Scrutiny Briefing Note

The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel have asked the NHS Humber Health Partnership (HHP), the hospital group which includes Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust, for an update on progress relating to the Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) based in Grimsby. This briefing contains the latest position as at November 2026.

Subject: Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC)Progress

The areas for the update were specified as:

- Utilisation
- Performance
- Opening times
- Patient feedback
- Future Plans

Background

The Grimsby CDC is based in Freshney Place Shopping Centre and opened in April 2025. The CDC offers cardiology (heart) tests, Dexa scans (these measure bone density), non-obstetric ultrasound, Xrays and blood tests. A new service offering Endoscopy Pre-Assessment clinics has also recently been introduced.
The ophthalmology (eye) outpatient services have also moved from Diana Princess of Wales Hospital (this is currently not counted towards the CDC activity and therefore not in the utilisation numbers).

Opening Times

The CDC is open from:

- Monday to Saturday: 8am until 8pm for phlebotomy (blood taking) and an appointment-based access for Xrays.
- Monday to Friday: 8am to 6pm for all other services

Utilisation

	Activity ACTUALS By Month												
ACTIVITY 2025-2026	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total YTD
Grimsby	1,221	2,015	2,006	2,557	2,423	2,438	2,837	2,484	2,417	2,722	2,845	3,794	**29, 759**

	Activity ACTUALS By Month											
ACTIVITY 2026-2027	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total YTD
Grimsby	3,287	3,094	2,635	3,093	3,373	4,038	0	0	0	0	0	**19,520**

	2026-2027 Activity Actual as % of Submitted NHSE Plan												
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total YTD
Grimsby	73%	64%	52%	59%	64%	76%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	64%

The Trust is actively working with the ICB to identify different activity that can be delivered in the unit to maximise its use. Some predefined pathways through primary care are leading to a lack of demand for existing provision, there is however a commitment to ensure improved utilisation in future months.

For example -Grimsby CDC has experienced low demand from General Practitioners (GPs) for bloods due to the LES (Local enhanced scheme) implemented by the ICB. The ICB has commissioned GPS to also deliver blood tests within Primary Care settings.
HHP continues to work with the ICB/GPs to promote what services are available at the CDC to patients.
The group is also working with the NEL GP practices (Roxton and Clee Medical), supported by Dr Ekta Elston, to test the use of Web V (NLaG's electronic clinical system) referrals for Cardiology. We are doing this because we are currently seeing low demand within both ECG and Echo services. This was in response to feedback from GPs who wanted to trial a simplified referral process to increase patient access for these diagnostic tests. This is work in progress which will be monitored for impact and based on the outcomes, the plan would be to roll it out to other GP practices within NEL.

Performance

The CDC year to date activity up to September 2026 is at 64% of the planned activity (as per the table above). This is lower than planned due to delays relating to workforce recruitment. This is despite efforts to have this in place at the opening of the CDC and unavoidable estates issues which impacted the operating of X-ray and Dexa scan modalities. There is a recovery plan being developed with the service leads to improve utilisation consistently and in a sustained manner.

Patient Feedback

The recent EBD (Evidence Based Design) survey was completed in August 2026, and we had 27 patients complete the survey. Colleagues will continue to encourage patients to complete the surveys to increase uptake. The themed feedback showed:

- ≥ 90% of patients were happy with access to the CDC
- 100% of patients were happy with the time from arriving at the scan to test
- 100% of patients were happy with the environment and staff
- 100 % of patients felt they were treat with dignity and privacy
- 100% of patients understood the next steps on leaving the CDC
- ≥70 % of patients were still unaware prior to the appointment of the CDC and the tests carried out

As a result of the patient feedback relating to patients being unaware of the CDC, HHP is working with the ICB to look at displaying information on posters within GP practices and promoting the services more generally.

Future Plans

HHP is currently in the process of:

- Developing a CDC recovery plan for improving the year (2026/27) position- reviewing referral access, utilisation of capacity and demand and workforces.
- Working with ICBs and the Collaboration of Acute Providers in Humber and North Yorkshire to look at options for including clinically appropriate pathways and activities as part of the recovery plan
- Planning to use the CDC as a key enabler for shifting care from the hospital to the community settings

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