



# Greater Lincolnshire Health & Care Enterprise Committee

1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Via Zoom meeting

Draft Minutes

## Attendees

- Professor Dean Fathers - LEP Board Member & Chair
- Darren Clarke - Medilinks East Midlands
- Glen Garrod - Lincolnshire County Council
- Jacqui Bunce - Lincolnshire CCG & NHS
- Rachel Linstead - Firecarcker
- Helen Shaw - CP Consulting
- Ruth Carver - Director, Greater Lincolnshire LEP
- Professor Mike Hannay - Medical Technologies Innovation Facility Director, Nottingham Trent University
- Nikki Cooke - LIVES
- Tom Blount - Director, Lincoln Science and Innovation Park
- Roz Way - Novartis UK
- Jo Wright - Boston College
- Andrew Brooks - Lincolnshire County Council
- James Brindle - Magna Vitae
- Kishan Rees - AstraZeneca
- Jay Lakhani - Genetec/ Roche
- Professor Tanweer Ahmed
- Nury Moeira - Institute of Engineering & Technology
- Lord Patel of Bradford - BBI Programme Team
- Jonathan Bashford - BBI Programme Team
- Nicholas Werren - BBI Programme Team

## Apologies

- John Turner - Lincolnshire CCG & NHS
- Katy Thomas - Lincolnshire County Council
- Melanie Weatherley - LinCA & Walnut Care
- Jo Metcalf - The Royal Foundation & Think4Wellness
- Chris Wheway - St Barnabas
- Professor Richard Parish - National Centre for Rural Health & Care
- Dan Hayes - Order of St John Trust

## Introduction

The Health & Care Enterprise Committee meeting agenda this time, given Covid-19 lockdown rules was held through a ZOOM meeting. The agenda was suitably streamlined to accommodate two substantive agenda items.

The first agenda item was a presentation from Breaking Barriers Innovations around their Playbook programme, and the opportunities that it could offer Greater Lincolnshire.

The second agenda item was around the Covid19 situation and the effect on the Health & Care Sector, and the implications around the economic recovery and resilience stages that will follow.

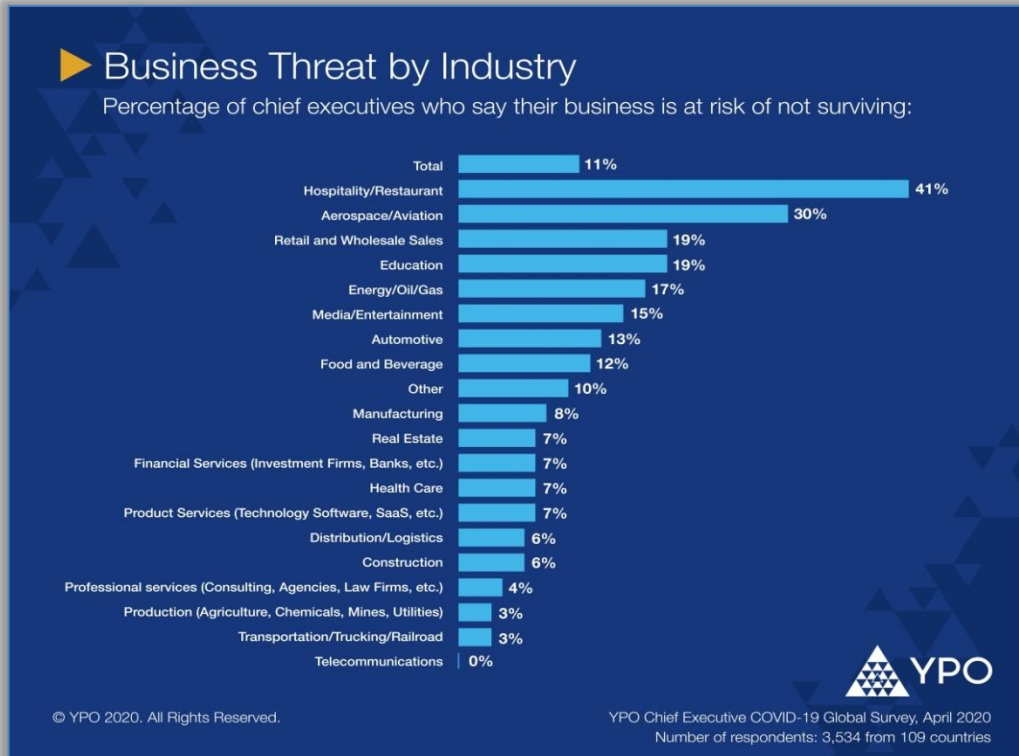
Dean Fathers gave a quick update before these agenda items on a range of issues.

The Young Presidents report he talked about can be found here:

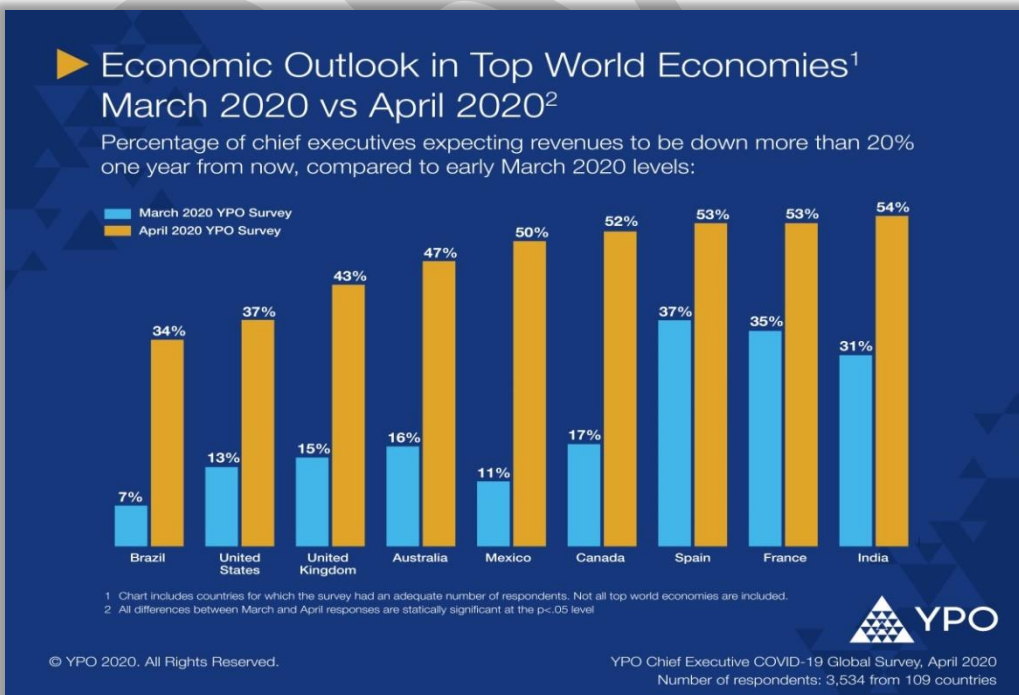
<https://www.ypo.org/2020/04/latest-y-po-survey-explores-covid-19-business-outlook/>, and in mid-April they fielded a second global COVID-19 survey of chief executives to provide a better understanding of the impacts the pandemic is having on business. Results drew from 3,534 Chief Executives ages 23-91 from 109 different countries.

This second survey clearly indicates the damaging impact of the past month of the pandemic with 84% saying their outlook is more negative compared to 1 March. Fifty-one per cent of Chief Executives characterise the COVID-19 crisis as a large or severe risk to their business, with 11% saying their business is at risk of not surviving.

The following charts show the percentages of businesses not expecting to survive.



And the economic outlook below



In terms of redundancy, it is a mixed bag of thoughts based on other surveys carried out, which indicate that for some sectors recruitment will be important, and for other redundancies are expected.

It is interesting also that not one country thought that the crisis low point had been met yet, and that business continuity was part of their concerns.

This has led to the LEP Board to think about the business revival stage, and what we can do to enable organisations that we are supporting, to get into a strong position post Covid-19.

More locally, the LEP have been told by businesses where they need to be supported, around finance, human resource skills and regulation, and finally mental health.

The LEP Board would like the Health & Care Enterprise Committee to expand their brief to consider the wider needs of mental health, within our business community.

Dean also outlined the initiative that Lincoln University have instigated through the National Centre for Organisational Resilience (NCOR), that of Resilient Lincolnshire (RL), which has a forum in place to share best practice around the current situation with the University.

The LEP is also working with LCC and Public Health to provide support into the business community with the Lincolnshire Partnership, providing mental health advice and guidance.

Lincoln University, through the NCOR is working with Midlands Connect in developing a pilot. The Mental Health Prevention Pilot will be a portal in which companies will be channelled to their website for support. The MHPP (Midlands Engine Mental Health Productivity Pilot) that the University won to support 421 organisations in Greater Lincolnshire and Leicestershire/Rutland

The LEP is also looking at the digital bandwidth issues within Lincolnshire, as a constraint to delivering digital services and innovation.

Dean then invited Andrew Brooks to introduce the Centre of Local Economic Strategies document on a proposed practical framework for new local economic practice in the era of Covid-19. This paper is a practical tool for local authority politicians, senior officers and economic development professionals responding to the local economic shock of the Covid-19 pandemic. It aims to provide a practical framework to respond to the immediate crisis and the urgent imperative to rebuild local economies which are more fair, inclusive and secure than those that existed before. The document can be found here <https://cles.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Rescue-recover-reform-FINAL.pdf>

### **Breaking Barriers Innovations**

Lord Patel and Nicholas Werren then gave a presentation around the Breaking Barriers Innovations Playbook initiative, and the opportunities this may afford for Greater Lincolnshire. The presentation will be provided under separate cover. The presentation then led into a series of questions and discussions about the opportunities within Greater Lincolnshire.

A discussion started with the diverse range of communities and attributes that Greater Lincolnshire encapsulated, and how an approach would work with such an apparent range. The BBI Playbook approach would take the greatest need, as the basis of the investigation, and then look at the cross cutting themes that could distil the knowledge wider than just those areas covered. Local determination of the priorities would be vital, and local partners would lead on this.

There was a comment about linking into the Towns Fund activity, and a consensus that pre-existing programmes provide a basis for building a stronger offer. Furthermore, there are new

programmes about to commence such as 'Ageing Better'. A collective understanding of impact is important, and there is something around enabling people to have the "literacy/skills, including technology", that will enable the approaches to engage with communities and opportunities. It looks like the Lincoln Town Deal bid will be around innovation in public service delivery enabled by technology and a test-bed/incubator.

The proposal was that the LEP look to see whether the Towns Fund has activity already in place to capitalise on, on this agenda

The action point from the discussions were that another conversation be held to move the proposal forward, and that members of the committee to contact Andrew Brooks, to register their interest in joining a steering group.

### **Post Covid-19 Strategic Direction**

Dean then introduced the next agenda item, and invited each member to input into this discussion:

- Within the Lincoln Science and Innovation Park, there was reported a resilience of the businesses operating from there, with support from both the University and management of the park. Discussions with the businesses have moved on from purely a financial perspective, into more mental health support for people coping with Covid-19 lockdown conditions.
- Magnae Vitae is working with East Lindsey District Council to work on a single digital platform for customers, whilst also dealing with a large number of staff furloughed, and the mental health issues that have ensued.
- LIVES have not been able to furlough staff, and it would have been a busy income generation period for the Charity. Important skills training for the charity has had to change from face to face, to a purely digital one. A major point raised was around the value and resource that the VCS can bring to the crisis and recovery period support, both in a formal and informal basis. Also, how do we continue to support the volunteers that have been invaluable in this time, to find new opportunities in the ensuing Covid-19 recovery period?
- Lincolnshire County Council talked about the Business Recovery Cell work they are carrying out at present, particularly looking at short and medium term interventions, with a wide range of partners.
- There was a reference made to Simon Stevens Letter sent out from the NHS indicating that support for mental health will be a significant part of the NHS phase 2 recovery plans, with the continuation of digital engagement models being also given elevated status. More details can be found here <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/second-phase-of-nhs-response-to-covid-19-letter-from-simon-stevens-and-amanda-pritchard/>
- The Medical Technologies Innovation Facility in Nottingham is working with NHSX on contact track and trace models that are not using smartapps, but Bluetooth technologies as 11% of the population do not use smartphones and are at more risk of contracting Covid-19. They are also working on antibody testing, and supporting a successful vaccine test that shows a 98.8% level of accuracy. Also, they are working on the issues behind medicine shortages, and an ongoing vaccine strategy.
- Issues were also raised around musculoskeletal issues and psychological damage, of working for home. The IET have been canvassing the wider engineering community on the problems that society will face and the future clinical problems that are being stored up, and then need to be managed in the future. Short term problems identified included the impact of free products, and where the data is going, including how sustainable will it be in the long term. There was a rise in social isolation problems identified, where there is not just a call for digital only, but how do we manage a more blended approach to deal with them. Activities include Mental Health First Aid, through a 2 hour training course for businesses. Another idea centred on telehealth support around counselling, and teenage community and behavioural support. There is also activity on skills and training in new ways of working for businesses where staff have been furloughed.

- Within Novatis, collaboration and transformation working is still happening, and they are being reflective at present to understand and be supportive at the current time, for health & care systems. The company is focusing on looking at different ways of working into the future, particularly through digital means. This includes delivering transformational systems within transformational care, and psychological safety. The company is supporting UK Biomes, as part of a global initiative, and Health Club 2020 for start-ups looking at solutions for diagnosis and referrals. They are looking for feedback as to how industry can support the current situation.
- Medilink now has a list of businesses that have products that can support Covid-19, through their website. They are now beginning to look at the position of what the new normal will be, and how the NHS procures and engages will be an important part of this. Cash flow is still a key concern, and business loans have not been taken up well, or as immediate in their relief as first thought, to such an extent that business owners are thinking about voluntary insolvency and then stating up in better financial conditions - rather than going down a loan route. There is an importance of how smaller companies and med-tech, public sector and VCS in delivering services, in this new environment. Fatigue from virtual meetings is also prevalent.
- CP Consultancy has been concentrating on digital identity work, within serving volunteer organisations. This has focused on the redeploying people, giving people new employment opportunities, and concentrating on the skills implications for this. Helen mentioned the TEC4CV19 grouping setup to get industry NHS, and public sector on a supplier forum - to look at needs. This will develop into a delivery action plan.
- Another point raised was around start-ups, and the struggles of health tech around Angel funding not being as readily available during this time. This is having an impact of funding for good innovative ideas. The Angel Community do an awful lot of heavy lifting, to make start up investments more sustainable. There were also worries about contact tracing and the capabilities to deal with it successfully.
- Challenging times for HE/FE sectors, due to students moving to remote learning, and to staff having to teach remotely also.

Dean then talked about how government has tasked LEPs to look at projects which will support the economic resilience phase of recovery. Four projects identified already include the NCRHC & LIRH looking at particularly rurality needs, NCOR setting up Resilient Lincolnshire as an initiative, expanding the Lincoln Science & Innovation Park to support further expansion of med-tech and digital health start-ups, and BBI activity to link health & care back into the Town Funds.

Other ideas brought forward from the discussions include supporting the Business Angel funding network, which focuses on the first stages of risk capital. There is significant capacity in term of investors locally, but this needs the mechanisms around how this is deployed, for this investment to be better supported. This could link to the Mablethorpe & Skegness Towns Fund, and their proposal to develop a med-tech hub, and the hospital trust to move their aseptic facility onto the Science & Innovation Park. In addition, there does need to be support for how we can encourage the new start-ups to engage with the existing supply chain.

Another idea was how the committee looks at the care sector in terms of burn out, and how we can support the sector to avoid this. Dean asked if Rachel and Melanie could help set up a small working group, to report back in terms of any developments on this theme. Any nominations from other committee members to support this to be passed to Andy.

The penultimate point raised was around the opportunity to set out Greater Lincolnshire's stall for re-location of business from the major cities to Greater Lincolnshire, in the post Covid -19 recovery.

The final point raised was that of the role which nutrition plays within health & care. Rachel offered to look into the possibility of setting up a group to look at Nutrpharma/Nutrateg.

**Date & Time of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Health & Care Enterprise Committee will be on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020, between 10.00am to 1.00pm.

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