

Lanarkshire NHS Board Annual Report

& Accounts 2007/08



Hitting the target

NHS Lanarkshire hit the target in 2007/08 by ensuring it met waiting time requirements set by the Scottish Government.

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Nicola Sturgeon, pictured with the cast of a play about mental

health issues, congratulated the Board for meeting these targets.

The national four-hour waiting time target for accident and emergency departments was met and exceeded.

Another triumph was improving waiting times for cancer patients. Other successes were achieved in meeting waiting time targets for

access to health care professionals at GP surgery, diagnostic tests and inpatient treatment.

To find out more about the work of NHS Lanarkshire throughout 2007/08 take a look inside.



Chairman's foreword

“ 2008 marked the 60th anniversary of the founding of the NHS.

Throughout these 60 years staff have worked hard to deliver a service of high quality, free at the point of delivery, either in hospital or in the community.

We celebrated the anniversary by involving current staff, retired staff, members of the community and many carers and volunteers, all of whom have contributed handsomely to the NHS over the past 60 years. Our current staff in NHS Lanarkshire have succeeded in carrying on the tradition of self-less dedication envisaged by the original founders of the NHS.

This dedication has enabled NHS Lanarkshire in the last year to meet nearly all our targets, including the important targets in waiting-times where performance has been particularly successful in cancer treatment and in emergency care.

Chairman Ken Corsar officially launched the new breastfeeding support web pages on NHS Lanarkshire's website in 2007, with the help of local mums and volunteers from the Lanarkshire Breastfeeding Initiative.

We now go forward with some confidence to meet the new, more challenging waiting-time targets.

We continue to make good progress in providing services in the community where team-working by medical, nursing and allied health professional staff, often enhanced by sterling contributions from our local authority colleagues and from many dedicated carers and volunteers, has allowed us to develop successful services, especially in care of the elderly, long term conditions, out of hours provision and mental health, where a substantial programme of investment has begun.

A major focus for our work has been to take forward local action to deliver the national programme for patient safety, including tackling the incidence of healthcare associated infection (HAI), and the national project on patient experience

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where the views of our patients and service users are very important in improving the services offered.

Finally, we have worked steadily with our local authority partners, and we will continue to do so, to improve the health of the people of Lanarkshire and to close the health inequalities gap, a vital task if we are to have a healthier and fitter population in the future.”

Ken Corsar Chairman,
NHS Lanarkshire



Annual Review: Cabinet Secretary Praises Progress

THE Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Nicola Sturgeon held the annual review of NHS Lanarkshire Board on 6 August 2008.

In addition to meeting with the Area Partnership Forum and the Area Clinical Forum, Ms Sturgeon enjoyed a play called *Tlk 2 Me*, which was developed by and for young people to raise awareness of mental health issues.

Following the review, the Cabinet Secretary highlighted, in a letter to NHS Lanarkshire chairman Ken Corsar, a number of areas which demonstrated good practice. She was pleased with the way in which the Board was working to improve health and reduce inequalities in Lanarkshire by identifying four priority areas - the early years of life, mental health services, the importance of success in education and employment resilience for this service group.

With regards to mental health services Ms Sturgeon wrote: "I was interested in hearing how the Board were making progress on improving mental health services given the level of priority for the Scottish Government and in particular the focus on dementia. "I heard that NHS Lanarkshire made a decision last year to increase investment in this important area and that funding is now going into new facilities and access to services is being provided in the local community."

The Cabinet Secretary also wanted to hear about the Board's efforts to tackle alcohol misuse in the area.

Ms Sturgeon wrote: "I was interested to hear how the Board

intended expanding capacity for brief intervention and treatment services and how they were working with the voluntary sector. "We were reassured to hear that the Board valued and recognised the role of the voluntary sector and that in three years time 33 per cent of their available funding would be lodged with the voluntary sector."

The Cabinet Secretary recognised that the Board had worked hard on shifting the balance from acute care towards primary and community care.

Ms Sturgeon highlighted the increase in diabetic services in GP and health centre settings.

She wrote: "Diabetes services are now being provided in 10 local health centres throughout Lanarkshire which is a significant move from the model where services were only provided at the three acute hospital sites.

"There is also a one-stop shop for optometry services and retinopathy screening for diabetic patients taking place at the Time Capsule in Coatbridge, Brandon House Business Centre in Hamilton and at Wishaw Health Centre." From her meeting with the Area Clinical Forum at the Annual Review, Ms Sturgeon was impressed with the relationship between it and the NHS Lanarkshire Board.

Nicola Sturgeon highlighted the good work carried out in hand hygiene.

Pictured is clinical support worker Lorraine Smith and senior charge nurse Maria Lamb from Ward 17, Monklands Hospital.

She was also encouraged by the work undertaken between GPs and the Board to develop the New Horizons primary care strategy.

She wrote: "We heard about the strong commitment and enthusiasm for the Patient Safety Initiative.

"Hand washing was on everyone's agenda and was raised with staff on a regular basis as well as having signs and posters in buildings and screensavers on computers.

"GPs were very supportive of the Board's New Horizons strategy and the benefits of the increased investment in primary care premises although this was from a low base."

Ms Sturgeon congratulated the Board for meeting their waiting time targets and thanked them for their work on the review of accident and emergency services in Lanarkshire.

She added: "I thank the Board and its staff for their continuing commitment and achievements over the past year and I commend the Board for meeting its performance and financial targets."



NHS Lanarkshire Annual Review 2008: Key Points

AT the annual review Cabinet Secretary Nicola Sturgeon identified a number of action points for NHS Lanarkshire to focus on in the coming year. These included:

- ❖ Ensure effective healthcare associated infection (HAI) surveillance arrangements are in place.
- ❖ Continue to show emerging evidence of measurable improvements in reducing health inequalities.
- ❖ Carry out further analysis around the expected rates of retirements.
- ❖ Keep the Health Directorate informed of the progress in achieving and maintaining the 62-day target for cancer services.
- ❖ Continue ongoing engagement with the Scottish Government Health Finance Directorate regarding progress on finance and property/capital related issues and to ensure that you meet the financial targets and deliver the two per cent efficiency savings.
- ❖ Ensure robust arrangements are in place to ensure the Local Delivery Plan identifies key actions and how any risks to delivery will be mitigated in order to demonstrate required levels of progress against the NHS QIS Clinical Governance and Risk management standards.
- ❖ Quantify shifts in the balance of care and provide specific examples of services which have moved from hospital to primary/community care settings at the next Annual Review.
- ❖ Ensure the Board's active participation in the Scottish Patient Safety Programme.

Developing mental health services for patients

NICOLA Sturgeon recognised that NHS Lanarkshire had worked hard to improve the mental health services on offer to patients in 2007/08.

At the annual review the cabinet secretary highlighted progress made with the Lanarkshire Mental Health Strategy, which was agreed in 2007.

This focuses on improving patient care by developing more community-based treatment, support and care as an alternative to institutional care.

This will help support more older people with mental health problems in their own homes and in care homes.

NHS Lanarkshire will also increase the staff to patient ratio in its old age psychiatry inpatient units. Other developments include an old age psychiatry liaison service to nursing homes and new psychology and cognitive behaviour therapy community services.

NHS Lanarkshire invested £316,000 during 2007/08 to provide additional staff at the Adult Mental Health Inpatient Units at Monklands and Hairmyres Hospitals.

This will allow better staff to patient ratios and increase the ability to provide more therapeutic interventions for patients. An additional £244,000 has been invested in the further development of psychiatric assessment teams within the acute hospitals.

The Mild to Moderate Mental Health Project has been introduced in Bellshill and Airdrie localities. It is a new service offering an alternative to prescribing anti-depressants to people with mild to moderate depression.

NHS Lanarkshire invested £237,000 to develop Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services during 2007/08 with a further £400,000 committed in early 2008. The additional investment will be used to provide:

- ❖ A dedicated learning disability service for the first time
- ❖ Development of primary mental health early intervention
- ❖ Additional capacity in the dedicated service for looked after and accommodated children
- ❖ Additional capacity to maintain waiting time targets and develop additional support services to help prevent young people being admitted to adult psychiatry beds.

NHS Lanarkshire has also committed £250,000 to develop an effective community-based eating disorder service.

The service will provide support and treatment to safely and effectively meet the needs of both young people and adults and lessen the requirement for inpatient care.

The North Lanarkshire Integrated Addictions Service began working to an integrated model in May 2007 to further support people with substance misuse problems in their communities.

Work is also underway to improve the Hartwoodhill Hospital site for patients.

Lanarkshire's health is getting better - but still room for improvement...

REDUCING health inequalities is one of the key themes highlighted by director of public health Dr Dorothy Moir in her annual report for 2007.

Life expectancy in Lanarkshire is increasing - with men and women living two years longer than 10 years ago.

However, there are differences depending on where people stay. Life expectancy in South Lanarkshire, for example, is significantly higher than in North Lanarkshire.

Although deaths from coronary heart disease (CHD) under the age of 75 are steadily decreasing in Lanarkshire, they are still above the Scottish average.

Efforts are ongoing to reduce CHD mortality across Lanarkshire by reducing smoking, providing better care in general practice and improving care in hospital with the increased use of thrombolytic drugs, angioplasty and other interventions.



BREAST IS BEST: NHS Lanarkshire continues to promote the health benefits of breastfeeding for both babies and mums.

The pilot project Keep Well has targeted middle-aged adults living in areas of economic deprivation and aims to identify and reduce their risk of developing cardiovascular disease.

The rates of pregnant women who smoke are steadily decreasing in Lanarkshire, but continue to be higher than the Scottish average.

Smoking causes harm to the unborn baby and is one of the causes of low birthweight. Passive smoking can also harm unborn babies.

An NHS Lanarkshire initiative aims to reduce the harm caused by smoking to unborn babies by asking all pregnant women questions about smoking and giving them advice as part of their first booking appointment.

If a mum smokes and wants to quit, her midwife can refer her to Lanarkshire's Stop Smoking Service, which can be contacted on 08542 177 707.

Breastfeeding provides significant health benefits for both the infant and the mother, including mental wellbeing and healthy weight, yet rates remain low in Lanarkshire.

Younger mothers from more deprived areas are significantly less likely to breastfeed.

A number of initiatives have been launched to promote breastfeeding such as a raising awareness project in North Lanarkshire schools and a poster campaign You Are Welcome to Breastfeed Here.

Volunteer Community Mothers programmes have been established in Lanarkshire over the last eight years and are successfully increasing the number of babies breastfed to at least six weeks.

Staff across NHS Lanarkshire are also putting their energies behind a commitment to achieve international recognition from the UNICEF (United Nation's Children's Fund) Baby Friendly Initiative.

The initiative works with health professionals to ensure that mothers and babies receive high-quality support to enable successful breastfeeding.

Coatbridge locality has already gained full accreditation and all the other locations have recently been awarded a Certificate of Commitment.

The report also highlights an improvement in children's oral health.

In a survey of primary seven children in Lanarkshire in 2007, there was a six per cent improvement in those showing no obvious signs of decay compared to the previous survey in 2005.

To help reduce the chances of children developing severe dental decay, free oral health promotion packs are distributed to children at various ages across Lanarkshire.

All children under one year receive free toothbrushes and free fluoride toothpaste from public health nurses to prevent dental disease.

Lanarkshire continues to achieve high uptake rates of primary vaccinations.

Encouragingly, the uptake of MMR - which is a combined vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella - at two years of age has increased significantly from 86 per cent in the second quarter of 2003 to 94.1 per cent in the final quarter of 2007.

The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2007 provides more information and analysis on all these topics and others. Copies of the full report are available online at

www.nhslanarkshire.org.uk/services/public+health or by writing to:

Director of Public Health
14 Beckford Street
Hamilton ML3 0TA

WINNING THE FIGHT AGAINST INFECTION

TACKLING healthcare associated infection (HAI) is a key priority for NHS Lanarkshire.

Good hand hygiene in the hospital environment is an important factor in reducing these infections.

And NHS Lanarkshire, like all health boards in Scotland, has been working hard to ensure it meets the national target of 90 per cent of hand hygiene compliance among staff, which was set by the Scottish Government Health Directorate HAI Task Force.

NHS Lanarkshire has therefore been busy promoting the importance of good hand washing techniques.

Infection control staff have been out in force at the hospitals and health centres to raise awareness of hand hygiene.

Carrie McCulloch, hand hygiene co-ordinator, infection control teams and the cleanliness champions co-ordinators visited Wishaw, Hairmyres and Monklands Hospitals to demonstrate good hand hygiene techniques.

Staff, patients and visitors were encouraged to try the ultraviolet Glo box unit which illuminates areas of the hands which are not properly washed.

Carrie also took the opportunity to promote the national campaign for hand hygiene at Coatbridge locality's healthy working lives staff event.

She said: "We are targetting the hospitals during visiting times, evenings and weekends to raise public awareness of how to reduce health-care associated infections (HAIs).

"We also set up the stands in the staff canteens during food safety week to remind staff about safe food preparation and storage and how this can help to prevent infections such as E.coli and salmonella."

Carrie continued: "Our hands are the source of many infections.

"To ourselves and other healthy adults, the bacteria that is carried on our hands does not pose a problem, but to anyone whose immune system is compromised, the result can be overwhelming infection."

In safe hands: Lanarkshire's hand hygiene co-ordinator Carrie McCulloch (left) gives a glowing report to Sister Gerry Campbell.



Patient feedback

NHS Lanarkshire wants to hear about the positive experiences of patients and visitors. However, we also actively encourage them to provide feedback on what could be done better.

There were 105 formal complaints to the community health partnerships last year - a reduction of eight per cent when compared to 2006/2007 - and 474 to the acute services division - a reduction of 13 per cent.

This equates to one formal complaint for every 1416 patient episodes in our acute hospitals.

The main issues raised in complaints were clinical treatment, staff attitude, behavioural or communication, and waiting times.

It is clear that poor communication between staff and patients, and between the clinical team, is a common factor.

The theme of "good customer care" is therefore an important part of all inductions and training.

Recent experience has shown complaints are becoming increasingly complicated, often involving more than one clinical speciality, and patient and relative expectations of the service continue to rise.

The increased complexity of issues makes a speedy response all the more challenging.

The national target for responding to formal complaints is 20 working days. North and south community health partnerships met this target in 82 per cent of cases, a one per cent decrease on last year's figure.

Acute services met the deadline in 99 per cent of cases - the same as in 2006/2007.

This high level of performance compares extremely well with the national figure of 67 per cent of complaints being met within the deadline and demonstrates our clear commitment to responding promptly to issues raised with us.

When an individual remains dissatisfied with our response to a formal complaint they have the option of referring the matter to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO).

During 2007/2008 the SPSO issued 10 reports on complaints about NHS Lanarkshire.

Patients breathe more easily

AN innovative £2 million initiative was launched by NHS Lanarkshire to help people suffering from a lung condition which is the world's fourth biggest killer.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a serious, but sometimes preventable, lung condition.

Although incurable, if detected early, treatments can help relieve symptoms of COPD and prevent or slow down deterioration. In Lanarkshire a two-year pilot programme was introduced which includes:

- ❖ high quality, community-based spirometry testing
- ❖ support with self care
- ❖ more care at home - early intervention and discharge
- ❖ more rehabilitation
- ❖ an extended oxygen therapy service
- ❖ COPD palliative care.

Consultant physician respiratory medicine Dr Soong Tan, who is the Lanarkshire respiratory Managed Clinical Network lead clinician said: "Respiratory disease is one of the major causes of morbidity and death within NHS Lanarkshire.

"These new initiatives build on the areas of excellent service for COPD we already have in Lanarkshire to address gaps and provide a significantly enhanced service to patients."

It is anticipated that the pilot programme will benefit patients and carers.

The main benefits will be to:

- ❖ Stop or slow down or reduce the progression of the disease
- ❖ Improve patients' quality of life and independence
- ❖ Improve access and equity of service
- ❖ Reduce hospital admissions, length of stay and bring care closer to the patient's home.

Smiles all round in dental service

NHS dentists are always in high demand and NHS Lanarkshire has taken action to increase the local services available to patients.

In East Kilbride a new extension to Greenhills Dental Practice was officially opened in April by Public Health Minister Shona Robison MSP.

Dentist Phillip Hamill, who has worked at Greenhills since 1980, said: "This demonstrates our commitment to bringing about high quality-access to dentistry.

"The new extension is a great model for how modern dental services can be developed."

A new surgery was also opened at Kirkshaws Dental Practice in Coatbridge.

Since opening for business in January 2006, dentist David McCallum has

seen patients flock for treatment.

His original target had been to register 1500 patients within two years of opening but 2500 patients are now registered, improving access to NHS dental treatment in the local community.



Greenhills Dental Practice: Shona Robison, Minister for Public Health is welcomed by (from left) practice partners Phillip Hamill and Mark Sheridan and Ken Corsar, chairman of NHS Lanarkshire.

First class care whenever you need it

ACCIDENTS and illnesses can occur at any time of the day or year but Lanarkshire patients will always be in safe hands.

Thanks to the dedicated professionals with NHS Lanarkshire's out of hours (OOH) service, patients can rest assured they will receive first class care no matter when it is required.

Although the service was only established in October 2004 it has already proved an essential addition to healthcare services in Lanarkshire.

During 2007/08 the service received 133,347 calls.

Alan Lawrie, executive director of South Lanarkshire community health partnership, said: "I am very pleased with how the service has developed a strong base and has taken every opportunity to learn.

"Looking to the future, I am very confident that we will build on this successful start and will continue to deliver high quality care 365 days a year to the population of Lanarkshire."

New initiatives which have been launched by the OOH in the last year include:

- ❖ new guidance, equipment and updated doctors' bags to ensure first class care for acute asthma
- ❖ a project to revamp doctors' bags;
- ❖ an electronic clinical summary that provides up-to-date information on medication and allergies from the patient's GP record.

The OOH team provide urgent care when GP surgeries are closed. To assess the OOH service you simply call NHS 24 on 08454 24 24 24 where trained staff assess your problem and offer advice on the best thing to do.

If you need to see a doctor or nurse your details will be passed on to NHS Lanarkshire's OOH service.

Improving waiting times

REDUCING the time patients need to wait for treatment is one of the key priorities of NHS Lanarkshire.

The Scottish Government has set a target that by December 2011 all patients will receive hospital treatment within 18 weeks of being referred by their GP.

Stringent waiting time targets were set for 2007 towards meeting this overall goal and NHS Lanarkshire rose to the task.

Rosemary Lyness, director of acute services, said: "This is a major achievement for staff through Lanarkshire.

"This success is a product of service improvement supported by both clinical and management staff across acute and primary care services.

"Our main focus has been improving the quality of care patients receive as well as reducing the length of time patients wait for diagnosis and treatment.

"I am particularly proud of the progress made in the management of the 62 day cancer target."

Roy Garscadden, head of planning, explained: "They were national targets that all the Scottish NHS boards were asked to deliver and all of these were challenging.

"It required commitment from everybody - a whole system approach.

"We have had to refine patient pathways and make sure that every step on that patient journey is as efficient as possible."

This has been achieved through service improvement as well as investment in staffing and equipment.

The increased use of specialist nurses and associated health professionals have also contributed to improved patients' pathways.

A&E bullseye

PATIENTS in accident and emergency are being treated more quickly and receiving better service thanks to NHS Lanarkshire meeting the four-hour waiting time target.

The health board achieved the national target of seeing, treating and discharging 98 per cent of patients within four hours of arriving at A&E.

Indeed, NHS Lanarkshire exceeded expectation with 99 per cent of all patients meeting the target by 31 December 2007.

While meeting the targets is important, David Hume, general manager at Hairmyres Hospital, says the real key to success has been developing better services for patients.

He said: "There is no doubt that patients are receiving a much improved service.

"We couldn't have done this without the help and support of our colleagues in primary care, GPs, the out of hours service and all the staff in the wards as well as the A&E departments.

"They all worked extremely hard to make sure the patient journey has been seamless through all these departments and services."

The main change in Lanarkshire was to redesign the service around the flow of patients through the system.

There has also been an increased use of nursing and medical staff working together.

The one-stop See and Treat Service also allowed people with minor conditions to be dealt with quickly.

Quicker access for cancer patients

CANCER patients in Lanarkshire are receiving treatment quicker thanks to improvements made by staff.

Last year the Scottish Government's Cancer Performance Support Team (CPST) was brought in to help reduce waiting times and a cancer action team set up.

Waiting times quickly improved and between 1 January and 31 March 2008 waiting times for most cancers were meeting the Scottish Government target.

This states that 95 per cent of cancer patients should begin treatment within 62 days of urgent referral.

Rosemary Lyness, director of acute services for NHS Lanarkshire, said: "By involving medical and nursing staff in the redesign of cancer services we were able to identify areas for improvement and investment which would have a real impact on the quality of care we provided for our patients.

"Work is ongoing to make sure we meet national guarantees across all tumour types and can further reduce the time between urgent referral and treatment."

Urgent Referrals

Reporting Period: 1 Jan to 31 Mar
Time from referral to treatment (target 62 days)

	2008 % compliance with 62 day	2007 %
All cancers	94.4	67.9
Breast	100.0	90.9
Colorectal	87.8	55.3
Head and Neck	100.0	60.0
Lung	95.8	81.4
Lymphoma	85.7	54.5
Melanoma	90.0	100.0
Ovarian	100.0	71.4
Upper-GI - HPB	100.0	83.3
Upper-GI - OG	81.3	70.6
Urology - Bladder	100.0	33.3
Urology - Other	90.0	83.3
Urology - Prostate	100.0	18.2

Upper-GI: upper-gastrointestinal cancer; HPB: hepatic, pancreatic and biliary; OG: oesophago-gastric

See and Treat Service

A NEW service - which has been a key factor in A&E achieving the four-hour waiting time - has been given the thumbs up by patients.

The See and Treat service, whereby a qualified practitioner treats and discharges someone with a minor injury or ailment, has helped transform A&E services across Lanarkshire.



SEE AND TREAT:
A MINTS practitioner attends to a patient.

Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the service means both nurses and doctors can treat and discharge patients with minor injuries.

Before all patients would require to see a doctor before being discharged which could result in delays.

New nursing roles have also been developed to make a major contribution to this service.

MINTS (Minor/Major Injury/Illness Nurse Treatment Service) practitioners independently manage the care of patients presenting with minor injury and illness at the See and Treat.

A survey carried out for NHS Lanarkshire found that 77 per cent of patients described their care in the See and Treat service as "excellent" or "very good".

Scanning Success

RADIOLOGY teams across NHS Lanarkshire have made a big impact on helping to reduce waiting times for patients.

The Scottish Government's HEAT Target states patients should not wait more than nine weeks for any MRI or CT.

However, the radiology department is exceeding this target, with the average wait for a routine scan only five to six weeks.

This has been achieved by upgrading systems, improving working practices and good team working.

And not only are they meeting their own waiting time targets, the radiology team are helping cut waiting times in other areas.

Grace Walker, CT superintendent radiographer at Monklands Radiography department, highlighted how good team working had helped reduce waiting times for patients.

She said: "We have a good working relationship with clinicians and we are flexible to their needs.

"We have a designated number of places for scans each week, and on average we will see 28 patients each day, but we need to accommodate emergency cases.

"We will also hold extra sessions

in the evenings and at weekends if these are needed.

"It is important to see the bigger picture and if we can help other departments meet their waiting time targets then it helps everyone, not least the patients."

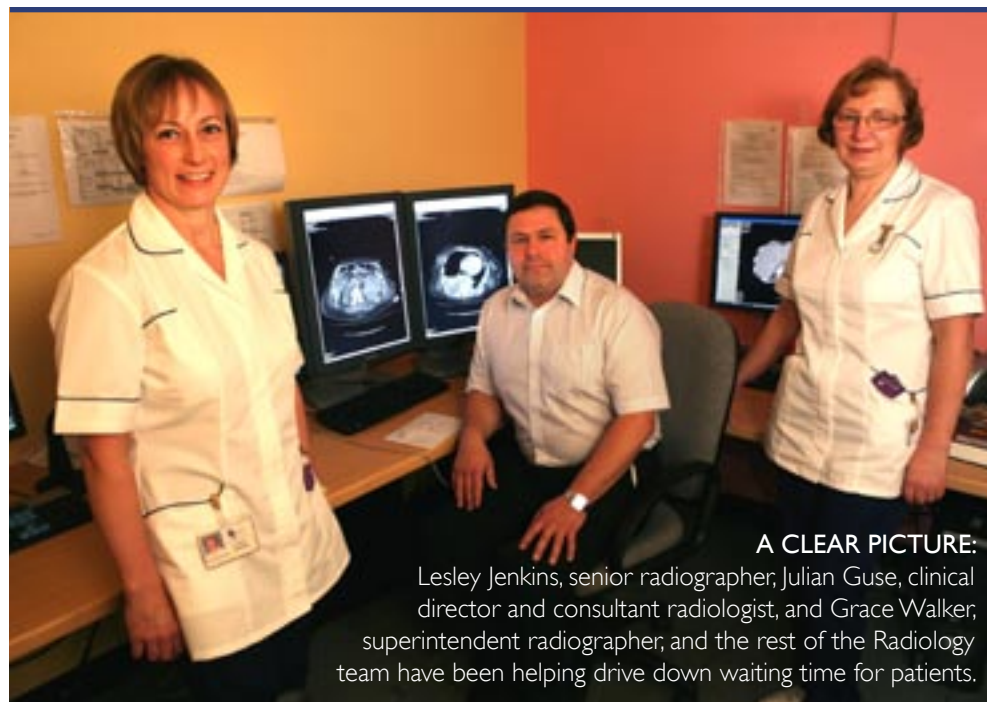
Grace explained some of the ways in which the radiology team has been able to reduce waiting times.

She said: "There has been a major upgrading of our scanning and computing systems which has had a big impact on patient waiting times.

"The multi-slice scanner received a major software upgrade in May 2007 and scanning times are now much quicker than they were previously.

"With improved scanning and computing systems and more efficient working methods, the radiology team is also flexible to meet the changing needs of other departments.

This has played a part in other waiting time targets - such as A&E's four-hour target from admission to discharge or transfer of patients, and the 62 day waiting time target for cancer patients - to be met.



A CLEAR PICTURE:

Lesley Jenkins, senior radiographer, Julian Guse, clinical director and consultant radiologist, and Grace Walker, superintendent radiographer, and the rest of the Radiology team have been helping drive down waiting time for patients.

NHS LANARKSHIRE IN GOOD

In the black for the first time in four years

FOR the first time in four years the latest financial report shows NHS Lanarkshire is in the black.

Director of finance Susan Goldsmith is delighted with the healthy financial position.

She said: "We've had an incredibly strong financial position this year.

"Everyone really has worked together to ensure our balance was no longer in the red.

"The corporate recovery plan delivered savings year on year and any additional block money we received went towards paying off debts.

"An inflation uplift and money from waiting times and service development also helped."

NHS Lanarkshire's finances are in good health but Susan admits there are still plenty of obstacles to overcome to ensure future success.

She said: "NHS Lanarkshire is back into financial balance for the first time in four years and is in a much stronger position.

"There are still many challenges ahead, but the NHS Lanarkshire team has proved it can deliver efficiency savings and still improve services.

"We're not resting on our laurels and are well aware there are still many challenges ahead.

"Our job is to ensure the financial plan continues to support and improve what clinical services are providing.

"We are just through a long period of deficit and yet we still managed to deliver waiting time and A&E targets without additional funding. We're very proud of that."

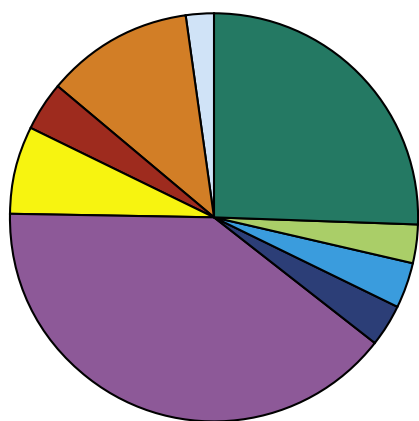


SUSAN GOLDSMITH:

"We've had an incredibly strong financial performance this year."

Due to presentational changes in the 2007-08 annual accounts, the 2006-07 figures have been restated which has resulted in a £6.1m increase in the acute services figure. This is purely presentational and does not affect the results of 2006-07 and 2007-08.

Total expenditure by Lanarkshire NHS Board on Hospital, Community and Family Health Services



Family Health Services.....	233.0 million
Maternity.....	27.9 million
Learning disabilities.....	31.2 million
Geriatric continuing care.....	31.2 million
Acute.....	358.7 million
Mental Health.....	64.9 million
Geriatric assessment.....	34.7 million
Community services.....	104.0 million
Other.....	19.9 million

	2007-08 £million	2006-07 £million
Family Health Services.....	233.0	226.3
Maternity.....	27.9	26.3
Learning disabilities.....	31.2	29.6
Geriatric continuing care.....	31.2	29.9
Acute.....	358.7	345.6
Mental Health.....	64.9	59.7
Geriatric assessment.....	34.7	32.9
Community services.....	104.0	94.7
Other.....	19.9	5.6
Total	905.5	850.6

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2008

2007		£'000	£'000	£'000
	FIXED ASSETS			
8	Intangible Fixed Assets		0	
207,273	Tangible Fixed Assets		216,323	
207,281	Total Fixed Assets			216,323
33,418	Debtors falling due after more than one year			31,781
	CURRENT ASSETS			
4,648	Stocks		4,549	
27,402	Debtors		26,446	
0	Investments		0	
1,290	Cash at bank and in hand		1,121	
33,340			32,116	
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			
(120,299)	Creditors due within one year		(118,658)	
(86,959)	Net current assets(liabilities)			(86,542)
153,740	Total assets less current liabilities			161,562
0	CREDITORS DUE AFTER MORE THAN 1 YEAR		0	
(24,589)	PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES		(50,793)	
(24,589)				(50,793)
129,151				110,769
	FINANCED BY:			
61,690	General Fund			31,207
67,305	Revaluation Reserve			79,441
156	Donated Asset Reserve			121
129,151				110,769

Health promoting hospitals

IN November 2007 NHS Lanarkshire became the first health board in Scotland to launch the Health Promoting Hospitals (HPH) initiative.

This project aims to make hospitals healthier for staff, patients and visitors.

Started by the World Health Organisation, the HPH concept intends to make health a much higher priority for everyone involved with a hospital than just treating patients' conditions.

And NHS Lanarkshire has

fully embraced the goals of this worldwide movement.

Avril Thomson, senior health promotion officer, was appointed to lead HPH activity in NHS Lanarkshire.

She said: "It's all about co-operation and having everyone working together to see what they can do to improve everyone's health - not just the patients.



HEALTHY SQUEEZE: Discharge co-ordinators Katrina Coyle and Paula McLearn get to grips with their stress balls at the HPH launch at Monklands Hospital

Contact details

FURTHER information and an electronic version of this Annual Report and Accounts can be found on the NHS Lanarkshire website at www.nhslanarkshire.org.uk

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Avril Thomson, senior health promotion officer, and Wendy Kennedy, health promotion at Cleland Hospital, help launch the HPH initiative at Wishaw General.

"There are many health promotion activities that take place in the hospitals which are not recorded and therefore not recognised." The launch of HPH within NHS Lanarkshire took the form of a health day in the receptions and canteens of the hospitals.

There were stands giving information about the various aspects of health promotion along with experts on hand.

Avril added: "In NHS Lanarkshire we established six health promotion priorities to begin with.

"These are alcohol, environmental issues, mental health and well-being, nutrition, physical activity and tobacco control.

"We want to provide staff and the public with information and resources to help them promote their own health and wellbeing."

Avril and her working group meet regularly to discuss ways of implementing their plans.