

Welcome to Imaging Insight which aims to keep staff and stakeholders informed and up to date on the work of the Lancashire & South Cumbria (LSC) Diagnostic Imaging Network and other related updates.

Highlights from the Lancashire & South Cumbria Diagnostic Imaging Network Board meeting in April:

- 22/23 Network's Operational Plan approved with recommendation to charter milestones
- 5 Year Radiologists Recruitment Plan endorsed with recommendation to develop the investment case for the L&SC Integrated Care Board review in the summer
- L&SC system-wide recruitment approach being developed for graduate radiographers
- Radiopharmacy service discussions initiated at NW Regional level due to service fragility
- Digital publishing of radiology results to the L&SC Shared Care Record is now being tested
- Options are being explored to move towards a single cloud-based PACS and RIS system for L&SC
- Over 40,000 diagnostic tests, predominantly imaging, had taken place in our Community Diagnostic Centres since July 2021 – with thanks to the huge efforts of all staff involved in delivery



Getting in Touch

We welcome your involvement, comments, and ideas. If you have any feedback or would like to share ideas or 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

Lsc.diagnosticimagingnetwork@nhs.net

Data Driven Decisions

In 2019, the Diagnostic Radiology Data Group (DRDG) was established as a subgroup of the Diagnostic Radiology Working Group (DRWG) with a key focus on data and analytics. Data analysis is required across all the working groups under the DRWG, informing discussion, evidencing business cases, and steering prioritisation of projects. The DRDG is now thriving as a forum to support analytical projects across places and providers, including individual trust requests as well as network priorities.

Although detailed project plans and timescales are being developed, the key priorities have been outlined to be delivered by the group including:

- ❖ Implementation of a Network capacity and demand model
- ❖ Implementation of a cross-trust analytical dashboard
- ❖ Asset and equipment registry
- ❖ Standardisation of codes

Membership of the DRDG includes both analytical and operational representation from each trust, which has enabled the DRDG to maintain clear objectives that are specific to improving both the efficiency and effectiveness of services offered.

The DRDG are continuing to strive for a healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria through specific and effective projects. If there is something you feel should be developed, please get in touch through LSC.DiagnosticImagingNetwork@NHS.net.



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How Data Analysis is Informing the Future

The ability to project capacity requirements based on demand forecasts is an important element of effective planning, informing operational decision-making, financial budgeting, and workforce recruitment. The Diagnostic Imaging Network acknowledged the importance of forecasting demand and subsequently directed the Diagnostic Radiology Data Working Group to implement a network-level capacity and demand forecast model.

Working with local trust colleagues to develop and refine the model, we are able to estimate future demand based on expected growth trends and case mix changes and calculate a capacity requirement based on agreed logic and utilisation rates.

The modelled requirement is compared against available/funded capacity in terms of hours per week to identify any shortfall or surplus, this will then inform investment decisions and priorities for both equipment and staffing.

Models populated with the three priority modalities of CT, MRI and Non-Obstetric Ultrasound have been shared with each of the Trusts for review and feedback. The team has recently consulted with the clinical leads for Ultrasound, to better understand how each service works, and make planning assumptions that reflect operational realities.

Meet the Diagnostic Imaging Network Team

Name: Murray Scott

Title: Lancashire and South Cumbria Diagnostic Imaging Network Data Lead

Murray has 20 years' experience of providing analytical insight and modelling support to NHS organisations seeking to improve, redesign and transform clinical services.

To date, Murray's focus with the Network has been on developing the capacity and demand model, though this is being extended into other areas, specifically activity-related workforce requirements for radiologists, radiographers and sonographers.

Fun Fact: Murray lives in St Andrews and occasionally plays the bagpipes.



Name: Ross Adams

Title: Senior Business Intelligence Analyst for the Lancashire and South Cumbria Diagnostic Imaging Network and Community Diagnostic Centres

Since joining the LSC Diagnostic Imaging Network in 2021, Ross has worked with local Trusts and LSC colleagues to implement change within data and analytics to fulfil the Diagnostic Imaging Network directives.

By utilising previous experience in project management, data analysis and communications, Ross has helped re-establish the Diagnostic Radiology Data Working Group, creating a forum for analytical and data-driven projects.

Fun Fact: Ross loves jumping straight in which has enabled him to experience a wide variety of things including radio presenting, YouTube content creation and travelling!



Each edition of Imaging Insight will highlight a member of the Diagnostic Imaging Network Team.



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