalised. Colleagues within all DIN workstreams have been involved in the assessment prior to submission to the NHSE NW Regional Diagnostics team.

Workforce Workstream

The business case for additional radiographers and radiologists in line with the approved 5-year recruitment plans has been developed and shared widely for comment. Once finalised, it will go through a robust review/approval process through trusts and DIN groups prior to ICB System Finance Group decision-making.

The final 5-year plan; for all other staff roles within or supporting radiology services has been approved.

Digital Workstream

BTH options/scoping paper in relation to RIS/PACS convergence across all 4 trusts from 2024 is progressing through the Exec decision making process.

Additional home reporting workstations are in the process of being procured using Diagnostic Digital Capability monies allocated to L&SC.

Project to implement a single instance critical alert solution across L&SC is progressing well.

Data Workstream

Further development of the DIN dashboard is underway including:

- Performance Improvement Plan Statistical process control charts
- Scoping work to include Waiting List Minimum Dataset which will allow additional metrics to be tracked.
- Development of local DMO1 process to feed the DIN dashboard and in particular, the PIP. This streamlined process will enable an early LSC view ahead of national submissions.

Procurement Workstream

Work continuing on key priorities focussed on insourcing/outsourcing and procurement of contrast media. Meeting has taken place with clinicians, business managers, HR and finance to consider alternative options for insourcing/outsourcing for reporting.

Programme of works being completed by LTH to secure funding in 23/24 for an additional CT bi-planer to enable expansion of neuro IR service provided to L&SC patients.

Clinical Reference Forum

Good progress on standardisation of clinical alerts for critical, urgent or unexpected findings on scans in support of single instance critical alerts solution – to be endorsed at CRF on 31st Jan.

Work commenced to review CT protocols in support of review/standardisation (where possible).





With Deepest Sympathy

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the death of Jonathon Priestley, Radiology Directorate Manager at ELHT, who recently passed away following his battle with lung cancer.

Jonathon was well respected by all who worked with him and was instrumental in the purchase and installation of new scanners and x-ray equipment to ensure delivery of a high-quality service to patients. He will be remembered for his dedication to the Radiology directorate at ELHT, his shrewd negotiation with suppliers and his positive attitude that inspired others. His commitment and support to the Diagnostic Imaging Network was greatly valued and appreciated.

Outside of work he had a passion for fitness, known for attending the gym every day, mountain biking, especially up to Rivington Pike, and being a lifelong Everton fan.

Jonathon leaves wife, Kelly, and daughter, Violet. Our thoughts are with them and the rest of Jonathon's family.

If you would like to leave a memory or tribute to Jonathon, please use the [web form](#) where they will be collated and passed on to his family.



Meet the Diagnostic Imaging Network Team

Name: Gemma Hedge

Title: Programme Manager, L&SC Community Diagnostic Centres

Gemma was appointed in September 2021 to support the roll out and expansion of Community Diagnostic Centres (CDC) across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Gemma has nearly 20 years' NHS experience working in various roles across Pennine Lancashire. Before taking up the Programme Manager post Gemma worked in Pennine CCGs undertaking Commissioning and Project Management roles.

"Community Diagnostic Centres are an exciting opportunity to bring a significant amount of investment into the LSC system and provide additional diagnostic capacity at alternative venues away from an acute hospital. CDCs have predominantly been focused on increasing capacity within Radiology but are about to enter the next phase of expansion into Endoscopy, Cardiac, Respiratory and Pathology. With the expansion will come exciting opportunities for primary and secondary care to work collaboratively to transform pathways, enable one stop diagnostic shops and support earlier diagnosis, resulting in improved outcomes for patients. As CDCs develop over the next two years, I am hoping we can expand the range of diagnostics offered."

Fun Fact: Gemma loves to travel to cities within Europe with her favourite being Rome. She is also an avid baker and watches Bake Off religiously. Her Victoria Sponge looks amazing!



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Community Diagnostic Centres – From Hospitals to Communities

Community Diagnostic Centres (CDC's) are a government backed scheme following Professor Sir Mike Richards' review of NHS diagnostic capacity, and part of the NHS Long Term Plan. [The Richards Report, Diagnostics: Recovery and Renewal Dec 2020](#), recommends the need for a new diagnostics model where more facilities are created in free standing locations away from main hospital sites. These new locations provide quicker and easier access to a range of tests on the same day, support earlier diagnosis, provide greater convenience for patients and support the drive to reduce health inequalities.

NHS England outlines the 6 primary aims of CDC's:

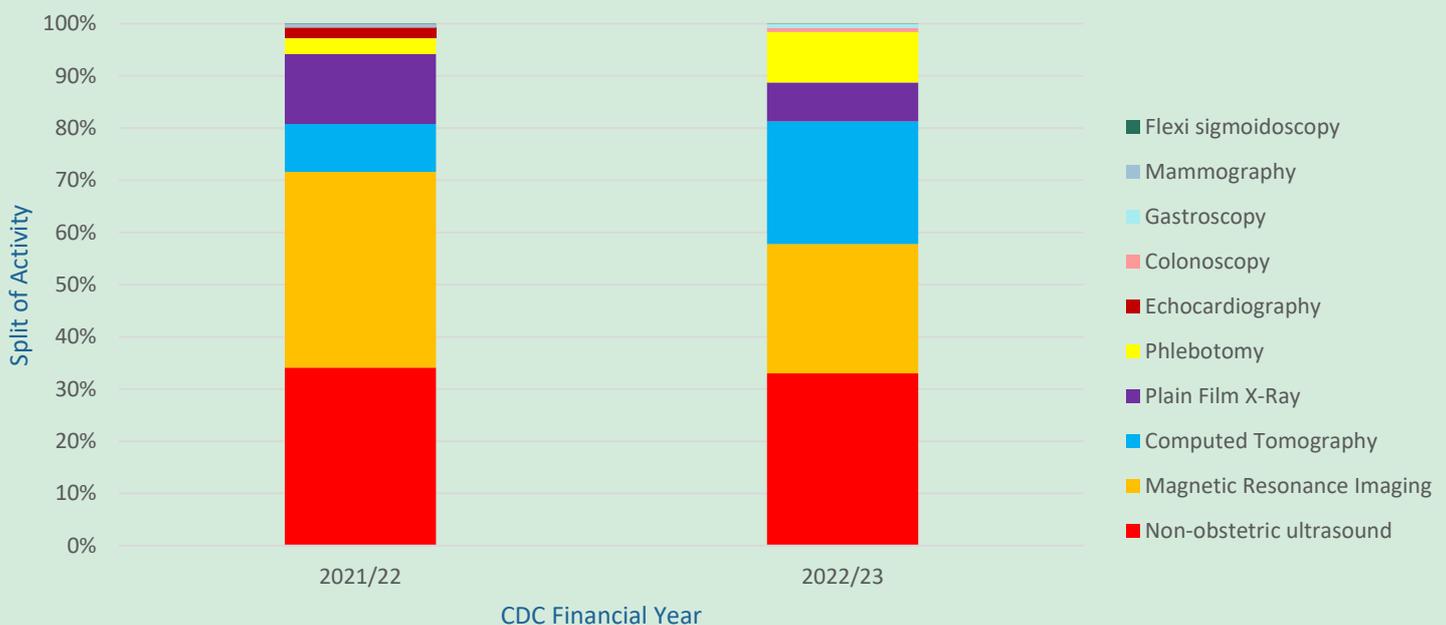
- To improve population health outcomes
- To increase diagnostic capacity
- To improve productivity and efficiency of diagnostic activity
- To contribute to reducing health inequalities
- To deliver a better, more personalised, diagnostic experience for patients
- To support integration of care across primary, secondary and community care.



Diagnostics currently on offer throughout LSC CDC's include CT, MRI, X-Ray, Gastroscopy, Colonoscopy, Physiological measurements, and Pathology among others. These tests are currently being delivered through existing sites as well as new or mobile units.

Due to the deprivation levels and rural areas across LSC, the agreed approach was to develop Hub and Spoke CDC archetypes, this consists of 4 main CDC sites across the region, with smaller spoke sites based in Primary Care Networks (PCN). To date, LSC have delivered over 100,000 diagnostic tests from CDC sites, with further funding and planned tests coming through in 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Community Diagnostic Centre Activity by Financial Year per Modality



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Diagnostic Imaging Network





LSC CDC Spoke sites:

- Burnley CDC, Pennine
- Crossland, Morecambe Bay
- Heysham CDC, Morecambe Bay
- Fleetwood CDC, Fylde Coast

LSC CDC Hub sites:

- Rossendale CDC, Pennine
- Fatima Centre CDC, Preston
- Westmorland CDC, Morecambe Bay
- Whitegate Drive CDC, Fylde Coast

If you would like to know more about CDC's please feel free to contact the Project Leads:

Fylde Coast

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Preston

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Pennine

Gemma Hedge – gemma.hedge@nhs.net



Getting in Touch

We welcome your involvement, comments, and ideas. If you have any feedback, would like to share ideas, an issue or priority which you feel should be taken into consideration for any of the workstreams, please don't hesitate to get in touch via:

Lsc.diagnosticimagingnetwork@nhs.net



Upcoming DIN Visits and Events

The Diagnostic Imaging Network (DIN) Programme Team are keen to have the opportunity to meet with colleagues across the network to share updates on the Network programme and listen to colleagues' feedback and suggestions on the work of the collaborative. The Programme Team usually join existing trust meetings but are always happy to arrange additional meetings if helpful.

The table below outlines the current planned dates the team is scheduled to attend. Please get in touch if you would like us to join any others via Lsc.diagnosticimagingnetwork@nhs.net.

	ELHT RADIOLOGY DIRECTORATE	LTH RADIOLOGY BOARD	HEADS OF DEPARTMENT UHMB	BTH RADIOLOGY DIRECTORATE
	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
January	27-Jan	23-Jan		31-Jan
February	28-Feb	21-Feb		
March	30-Mar	22-Mar	17-Mar	
April	24-Apr	20-Apr		25-Apr
May	30-May	19-May		
June	29-Jun	19-Jun	15-Jun	
July	25-Jul	18-Jul		01-Aug
August	31-Aug			
September	29-Sep	20-Sep	14-Sep	
October	TBC	19-Oct		31-Oct
November	TBC	17-Nov		
December	TBC		15-Dec	



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