BURDEN OF DISEASE IN NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

AND ITS FUTURE IMPACT ON THE LOCAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ECONOMY

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Introduction and Overview of Burden of Disease Project

As with most other parts of the UK, North and North East Lincolnshire’s health and social care system will face enormous challenges over the next couple of decades. This is particularly due to an ageing population and forecast growth in long term conditions. This will occur at a time when it appears likely that there will be public finance restrictions which will limit the ability of the NHS and social care to meet this need.

This programme of work was therefore commissioned to examine the burden of disease in North and North East Lincolnshire today and make projections into the future. The primary element of this programme is to identify the current burden of disease in North and North East Lincolnshire in a number of major long term conditions such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, respiratory disease, mental illness and musculoskeletal disease and to undertake a modelling exercise based on available data sources to predict the future burden of disease relating to these conditions. The work aimed to look at these diseases as a whole, taking a life course and predictive approach to examine the likely impact on the health and social care system in years to come based on current knowledge and trends.

Based on this intelligence, the aim has then been to identify the interventions which, if delivered efficiently and effectively, could be delivered in such a way that will turn the curve and reduce the burden of disease and therefore the costs to the health and social care system.

The Report will provide a strong foundation for actions such as those laid out in the indicative framework below to address the Goal and Purpose of the Programme.

**GOAL:** To improve the wellbeing of people in North East Lincolnshire focusing on a faster rate of improvement for those at greatest risk of poor health

**PURPOSE:** To establish an integrated system-wide approach to prevention that supports people to live in a resilient purposeful and independent healthy life

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<tr>
<th>UNIVERSAL</th>
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<td>Creating a Healthy &quot;Place&quot; that supports and values healthy living, wellbeing, social inclusion and protects people from harm and adverse living conditions</td>
<td>Easily accessible information, tools and advice via a range of sources, making best use of technology that support people's independent pursuit of health &amp; wellbeing</td>
<td>Systematic approach to early identification/recognition of contributory factors including mental health and respond proportionately to individuals and communities stratification of population</td>
<td>Core capability programme approach to confidence building for self-management of conditions by individuals and their significant others</td>
<td>Slow progression and deterioration of LTC and reduce avoidable complications and crisis through proactive management and co-production</td>
<td>Increase co-ordination and integrated case management approach to complex needs to prevent avoidable admissions to hospital and loss of independence</td>
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**Incentivise shift to the left**

- Spatial planning
- Active travel
- Age friendly environments
- Licensing Healthy Workplaces
- Making every contact count
- Information and brief advice integrated lifestyle services
- Online access to healthy lifestyle information
- Immunisation and screening programmes
- Maternal and 0-5 services
- Future in Mind Health-check programme
- Diabetes prevention programme
- Portfolio of self-care tools
- Direct access to expert advice
- Volunteering Development programme for managing long-term conditions
- Social prescribing
- Proactive management of complex long-term conditions
- Case finding frailty in primary care
- Out of hours access to support 7 days a week
- Support and work with carers
- Use of assistive technologies
- Coordination and integrated Case Management
- Local out of hospital integrated care model
- End of life/palliative care

Burden of Disease in North East Lincolnshire
Executive Summary

Relevant key defining population characteristics of North East Lincolnshire

North East Lincolnshire (NEL) has key distinctive characteristics relevant when considering the burden of disease and how best to address it. Clearly important are the following:

- **Demography:** The population age structure is different to that of the national average, NEL has less elderly and a greater proportion of young adults.

Population projections by 2035:

  - NEL population growth 2.9%; 65yrs. and over increase by 47%

Increases in the size of these older groups are likely to have a high impact on the demand for health and social care services.

- **Deprivation:** 40% of the NEL neighbourhoods’ population fall into the national most deprived quintile 5.

Since the burden of disease will fall disproportionately on the populations in the most deprived neighbourhoods, there are likely to be distinctly greater levels of burden of disease in NEL.

- **Excess mortality:** NEL has high levels of premature mortality, ranked 293 out of 324 districts. The profile of disease shows that in NEL cardiovascular disease is more predominant, and also has more digestive (liver) disease, particularly in men.

- **Inequalities in life expectancy:** NEL has a high slope index of inequality; over 10.5 years difference in life expectancy across the population. For NEL this shows as a quite even gradient by deprivation score.

These patterns have important consequences for how service responses will need to be targeted in graduated ways to achieve equitable access and outcomes.

Local measures of Burden of Disease

The UK Global Burden of Disease Study has demonstrated that, while life expectancy has improved and YLL reduced substantially over the last decade there has been:

- no corresponding reduction in the years of life with illness and disability (YLD).
- no substantial narrowing of the gap in health inequalities.

Local analysis has demonstrated some distinctive features of the Burden of Disease (BoD), in particular:

- **Years of Life Lost (YLL):**
  - Across the life course there are distinct patterns of causation:
    - 15 – 34 yrs, deaths due to injury (self-harm; traffic accidents)
    - From age 35 liver disease (alcohol and injecting drug related)
    - From as early as 45 heart disease, cancer and respiratory disease
  - Dramatic differences in profile by deprivation score. In the most deprived quintile:
The majority of YLL occur before age 65, while in the least deprived quintile it is the opposite.

From ages 25 – 65 there are substantial excess YLL due to:
- Mental health and drug related deaths,
- Gastrointestinal disease deaths, majority of which are cirrhosis (due to alcohol related harm and infectious hepatitis, much, but not all of which occurs in injecting drug users).
- Injuries in males (mainly road accidents or self-harm).
- A large proportion of cardiac related YLL occur before age 65, while this is only limited to a small number of YLL in the least deprived quintile.

There are major consequences from these findings for the planned pattern and resourcing of health and social care services.

• **Years of Life with Disability (YLD):** The size of the burden is substantially greater in the >65 yrs. Key practical factors include:
  - Leading causes of mortality, (cardiovascular; cancer; respiratory; liver disease) only represent a relatively small proportion of disability compared to other major causes.
  - Diabetes is a significant contributor, growing in importance from an early stage.
  - Most conditions increase in proportion to age, except for mental health and drug disorders, which peak in young middle age.
  - Otherwise, bulk of the burden in older age comes from 3 categories:
    - Neurological, mainly because this includes Alzheimer’s dementia
    - Musculoskeletal, though mainly ‘back and neck’ more than arthritis
    - Sensory, loss of sight and hearing, which is very substantial
  - The pattern of mental and drug use disorders is distinctive and varies substantially by age and sex.

• **Reflected use of health services:** volume of hospital use is more sensitive to the greater deprivation profile in NEL.

The most dramatic feature in pattern of use relates to variation by deprivation quintile:
- There is a major difference in use of emergency (non-elective) services by deprivation quintile, with dramatically greater use by the most deprived quintile(s).
- For NEL there is some proportionate difference by quintile, suggesting referral and use better reflecting need (elective).

• **Expenditure as a proxy for service:** since there is little data available to analyse primary, ambulatory and social care, programme budgeting was used.
- Hospital expenditure dominates completely.
- Identified primary care expenditure is prominent particularly in cardiovascular and respiratory disease, and for ‘endocrine’ which is predominantly diabetes.

- Expenditure patterns in primary care do not seem to reflect the major burdens of disease/disability of musculoskeletal disease (back and neck) or of sensory problems (hearing and poor sight).

- Mental health expenditure stands out, but as a composite of complex pathologies, unlike physical health which is separated into a wide range of specialties.

  • **Attributable causes**: the dataset of social determinants and risk behaviours driving the burden of disease are briefly examined.

**Trends in the Burden of Disease locally**

Lessons are drawn from international analysis, which, on a disease specific basis, examine the factors that will determine burden of disease and expenditure by population. The case is clearly made that even for 2 contrasting major diseases, heart disease, (where incidence is falling), and diabetes (where incidence is rising), population growth and ageing will result in increasing numbers and expenditure by 2035.

The local situation for diabetes is modelled, projecting the numbers forward on the basis of increasing incidence due to the growing obesity ‘epidemic’, population growth, and demography of ageing. This estimates that diabetes patients will increase by 46% in NEL.

With no control over population growth and ageing, the range of other possibilities for addressing the burden and expenditure are identified.

**Implications: prevention and the Burden of Disease pathway**

From a population perspective, there is a pathway of causation whereby intervention at the earliest points (‘upstream’; ‘to the left’) will reduce the consequences (‘downstream’; ‘to the right’).

Working proactively at all possible steps down the burden of disease chain will be critical to enable residents to maintain their independence for as long as comfortably possible, supported where necessary. The intention will be to defer, and compress, the period of time living with (expensive) dependency towards the end of life.

An outline of the pathway follows.

  A. **Reducing risk**

     a. **Social determinants**

These have been well described by Marmot (The Marmot Review Team, 2010) as a ‘Life-course’ of accumulating risks, which can be viewed as a pathway of its own. Reducing risks at any point along the BoD pathway can have its impact as primary prevention as the most extreme version of ‘upstream working’, but also can influence change at other points in the pathway by influencing ‘health seeking behaviour’.

The evidence base shows strongly, however, that interventions that support a healthy start for children during the first 2 – 5 years of life during the development of ‘cognitive and executive functions’ may have the greatest impact on reducing the cycle of deprivation.
b. Risk behaviours

GBoD identified the main attributable causes of disease, 5 of the top 10 being behaviour related: dietary risks; tobacco smoke; alcohol and drug use; low physical activity; occupational risks.

Behaviour change is not straightforward to achieve, particularly for people living in complex and challenging environments: in these circumstances risky behaviours are less ‘lifestyle choices’ and more elements rooted in local cultural norms.

In addition, risk behaviours often cluster together in more deprived communities, multiplying the risks and providing even greater challenges for substantially downgrading risks.

c. Risk conditions

The remaining 5 of the top 10 attributable risks are in fact measurable abnormalities in physiological/pathological state (e.g. raised blood pressure; raised blood sugar). In general they are not recognised as a problem in individuals without some invasive ‘clinical’ test. They may become apparent opportunistically during investigation of a patient for another condition, or may be tested for in a systematic case-finding exercise e.g. GP Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) or the Health Checks programme.

Search strategies need to be systematic and scaled up, and take into account disadvantaged patients who do not have the knowledge, skills and resources to easily take up the offers of testing.

In many cases, confirmation of the problem may be followed with a supported care plan e.g. weight management; dietary control; fitness programme. These will need to be fastidious to achieve measurable change and risk reduction. In many cases, if the initial care plan is insufficient, medication may be necessary.

B. Reduce disease incidence

Some of the major conditions contributing to the disease burden have an identifiable pre-condition, not the disease itself but part of the pathological pathway which can provide a ‘warning’ that the disease itself may be developing. If this state can be detected and acted upon effectively, the incidence of the disease itself, with all its downstream consequences, may be averted. Includes:

- Screening (cancers; aortic aneurysm; diabetic eye disease)
- Vaccinating (HPV; hepatitis)
- Case finding (pre-diabetes; cardiac risk; renal disease)

Detecting and managing these pre-conditions on a population-wide basis requires scaled-up and systematic processes, but because they can literally prevent serious disease developing, the processes can be very cost effective and should be pursued to best effect.

C. Managing long-term conditions (LTCs)

Once long term conditions are established there are a number of management goals which will need to be pursued:

- Optimise control and management costs
- Preventing decline in function
• Prevent and manage acute exacerbations
• Prevention of complications
• Managing risk of premature mortality.

There is a good evidence base and plenty of authoritative guidance and protocols for effective management of the main LTCs, and of achieving each of the management goals.

A major determinant of the success or otherwise of each care plan remains the patient capacity and capability to self-manage. This needs to be supported in bespoke ways, both by the practitioners, family and other carers, and by peer ‘expert patients’.

Managing these goals from the outset, once the condition is diagnosed, can prevent the sequential increase both in the burden of disease and cost (80% of the cost of diabetes services goes on managing the complications).

D. Managing multi-morbidity

Multi-morbidity, increasing with improving survival, adds management problems e.g.:

• due to mixed signs and symptoms complicating diagnosis;
• interacting/conflicting care plans;
• transitions across healthcare boundaries and specialisms

Poorer outcomes and higher costs result. Studies show that people with multi-morbidity had higher consultation rates, more (costly) transitions across services, and less continuity of care compared with people without multi-morbidity.

Importantly, people in deprived circumstances have the same prevalence of multi-morbidity as more affluent patients who were 10 – 15 years older (Barnett, 2012). This will have significant consequences for resourcing across health and social care.

E. Manage frailty

Frailty is a transitional state of vulnerability to accumulated impairments. It affects 20 – 50% of people > 80 years.

• There are five main frailty syndromes (‘the pillars of frailty’): falls; immobility; delirium; incontinence; susceptibility to the side effects of medication
• Currently, patients often present in crisis because of these and other problems, without prior warning to urgent or emergency care services and such episodes can precipitate episodic decline.
• Frailty is not a static condition and can be improved. Identifying people living with frailty can help improve outcomes, and should enable prevention plans and contingency arrangements to be put in place.
• Physical frailty and dementia are the main causes of patients entering long-term social home or residential care.
F. Functional decline

This decline is not inexorable, and can be managed usefully in many cases where resources are deployed effectively and efficiently. The supports may be employed as: Proactive health promotion; Rehabilitation following an acute episode or crisis; Re-ablement.

At all points in the burden of disease ‘pathway’ described above, there are a range of social determinants that will affect the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of interventions. They include;

- Personal skills, and capacity to self-manage
- Family and carer involvement
- Other social networks; otherwise, loneliness and isolation
- Mental wellbeing
- Physical resources for maintenance and recovery (including financial)

Implications: key components of population level actions

The Report describes five key components of a population based strategy. These elements are critical if percentage change at population level is to be achieved.

1. Commitment of effort and resource needs to be graded proportionately to complexity of need.

There is a gradient of need right across the population. However, there is a part of that population e.g. in the most deprived national 20% of neighbourhoods, where risk factors combine into a complex whole i.e. multiple social risks (income and debt; unemployment; housing issues), clusters of behavioural risks (tobacco and alcohol use; poor diet; inactivity) and early multi-morbidity.

These people will be the most problematic to support to reduce their overall risk. However, they are also the ones suffering the greatest degree of years of life lost, the greatest number of years of life with disability and chronic illness, and make the greatest use of crisis and emergency services.

2. Interventions selected for population level change programmes must meet a tight set of criteria

Programme characteristics will include being:-

- **Evidence based** – concentrate on interventions where research findings and professional consensus are strongest
- **Outcomes orientated** – with measurements locally relevant and locally owned
- **Systematically applied** – not depending on exceptional circumstances and exceptional champions
- **Scaled up appropriately** – “industrial scale” processes require different thinking to small “ bench experiments”
- ** Appropriately resourced** – refocus on core budgets and services rather than short bursts of project funding
- **Persistent** – continue for the long haul, capitalising on, but not dependant on fads, fashion and policy priorities
Small projects, those based on ‘grey’ evidence and services that are unsystematic and of patchy and variable quality will not generally result in measurable change at population level.

3. To achieve population level change will require multifaceted approaches delivered with system and scale.

The concept of the Population Intervention Triangle is introduced, which brings together the various ways that measurable population level change can be achieved. These are:

- Population level protections: legislation; taxation, licencing; healthy public policy
- Systematic, scaled and sustainable delivery of the evidence base through services
- Systematic engagement with communities to provide supportive networks and environment
- Real connectivity of services into communities; strategic engagement of Third sector

All need to be connected through good leadership, partnership, and vision and strategy that provide measures and milestones towards the desired outcome.

Strategies for risk behaviour change, e.g. on tobacco use, should involve all elements of the Triangle. Services such as smoking cessation will not change prevalence on their own. NICE guidance provides evidence around all points of the triangle.

4. Addressing inequalities in access and outcome.

It is important to pro-actively address the ‘intervention decay’ by drawing the ‘missing thousands’ appropriately into services that can reduce their own burden of disease. A strategic model identifies the components A – D necessary to achieve this:

A. Primary - under recognition of illness by individuals and people around them
B. Secondary – identified as ill but treatment not accessible
C. Inadequacies in quality of in-service provision
D. Insufficient assets for recovery or ongoing self-management

This approach will be most important where levels of deprivation are highest.

5. System, scale and selection of intervention ‘best buys’

Introducing the concept of Numbers Needed to Treat (NNTs), an estimate of the number of recipients that will need to be treated to achieve one target success in a given timeframe, can focus attention on the interventions that can be most effective and cost effective in improving outcomes.

The larger the NNT, the greater the span of control necessary to quality control the inputs, and to therefore assure the outputs.

Implications: ‘best buys’ for reducing the burden of disease

Based on all the considerations in previous sections of this Report, there follow a proposed series of steps amplified to draw in some key implications if there is to be a measurable impact on population level BoD.
1. **Formalise the basis of a consistent, graduated service response to need based on community deprivation score.**

The Report makes clear the very uneven way that the distribution of deprivation and disadvantage is reflected in differential need and burden of disease across NEL. Much of this need is unmet at early stages of the burden of disease, but then reveals itself as disproportionate levels of demand through extensive and expensive complications, multi-morbidity and crisis demands on service, as well as premature mortality.

Addressing the unequal distribution of need pro-actively is not just a morally appropriate matter of addressing social injustice and inequality, but also a pragmatic approach to being able to continue to deliver effective and affordable services.

Such approaches require formal acknowledgement of the way sub-populations are distributed, and then the mapping of what this means for the planning of services to deliver a graduated response. This will require attention to resource distribution, not equal shares, but proportionate to need. There will also need to be tailored means of engagement with different communities, with generic support to their infrastructures where needs are most complex.

2. **Identify and connect effectively with the ‘missing thousands’.**

Detailed analysis and mapping shows clear mismatches of need and expressed demand, particularly for inputs addressing the attributable risks and opportunities for prevention of subsequent disease burden.

Missing potential beneficiaries will be an issue for services, e.g. GPs working across the social spectrum, but is shown to be a particular problem often where need is greatest in the more deprived areas. Reaching out to draw people appropriately into services needs to be systematic and intelligence based.

A model illustrating how partners can contribute additively to addressing the predictable ‘intervention decline’ is described (The A-B-C-D strategy (Figure 42)). Partners will contribute differently for different interventions e.g. GPs being at C for delivering quality service say to deliver CHD management, while working at A and B to identify the problem and navigate to appropriate services e.g. in relation to cold, damp housing.

Proposed HLHF models of out-of-hospital and place–based care arrangements should provide the culture and structures to support strategies to address the intervention decline in key areas of input. This will work if knowledge and information, plans and sought for outcomes are shared and addressed together.

3. **‘Sweat the assets’ of disease registers to bring best outcomes from a clear evidence base systematically to those who could benefit.**

Disease registers are a critical component of population health systems. Properly used, they will make sure that once a disease is identified and registered, health care is doing all it can to control LTCs by systematically applying the strongly evidence based interventions to all who can benefit, to reduce deterioration and prevent complications.

It should be recognised that those not meeting targets, either as exemptions or treatment failure, may be those with other complex needs. Examples of this are shown for NEL. It is therefore necessary to put the disproportionate effort in to support these people, and incentives and supports should be aligned to encourage this.
However, system efficiency is only half of the story, and engaging the patient in good, supported self-management is also critical to successful outcomes. An evidence review highlights some of the key components.

4. **Sweat the assets of screening, case finding and quality assured action plans to address risk conditions and pre-disease.**

At critical points in the genesis of some diseases it is possible to intervene to prevent the development of the disease itself and its consequences down the burden of disease pathway. Unfortunately, most of these conditions require some form of ‘clinical’ testing as they are asymptomatic, and must be sought out pro-actively. Success therefore depends on the efficiency and effectiveness of the search.

There is much scope for improving on this in NEL, and examples are shown. In particular it will be cost-effective to improve access and uptake for:

- Health Checks, and opportunistic case finding
- National screening programmes
- Vaccination programmes, including for HPV and hepatitis

Identification of the clinical problem will need to be followed through with fastidious and systematic programme support, and the resources to deliver this effectively need to be available.

5. **Programmes to modify risk behaviours**

The main identified risk behaviours are critical ones to address, not just because they are really upstream in the pathway, but also because they each contribute to numbers of the main components of the disease burden. The problem is how to address them with sufficient system and scale. Although the cost per QALY is very low on an individual basis, the numbers needed to treat (NNT) are very large. This means large numbers of agents will be necessary to support the intervention, and assuring their quality and support brings clear challenges.

Attention is given to important cost effective population based interventions:

- Strategies covering all elements of a Population Intervention Triangle, not just service based inputs, working from NICE guidance and e.g. National Obesity Strategy (forthcoming).
- Capitalise on frontline service contacts with a systematic Making Every Contact Count (MECC) approach, backed with Brief Intervention training and support.
- Provision of ‘Tier 2’ services, often under provided, to give extra support when ‘readiness to change’.
- Target high risk individuals with multiple risks (e.g. smokers on LTC registers) for greatest impact

In the most deprived areas, risks often cluster in individuals. Where this is frequently so, services must be geared up for multi-faceted, rather specialist silo approaches.
6. Addressing the social determinants of the disease burden

On a ‘place’ basis all partners should work on a holistic and contributory basis to improve personal, family and community resilience. Dividends will be widespread where this is effective, and will have a downstream impact on risk behaviours and the burden of disease.

The local authority and partners in North East Lincolnshire are working to address the social determinants of health and wellbeing, including those described in the Marmot Report, to address inequalities across the social ‘gradient’ and the ‘life-course’.

While all components are important, a number are key within health and social care:

- Early years development: this is evidenced to be the most critical and fundamental period of the life course.
- Skills and good work
- Income and debt management

Implementation of support in these areas can be patchy and variable, and some characteristics are identified that will be crucial for integrated and place-based working.

7. Addressing/managing leading causes of Years of Life with Disability (YLD)

Analysis shows that some of the most prevalent causes of the disease burden, particularly in an ageing population, are not necessarily those with the highest profile strategically. Attention is given here to:

- Sensory loss: material is available to support strategic approaches to sight loss, but much less so for hearing loss. Both are very important contributors to frailty, isolation, loneliness and loss of independence
- Back and neck pain is a huge burden, and overshadows even arthritis as a reported concern, with less systematic management pathways.

Considering the size of these problems largely impinging on out-of-hospital health and social care, it will be important to proactively address strategies for these problems to ensure consistent effective and cost effective programmes with strong preventive interventions and active management.

8. Approach to multi-morbidity

Identification of multi-morbidity type, starting with common pairings, and linkage of information across interfaces provides opportunities for targeted protocols and guidance for intervention and delivery of integrated care.

Clinical information systems should increasingly be able to provide appropriate intelligence for more efficient and effective management.

9. Systematic population-based approaches to frailty and dementia

In relation to dementia, and through substantial improvements in ‘pathway’ co-ordination there have been measurable improvements in:

- Retained (supported) independence, and deferred entry to residential care
• Reduction in the numbers presenting in crisis to social care, emergency departments and urgent care centres

• Reduction in the number of avoidable hospital admissions/bed days for patients with a dementia diagnosis.

It is recognised that similar advantages could be gained through a formalised recognition of the state of frailty. In addition there is the advantage that, unlike dementia at present, progressive degrees of frailty can be halted and even reversed with pro-active approaches.

10. Predictive modelling

This is an approach using the potential of Big Data to identify predictors of patient risk from very large clinical data sets. Software derived from this can then be used at a local level to derive lists of patients at defined stratified levels of risk, enabling cost beneficial targeting of efforts and resources.

As the approach developed models initially focussed on those at highest risk, but these patients were found to be often in their last year of life, and attempts to reduce risk at this stage tended not to be cost effective. Now the focus tends to be on the next level of risk below, where there is more scope for proactive impact.

In this regard, predictive modelling will be an important intervention to help prioritise patients at high risk and effectively focus particularly where NNT will be smallest for short term impact.
1. Relevant key defining population characteristics of North East Lincolnshire

There are excellent detailed analyses published as Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for North East Lincolnshire (North East Lincolnshire Strategic Partnership, 2015) which will not be duplicated here. The following are key features relevant to the current appraisal.

1.1 Demography

The population ‘pyramid’ for NEL is shown below.

![Population pyramid for North East Lincolnshire](image)

North East Lincolnshire may look similar to the England average to the untutored eye, but there are some distinct and important features:

- NEL has a greater proportion of young adults.
- NEL is projected to experience a significant increase in the proportion of over age 60’s by the time of the next census and beyond.

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) emphasises the nature of the predicted changes. Mid-2010 population projections show an estimated population growth of 2.9% in NEL by 2035. By age group, residents aged 65 and over are expected to increase by 46.8%. This age group is most likely to have the greatest accumulated burden of disease as we will demonstrate, so increases in the size of these older groups are likely to have a high impact on the demand for health and social care services.
1.2 Deprivation

Figure 2 colour codes the England population of neighbourhoods into five 20% segments (quintiles) by deprivation score (Public Health England (PHE), 2014). Nearly 40% of the NEL neighbourhoods’ population fall into the national most deprived quintile 5, with proportionally less from the less deprived quintiles. Since the burden of disease will fall disproportionately on the populations in the most deprived neighbourhoods, there is likely to be a greater overall burden of disease than in populations with a more even population distribution.

![Figure 2 North East Lincolnshire: comparative deprivation profile (PHE, 2014)](image)

1.3 Excess mortality

Premature mortality is a strong indicator of health inequalities between and within areas. Figure 3 shows that NEL has very high mortality profiles as illustrated by the national mortality rankings (Public Health England (PHE), 2015). As predicted by the deprivation picture (Figure 2), NEL lies within the 20% highest mortality rates in England.

The profiles of specific disease mortality show that mortality in NEL for heart disease and stroke and also liver disease (possibly related to levels of alcohol related harm) are more prominent. However, injury related death rates are disproportionately low.
Figure 3 Premature Mortality within England for North East Lincolnshire (rankings out of 324 local authorities)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>North East Lincolnshire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall mortality</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart disease and stroke</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung disease</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver disease</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injuries</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More information on ‘inequalities’ related to specific causes of death can be seen by examining the profile of causes of excess deaths over and above that seen on average nationally.

Figure 4 shows the ‘scarf’ diagram for NEL from the PHE Segmentation Tool (Public Health England (PHE), 2015), which is relatively conventional in pattern. There is an emphasis on circulatory disease (heart disease and stroke), and a significant component of digestive disease, possibly reflecting problems with (alcohol related) liver disease.

Figure 4 North East Lincolnshire life expectancy gap by cause compared to England

1.4 Health inequalities
A method of analysis called the Slope Index of Inequality is a helpful way of illustrating the measurement of inequalities across neighbourhoods within a local authority. The analysis gathers together neighbourhoods (Lower Super Output Areas –LSOAs) ranked by deprivation score into 10 segments (deciles). It then calculates an average life expectancy for each decile. A straight line can then
be drawn showing the best fit across the 10. The slope of this line has then been used as a measure of inequality – the steeper it is, the greater the internal inequality.

However, from a practical point of view, the variation across the deciles can give more information which may be helpful in designing the pattern of intervention to help address the inequalities. It is possible to ‘decode’ the deciles so as to identify and map the areas represented in each. This can provide the basis of creating differential service and access plans, aiming to improve the ‘furthest fastest’.

The analysis for NEL, shown as Figure 5 shows a Slope Index of 10.7 years, representing a high level of internal inequality. The confidence intervals overlap at each decile point, showing that there is a continuous decline across the deciles. It can be seen that:

- none of the deciles have an average life expectancy over 80 years
- 3 of the deciles (30%) have a life expectancy less than 75 years.

In the case of NEL therefore, any action plan to address inequalities will need to be proportionate across the whole population, rather than differentially targeted.

Figure 5 North East Lincolnshire: Slope Index of life expectancy (representing internal health inequalities)

![Graph showing life expectancy by deprivation deciles, with a slope index of 10.7 years.](image)
2. Local measures of Burden of Disease

Recent release of the findings of the UK component of the Global Burden of Disease Study (GBoD) emphasised a number of critical conclusions with relevance locally:

- Health in England is improving although substantial opportunities exist for further reductions in the burden of preventable disease.
- The gap in mortality rates between men and women has reduced, but marked health inequalities between the least deprived and most deprived areas remain.
- Declines in mortality have not been matched by similar declines in morbidity, resulting in people living longer with diseases.
- Health policies must therefore address the causes of ill health as well as those of premature mortality.
- Systematic action locally and nationally is needed to reduce risk exposures, support healthy behaviours, alleviate the severity of chronic disabling disorders, and mitigate the effects of socioeconomic deprivation. (Newton, 2015)

In particular, the issue that declines in mortality have not been matched by similar declines in morbidity mean that while the ‘fatal burden of disease’ and years of life lost (YLL) are reducing, the years of life with disability (YLD) are increasing.

This has important consequences in terms of pressure on the delivery of health and social care services, particularly in conjunction with rising demographic pressures of a growing and ageing population.

The GBoD study methodology has enabled estimates to be made of population levels of morbidity/disability which should have a direct relevance, enabling better estimates of the need for and potential demand on services. Some of that need is likely currently to be unmet. Such estimates will also provide intelligence to help to better target prevention initiatives.

It will be important, if change is to be achieved at population level, that burden of disease information is interpreted with respect to a number of key parameters, particularly:

- Across the life course
- Taking account of deprivation and its distribution

Figure 6 shows how the profile of mortality in men has been shown to differ by age between the quintiles of poverty in a study population. The relative change occurs progressively across the quintiles, but becomes particularly exaggerated in quintile 5, the poorest.

Figure 7 shows the situation for women. Here there is a distinctive dip across the quintiles in middle age, but again most exaggerated in the poorest quintile. This is thought to be explained by the relatively high rates of breast cancer commonly seen in the wealthiest part of the population.

It is important to look for evidence of similar experience in North East Lincolnshire.
2.1 Fatal burden of disease (FBOD) – Years of life lost (YLL)
There were 8112 deaths in North East Lincolnshire between 2010 and 2014, resulting in 119,122 YLL. Averaged annual fatal burden of disease figures for North East Lincolnshire equate to 1622 deaths resulting in 23,824 YLL per year. YLL figures are influenced by both the number of deaths and the age at death since deaths at a younger age accrue higher YLL.
FBOD by sex and age

Male deaths accounted for 49% (n=3981) of all deaths in North East Lincolnshire during the five year period, compared to 51% (n=4131) for females. However, while there were higher numbers of female deaths, male YLL accounted for 55% of all YLL, equating to 66,098 YLL compared to 45% equating to 53,024 YLL for females.

FBOD also differs across age groups with the majority of the FBOD experienced by the older age groups which is due to the high number of deaths in these age groups. For the period 2010 to 2014, 58% of male deaths and 73% of female deaths were of people aged 75 years and over. These deaths accounted for 30% of the male YLL and 42% of the female YLL. Figure 8 shows total YLL by age and sex. While the YLL for a death at an older age is smaller than the YLL for a death at a younger age, it is the greater number of deaths at older ages that result in the greater YLL for these ages.

Figure 8 YLL by sex and age, North East Lincolnshire, 2010 to 2014

The YLL is highest for males aged 70 to 74 years (8440) and for females aged 80 to 84 years (6663). Infant deaths (under 1 year) accounted for 2.6% of the male YLL and 2.6% of the female YYL whilst only representing 0.5% of male and 0.4% of female deaths. Deaths at the youngest age have the highest associated YLL.

Figure 9 shows age-specific YLL rates per 1000 population for both males and females. After the initial high rates for infants aged under 1 year, rates then generally increase with age from children through adults to older people. For females the YLL rate was consistently lower than the male rate with the exception of deaths for the 1 to 9 year age groups.
FBOD by disease group overview

For YLL by disease group, cancer and other neoplasms contributed the most FBOD, accounting for 32% of the total. This group was followed by cardiovascular diseases (25%), respiratory diseases (8%), neurological conditions (7%), and gastrointestinal diseases (7%). These top 5 disease groups accounted for 79% of all YLL during the period.

The proportion of deaths due to a particular disease group will not necessarily match the proportion of YLL for each disease group. Whilst the numbers of deaths due to cancer and cardiovascular diseases are very similar (28.7% and 29.2% of all deaths), cancer accounted for 32% of all YLL whereas cardiovascular disease accounted for 26% of all YLL. In general people dying from cancer at younger ages than those dying from cardiovascular disease accounts for this difference.

FBOD by disease group and sex

Males experienced a greater proportion of the overall FBOD than females, with males accounting for 56% of all YLL. Inequalities by sex are particularly evident for injuries and mental illnesses, with males accounting for 77% and 73% respectively of the YLL lost for these categories. Intelligence from the North East Lincolnshire JSNA confirms higher male mortality due to transport accidents and intentional self-harm, particularly for the young adult age groups. The number and proportions of YLL by sex for each disease group are presented in Table 1. Because the risk of dying from some diseases varies with age, age standardised YLL rates have been calculated to take into account the differences in the age structure and size of the male and female North East Lincolnshire populations. These rates are presented in Table 2.
### Table 1 Number and per cent of YLL by sex and disease group, North East Lincolnshire, 2010 to 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease Category</th>
<th>Male YLL</th>
<th></th>
<th>Female YLL</th>
<th></th>
<th>Persons YLL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood and metabolic disorders</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>37.0</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>63.0</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms</td>
<td>20398</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>17259</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>37657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular diseases</td>
<td>17662</td>
<td>59.3</td>
<td>12109</td>
<td>40.7</td>
<td>29771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic musculoskeletal disorders</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>54.1</td>
<td>849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine disorders</td>
<td>1042</td>
<td>51.2</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>2034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases</td>
<td>4714</td>
<td>57.6</td>
<td>3473</td>
<td>42.4</td>
<td>8187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant and congenital conditions</td>
<td>1628</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>1460</td>
<td>47.3</td>
<td>3088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infections</td>
<td>2973</td>
<td>49.3</td>
<td>3059</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>6033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injuries</td>
<td>4343</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>1270</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>5612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney and urinary diseases</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>1117</td>
<td>56.0</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental illnesses and behavioural disorders</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>73.7</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>1796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurological conditions</td>
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<td>45.3</td>
<td>4534</td>
<td>54.7</td>
<td>8282</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral disorders</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive and maternal conditions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory diseases</td>
<td>5077</td>
<td>51.7</td>
<td>4739</td>
<td>48.3</td>
<td>9816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sense organ disorders</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin disorders</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1371</td>
<td>50.9</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>2695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>66098</td>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>53024</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>119122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2 Age-standardised YLL rates (YLL per 1000 population) by sex and disease group, North East Lincolnshire, annual rates using 2010 to 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease Category</th>
<th>Males (rate)</th>
<th>Females (rate)</th>
<th>Male/female rate ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All diseases</td>
<td>179.4</td>
<td>120.9</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood and metabolic disorders</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular diseases</td>
<td>49.8</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic musculoskeletal disorders</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine disorders</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant and congenital conditions</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infections</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injuries</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney and urinary diseases</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental illnesses and behavioural disorders</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurological conditions</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral disorders</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive and maternal conditions</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory diseases</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sense organ disorders</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin disorders</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In total, over all disease groups, the age standardised YLL rates were 50% higher for males than females (YLL rate ratio of 1.5). A comparison of age standardised rates by specific disease groups determined that males had 3.6 times the YLL burden of injuries, 2.7 times the YLL burden of mental illnesses, 1.8 times the YLL burden of cardiovascular diseases, and 1.5 times the YLL burden of gastrointestinal disease, than that of females. The only disease groups for which the YLL burden is lower in males were for skin disorders (YLL rate ratio of 0.9) and blood and metabolic disorders (YLL rate ratio of 0.7).

FBOD by disease group and age

Figure 10 show the numbers of YLL for each age group by disease group for males and females respectively. Figure 11 show the disease group YLL as a percentage of the YLL for each age group, for males and females respectively.

The number of YLL peaks for males earlier than for females, since the highest number of YLL for males occurs in the 65 to 74 years age group followed by the 75 to 84, 55 to 64, and 45 to 54 years age groups, whereas the highest number of YLL for females occurs in the 75 to 84 years age group, followed by the 65 to 74, 55 to 64, and 85 to 94 years age groups.

The majority of under 1 year YLL is due to infant and congenital conditions, and the total number of YLL for under 1 year of age is higher than that for the other children and young people age groups. Whilst the number of YLL for children and young people is low due to the low number of deaths, the majority of male 5 to 24 year YLL is due to injuries, whereas for females of these ages, YLL is spread over a number of diseases e.g. cancer, cardiovascular disease, infections, and respiratory disease. Infections contribute to the YLL mostly for the child and older people age groups.

The majority of male YLL between 45 and 94 years is due to cancer and cardiovascular disease, however injuries continue to contribute considerably to the YLL between 25 and 54 years, mental illnesses contribute considerably to the YLL between 25 and 44 years, gastrointestinal diseases contribute considerably between 25 to 64 years, respiratory disease contribute considerably over 55 years, and neurological conditions contribute considerably between 75 to 94 years.

The largest contributor to female YLL is cancer, followed by cardiovascular disease. Gastrointestinal diseases contribute considerably to the YLL between 35 and 54 years. Respiratory and neurological disease (particularly dementia) are also considerable contributors to the YLL of the older age groups.
Figure 10 Number of YLL by disease group and age, males and females, North East Lincolnshire, 2010 to 2014
Figure 11 YLL by disease group as a percentage of YLL for each age group, males and females, NEL, 2010 to 2014
Figure 12 show the numbers of YLL for persons in the least deprived and the most deprived quintiles and further split by age and disease groups. There are stark differences between the least and most deprived quintiles. The least deprived quintile accounted for 17% of the total YLL burden (YLL=20135) whereas the most deprived quintile accounted for 24% of the total YLL burden (YLL=28803). The numbers of YLL peak at an earlier age in the most deprived quintile. Most YLL in the least deprived quintile is after 65 years of age, peaking in the 75 to 84 years age group. In comparison, there are considerable numbers of YLL in the most deprived quintile from 35 years of age upwards and peaking in the 65 to 74 years age group.

The analysis and charts clearly demonstrate the different distribution both of YLL spread over the life course and cause of death, between the most and least deprived quintiles of population. Some of the main features that emerge by comparison are that in the most deprived quintile:

- The majority of YLL occur before age 65, while in the least deprived quintile it is the opposite
- A substantial element of excess years of life lost under the age of 55 is due to injuries, the bulk of which relate to road accidents or self-harm.
- From ages 25 – 65 there are substantial excess YLL due to mental health and drug related deaths, and from gastrointestinal disease deaths, majority of which are cirrhosis. This splits by causation between alcohol related harm and infectious hepatitis, much, but not all of which occurs in injecting drug users.
- A large proportion of cardiac related YLL occur before age 65, while this is only limited to small numbers in the least deprived quintile.
- The effect of cancer is seen earlier in the life course, but overall there is less of an impact due to this cause over 65 years, possibly due to earlier deaths due to other causes in vulnerable people.
- Respiratory disease (COPD and pneumonia) has a greater impact from middle age, but particularly over age 65. There may be some overlap diagnostically with lung cancer undiagnosed in smokers with chronic cough.

For the female population, as with the male, the most deprived quintile sees a higher proportion of YLL before age 65 than the least deprived. However this is less exaggerated.

Overall the balance of causes is similar in the two quintiles, but scaled up in the most deprived quintile.

Cancer is an exception, being similar in pattern and extent in the two quintiles. This is likely to result from a balancing out, with greater incidence of breast cancer in the least deprived, and greater incidence of lung cancer in the most deprived.

The main difference otherwise is the greater prevalence of gastrointestinal causes, probably cirrhosis.
Figure 12 Number of YLL for the least and most deprived quintile, persons, North East Lincolnshire, 2010-2014
Leading causes of FBOD

As is clearly evident, the causes of the fatal burden of disease, vary by both age and sex. Figure 13 and Figure 14 show the rank of leading causes of fatal burden of disease for each age group for both males and females. The numbers of deaths are shown in brackets. Note there are a number of leading causes with low numbers of deaths.

The leading causes of fatal burden of disease for infants of both sexes were infant and congenital conditions, and infections. Injuries were the leading cause for male children and young adults. Chronic diseases such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases are leading causes for males from 45 years upwards and for females from childhood. Gastrointestinal disease are one of the leading causes for males between 25 and 74 years of age and for females between 35 and 74 years of age. Respiratory diseases feature for both sexes particularly from 55 years onwards.

Figure 13 Leading causes of fatal burden of disease, males, North East Lincolnshire, 2010 to 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 5</th>
<th>1 to 4</th>
<th>5 to 14</th>
<th>15 to 24</th>
<th>25 to 34</th>
<th>35 to 44</th>
<th>45 to 54</th>
<th>55 to 64</th>
<th>65 to 74</th>
<th>75 to 84</th>
<th>85 to 94</th>
<th>95+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Infant and congenital conditions (95)</td>
<td>Infant and congenital conditions (95)</td>
<td>Injuries (5)</td>
<td>Injuries (13)</td>
<td>Injuries (17)</td>
<td>Injuries (24)</td>
<td>Cardiovascular diseases (62)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (169)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (346)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (413)</td>
<td>Cardiovascular diseases (533)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (5)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (5)</td>
<td>Injuries (6)</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (5)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (6)</td>
<td>Injuries (17)</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases (23)</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases (36)</td>
<td>Respiratory diseases (43)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (100)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Injuries (5)</td>
<td>Infections (5)</td>
<td>Injuries (6)</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (5)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (15)</td>
<td>Injuries (17)</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases (23)</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases (36)</td>
<td>Respiratory diseases (43)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (100)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (100)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (5)</td>
<td>Cardiovascular diseases (6)</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (5)</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (6)</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (6)</td>
<td>Mental and behavioural disorders (6)</td>
<td>Injuries (9)</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases (20)</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal diseases (36)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (141)</td>
<td>Infections (151)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 14 Leading causes of fatal burden of disease, females, North East Lincolnshire, 2010 to 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 5</th>
<th>1 to 4</th>
<th>5 to 14</th>
<th>15 to 24</th>
<th>25 to 34</th>
<th>35 to 44</th>
<th>45 to 54</th>
<th>55 to 64</th>
<th>65 to 74</th>
<th>75 to 84</th>
<th>85 to 94</th>
<th>95+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Infant and congenital conditions (12)</td>
<td>Neurological conditions (5)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (6)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (6)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (6)</td>
<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (6)</td>
<td>Cardiovascular diseases (15)</td>
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<td>Cancer and other neoplasms (286)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Injuries (5)</td>
<td>Infections (5)</td>
<td>Infections (5)</td>
<td>Injuries (9)</td>
<td>Infections (9)</td>
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<td>Neurological conditions (141)</td>
<td>Infections (151)</td>
<td>Infections (151)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An exercise was undertaken to drill down and identify specific causes influencing the leading disease groups.

- Among children aged 1 to 14 years, nervous system disorders were the leading underlying cause of death.
- Among young adults aged 15 to 24 years, leading underlying causes of death were transport accidents, intentional self-harm, and cancers.
- Among adults aged 25 to 44 years, the leading underlying causes of death were alcoholic liver disease, intentional self-harm, accidental poisoning, mental and behavioural disorders due to drug use, and cancer (the main sites being breast, cervix, and the brain).
- Among adults of middle age aged 45 to 64 years, the leading underlying causes of death were lung cancer, chronic heart disease, acute myocardial infarction, alcoholic liver disease, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, oesophageal cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Among adults aged over 65 years, the leading underlying cause of death were lung cancer, acute myocardial infarction, chronic heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, stroke, dementia, prostate cancer, pneumonia, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, and oesophageal cancer.

North East Lincolnshire experiences a wide range of poor health outcomes. Smoking is the main cause of lung cancer and COPD. Intelligence from the North East Lincolnshire JSNA shows that North East Lincolnshire has a significantly higher smoking prevalence than the England average. There are further inequalities within North East Lincolnshire with some wards having particularly high rates of smoking, much of which correlates to areas of deprivation and concentrations of routine and manual workers. Smoking in pregnancy is a particular public health concern for North East Lincolnshire. Nationally smoking is the reason for up to half of the difference in life expectancy between those of low and high socioeconomic status. North East Lincolnshire has higher levels of adult obesity (which is a CHD risk factor) and higher drug use than the England averages. North East Lincolnshire also has high rates of road casualties which will contribute to the injury burden.

2.2 Years of Life with Disability (YLD)

It is important to develop an understanding of the extent to which life years are affected by various forms of disease and disability. Providing estimates of this is not straightforward, or easily measured directly on a local basis, other than examining the use of services (see later) which provides only a partial and patchy picture.

Best proxy is now provided by analysis and extrapolation of data from the UK Global Burden of Disease Survey (UK GBoD). The results of analysis are available down to ‘regional’ level, and below that to populations aggregated to quintiles of deprivation at local authority level. On this basis, North East Lincolnshire comes within Yorkshire and Humber Region, and within that, North East Lincolnshire is in Quintile 2.

Figure 15 shows the Years of Life with Disability (YLD) by age and by cause for NEL males and females. For the female population, the burden of disease as measured by YLD would seem to be less substantial overall than for males, but the overall pattern of disease is quite similar. The impact of migraine in young middle age is however substantially greater amongst females and the contribution of musculoskeletal disease (mainly back and neck pain) is proportionately and in absolute terms, greater than for men. Reproductive health issues are excluded from this analysis. The size of the burden is
substantially greater in the 65 year age group and above in NEL when compared with other quintiles in Yorkshire and Humber region.

Important key observations for practical purposes include:

- Leading causes of mortality, (cardiovascular; cancer; respiratory) only represent a relatively small proportion of disability compared to other major causes.
- Diabetes is a significant contributor, growing in importance from an early stage.
- Gastrointestinal disease does not feature significantly in relation to disease burden.
- Most conditions increase in proportion to age, except for mental health and drug disorders, which peak in young middle age.
- Unintended injury increases with age, peaking particularly over 80 years. This mainly represents results of falls.
- Otherwise, bulk of the burden in older age comes from 3 categories: neurological; musculoskeletal; other’

Drilling down to the main conditions represented by these last 3 categories, Figure 16 illustrates that:

- Neurological disease is dominated by migraine in middle age, and predominantly by Alzheimer’s dementia in later life (categorised here, not as mental health)
- Musculoskeletal is more about back and neck problems than osteoarthritis
- ‘Other’ is dominated by Sensory problems, mainly hearing and eyesight

The size of the burden of these conditions, is major, particularly moving into life after 65 and again after 80 years of age. Each will make a significant impact on frailty and functional decline. While dementia is receiving considerable attention and resource as a major disease of ageing, there are as yet few interventions available to reduce its incidence, other than the probable impact of addressing circulatory disease on vascular dementia.

Back and neck problems and sensory disorders have not been a major focus of population health, and so prevention and early management are not being addressed currently with system and scale.
Figure 15 North East Lincolnshire Years of Life with Disability for males and Females
Figure 16 Detailed composition of burden of disease (YLD); Neurological, Musculoskeletal, Other Non-communicable diseases

Neurological: Males
- Other neurological disorders
- Multiple sclerosis
- Migraine
- Medication overuse headache
- Epilepsy
- Alzheimer disease and other dementias

Neurological: Females

Musculoskeletal: Males
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Other musculoskeletal disorders
- Osteoarthritis
- Low back and neck pain

Musculoskeletal: Females

Other non-communicable: Males
- Skin and subcutaneous diseases
- Sense organ diseases
- Oral disorders
- Congenital anomalies

Other non-communicable: Females
It is worth giving consideration slightly separately to the burden of mental health and drug disorder
issues. With a little local variation, there is a substantially similar burden of disease for males and for
females. In each case the disease burden rises rapidly from age 15, and peaks steeply in the 25 – 29 year
age group. It then falls away gradually into older age.

Across the age range, for both sexes, depression dominates, and stays relatively constant. Anxiety
disorders do peak in later middle age, and are less a feature for the male population, though still
substantial. Otherwise distinctive features include the following.

For males:

- There is a substantial contribution from ‘conduct disorder’, from age 5 to 24yrs. more so than
  for females.
- Alcohol use and drug use disorders are substantial contributors from 15 through to the early
  50’s.
- Schizophrenia is a substantial issue from 30 through to early 60s.

For females:

- In young adulthood, drug and alcohol use problems are less of a problem than for males.
  However, the problem of eating disorders is substantial in this age group.

Furthermore, attention should also be given to the burden associated with cardiovascular diseases
particularly cerebrovascular and ischemic heart disease. Cardiovascular disease is often more associated
with the fatal burden of disease when, in fact, there are considerable rates of YLD in older people;
particularly in the over 70s. There are notable differences between males and females with males
expected to suffer greater burden of cardiovascular disease overall as well as earlier in life and overall
(Figure 18).
2.3 Impact on the use of hospital services
Planning for disease prevention as well as health and social care services needs to take into account both the fatal and disability burdens of disease. However, data available to assess matched service delivery according to need predominantly comes from the hospital sector.

Figure 19 shows the admissions by primary cause of admissions in North East Lincolnshire.

Figure 18 North East Lincolnshire burden of disease (YLD); Cardiovascular disease

Figure 19 Hospital admissions for North East Lincolnshire

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS (2012/13 to 2014/15)

- Skin disorders
- Sensory organs
- Respiratory
- Oral
- Neurological
- MSK
- Mental illness/Behavioural
- Kidney and urinary
- Injuries
- Infections
- Infant/Congenital
- Endocrine and metabolic
- Digestive
- Cardiovascular
- Cancer
- Blood
North East Lincolnshire has substantially higher levels of deprivation than the national average. The case mix does roughly reflect the burden of disease, but mainly to the extent that:

- Main causes of death (cardiac; respiratory) will be reflected in non-elective admissions
- The largest segment, cancer will be reflected in elective and non-elective admissions
- Musculoskeletal, sensory and gastrointestinal admissions, elective and non-elective will largely focus on surgical or possible surgical components of care.

The analysis is of admissions only and not ambulatory care. Mental health admissions largely take place in another Trust and are not included.

Figure 20 compares the admission rates for each deprivation quintile of NELs population, compared, as a ratio, to that of the least deprived population quintile. The ratio of rates has been separated into elective and emergency admissions. It can be seen that:

- The more deprived quintiles do show a greater use of elective hospital services than the national least deprived quintile population, particularly for ages 40 - 65.
- There are much greater levels of emergency admissions across the age range than the national quintile 5, in this case for the NEL quintiles 1 – 3.
Figure 20 North East Lincolnshire hospital admission rates relative to 20% most affluent LSOAs

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE NON-EMERGENCY HOSPITAL ADMISSION RATES RELATIVE TO 20% MOST AFFLUENT NATIONAL LSOAs (2012/13 to 2014/15)

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE EMERGENCY HOSPITAL ADMISSION RATES RELATIVE TO 20% MOST AFFLUENT NATIONAL LSOAs (2012/13 to 2014/15)
2.4 Expenditure as a proxy for use of services

There are no measures of health service use in the primary care and community care sectors comparable to the Hospital Episode Statistics. Figure 21 is included to give estimates of current spend on the top 10 service demands by sector to provide some proxy, not of workload, but of putative resource commitment. This is not meant to examine relative programme budgeting comparisons.

While mental health expenditure stands out, this reflects the pooling together of a range of complex pathologies (see Figure 17). Corresponding diversity within physical health are separated into a wide range of specialties.

It is seen that otherwise, hospital expenditure dominates completely. Identified primary care expenditure is prominent particularly in cardiovascular and respiratory disease, and for ‘endocrine’ which is predominantly diabetes. It is of particular interest that expenditure patterns in primary care do not seem to reflect the major burdens of disease/disability of musculoskeletal disease (back and neck) or of sensory problems (hearing and poor sight).

The component of the green ‘community services’ element of the Figure 21 reflects the Community Care Plus configuration of service commissioning and provision in NEL.

![Figure 21 North East Lincolnshire Top 10 Healthcare Costs](image)

2.5 Attributable causes of burden of disease

A useful schema illustrating the complex range of factors contributing ultimately to the burden of disease is shown as Figure 22.

The social determinants or ‘causes of the causes’ of inequalities in health (e.g. poverty; discrimination; steep power hierarchy) can affect health directly. These factors, particularly in combination will result in psychosocial risks (e.g. low self-esteem; isolation; loss of purpose in life). These stressing factors can again by themselves result in physical as well as mental (and spiritual) impacts on the body. They also will tend towards behaviours providing short term gratification and escape (e.g. drug and alcohol addiction).
These factors alone and in combination affect the metabolism and psyche, increasing the incidence of the major diseases, particularly cardiovascular disease, cancers, respiratory and liver disease. There are no specific differential diseases of poverty or deprivation. The determinants described result in the diseases common within the whole community. However, these diseases may as a result occur at an earlier stage in the life course (e.g. see Figure 10).

A range of indicators are available routinely which demonstrate how the populations of North East Lincolnshire compare for some of these factors with regional/national comparators (Figure 23).
In terms of the social determinants of health, North East Lincolnshire is seen to be ‘red rated’ (significantly worse than the England average) for the key indicators of children in poverty, violent crime and long term unemployment.

North East Lincolnshire is red rated for GCSE achievement, with only 52% of children reaching 5 A* - C including English and maths. For another important indicator, not shown here, NEL is amber rated (not significantly different from the England average) for proportion achieving good school readiness (66.8%), an indicator of good early years’ development.

The key indicators for children and young people’s health risks show North East Lincolnshire red rated for smoking of mother in pregnancy. Again, NEL is also red rated for breastfeeding initiation, alcohol specific hospital stays (under 15) and teenage conceptions.

Indicators of behavioural risks in adults show a mixed picture. North East Lincolnshire is red rated for smoking prevalence, and also for the prevalence of obesity, although for adults with excess weight, and adults not physically active, North East Lincolnshire rates amber.

All of these indicators are chosen to reflect the population risk of increased burden of disease. In general, the distribution of higher risk within North East Lincolnshire is likely to map roughly with the neighbourhood deprivation score. Programmes which successfully target reduction of each of these risks, singly or preferably in clusters, are likely to reduce the burden of disease over time. This data shows that the need and scope for change from programmes to reduce these risks is significant in North East Lincolnshire. If effective there could be a marked decrease in the overall burden of disease over time.
3. Trends in the Burden of Disease locally

Projecting the burden of disease forward locally is complex, as for most conditions there are not reliable measures of disease as a baseline. The usual indicator continues to be mortality rates. However, as stated, changes in mortality are not reflected in years lived with disability (YLD), or do not reflect levels of inequality.

Conceptually, a useful case study attempting to project healthcare expenditure forward was carried out in Australia, building on GBoD methods (Vos, 2010). Their analysis focussed on the impact of population increases and ageing on future disease burden and expenditure. It can be seen from Figure 24 that the projected prevalence of heart disease was falling substantially, while that of diabetes was continuing to rise, a situation similar to that reported in the UK.

![Figure 24 Australian prevalence estimates for CHD and diabetes](image)

Despite these differences the projections (Figure 25 and Figure 26) show that the burden and costs for both diseases will continue to rise substantially, although sharply more so for diabetes.
Figure 25 Projection of health care expenditure for cardiovascular disease (Australia)

Figure 26 Projection of health care expenditure for diabetes (Australia)
For heart disease, the disease rate falls below the baseline of 0, whereas for diabetes it continues to rise markedly. However, the increases in population growth and ageing drive the numbers in treatment up for both conditions. The other significant factor that they have factored in is ‘volume per case’ which refers to the average level of treatment input per case, which they estimated to remain fairly constant for CVD, but to increase substantially for diabetes, possibly reflecting management of complications.

It has not been possible to reproduce these same estimates locally during this review, but projections have been attempted for diabetes as an example, it being likely to represent a key burden of disease increase in North East Lincolnshire as well as Australia.

It is projected that the prevalence of diabetes on an age standardised basis is likely to increase anyway on the basis of the continuing rise in excess weight and obesity, correlated in Figure 27 (Moody, 2016).

Figure 27 Differential prevalence of impaired glucose regulation (IGR) and diabetes with obesity (England)

Figure 28, therefore projects the number of cases recently registered in North East Lincolnshire forward to 2030, taking into account the forecast population increases and ageing, combined with estimates for continuing rise in obesity. Because of this, although the population of North East Lincolnshire has less of an aged and ageing population, its greater proportion of population rated as more deprived are projected to drive an increase in numbers of diabetic patients (Figure 28).
Diabetes rates are also strongly correlated with deprivation scores (Figure 29).

Using the IGR and diabetes prevalence estimates presented in Figure 29, it is possible to calculate the prevalence number of people within each North East Lincolnshire deprivation quintile as of 2015. Figure 30 shows that the most deprived quintile accounts for significantly more IGR and diabetes than each of the other quintiles.
the other deprivation quintiles and, in fact, the estimated number of people diagnosed with diabetes in the most deprived quintile is greater than the sum of the remaining for quintiles combined.

Figure 30 Prevalence (numbers) of impaired glucose regulation (IGR) and diabetes with deprivation (North East Lincolnshire)

Population growth and ageing are ‘given’ factors in consideration of the developing burden of disease. It will be important therefore to consider points of intervention where interventions are possible at population level if future considerable burden of disease and cost is to be averted. For diabetes these include:

- Addressing the social determinants of disease such as education, work and skills, poverty etc. which contribute to measured levels of deprivation
- Reducing levels of risk behaviours, particularly diet and levels of physical activity which are contributing to the continued rise in excess weight and obesity
- Target effort and resources for prevention and management in graduated ways to account for inequalities in access to and outcomes from services, as the burden of disease will be proportionate
- Early identification of pre-diabetes (impaired glucose regulation - IGR) e.g. through Health Checks, and effective follow through to prevent onset of full disease
- Effective and cost-effective control and supported self-management of established disease to prevent deterioration
- Efficient and effective screening for early intervention to prevent or reduce impact of complications and the 80% of costs associated
- For the above, maximise the numbers of patients benefiting from all 9 recommended interventions for best control, and achieving all 3 recommended outcomes
While it has not been possible to profile all the major burden diseases similarly, for each one similar considerations will be relevant. Diabetes is a condition which has a series of indicative symptoms and signs which leads to a large proportion of cases these days being diagnosed eventually, if not early. However, for conditions such as heart disease, cancer and COPD, which might not be so evident, there may be need for more systematic search to identify ‘hidden’ risk conditions (see later).

Although these conditions themselves can be moderated to an extent, systematic ‘upstream’ preventive interventions, such as described above, will be preferable to defer the consequences, including complications, multi-morbidity and frailty.
4. Implications: prevention and the Burden of Disease (BoD) pathway

The potential for a strategic shift in approaches towards prevention and early intervention has been a long-term ambition.

‘The following framework is helpful as it has a broad focus. It identifies three categories:

- **Primary prevention/promoting wellbeing:** this is aimed at people who have no particular social care needs or symptoms of illness - The focus is therefore on maintaining independence, good health and promoting wellbeing. Interventions include combatting ageism, providing universal access to good quality information, supporting safer neighbourhoods, promoting health and active lifestyles, delivering practical services etc.
- **Secondary prevention/early intervention:** this aims to identify people at risk and to halt or slow down any deterioration, and actively seek to improve their situation. Interventions include screening and case finding to identify individuals at risk of specific health conditions or events (such as strokes, or falls) or those who have existing low level social care needs
- **Tertiary prevention:** this is aimed at minimising disability or deterioration from established health conditions or complex social care needs - The focus here is on maximising people’s functioning and independence through interventions such as rehabilitation/enablement services and joint case management of people with complex needs.

Delivering a strategic shift to prevention and early intervention requires a ‘whole system’ approach – this is not just about health and social care. It needs to involve the full range of council departments and other stakeholders such as the Pensions Service, Community Safety Partnerships etc.’ (Department of Health, 2008)

The priority that needs to be given to prevention and early intervention has most recently been re-stated and embraced as a key element of policy in the NHS England Five Year Forward View. Components of how services may organise to manage and address pressures in their own sector are illustrated in the Northern Lincolnshire HLHF Five Year Vision and Strategy Figure 31 (HLHF, 2015).
Running through such approaches is an important core pathway defining how the burden of disease in a community, as well as in an individual, progresses from risk determinants to disease and its progressively disabling consequences. Intervening where possible as early in the pathway as possible has great potential to reduce the impact on individuals and their families and carers, and also of course on health and care services.
Burden of Disease Pathway and potential intervention points

The population burden of disease builds inexorably through a series of stages of increasing severity and consequence. However, before each stage progresses to the next, there is potentially the possibility of intervening to slow or prevent the decline, as captured in Figure 32.

**Figure 32 Interventions to impact on Burden of Disease**

- Reduce risk
  - Social determinants
  - Behaviours
  - Conditions
- Reduce incidence
- Manage long term condition
  - Optimise control and maintenance costs
  - Reduce/manage acute exacerbations
  - Reduce deterioration
  - Reduce complications/disability
- Manage multi-morbidity
- Manage frailty
- Manage functional decline

There follows a brief synopsis of the stages in the pathway, to highlight key considerations for development of a prevention strategy.

4.1 Reducing risk

Social determinants

These have been well described by Marmot (The Marmot Review Team, 2010) as a ‘Life Course’ of accumulating risks, which can be viewed as a pathway of its own (right).

The evidence shows, for example, that support provided to ensure good opportunities for cognitive development and other executive skills in the first 3 – 5 (early) years of life are necessary if the child is to go on to good educational attainment. Educational attainment and skills development are then critical steps towards achieving good employment, etc..

Behaviours

The UK GBoD analysis established which key risk factors contributed to the main causes of the burden of disease. The results of their analysis are shown as Figure 33.
The risk factors themselves group into two fairly distinct categories, as shown in Figure 34.

The first group, risk behaviours, have been recognised for some time as attributable causes of the main contributory conditions making up the fatal and non-fatal disease burden. Their relative impact has varied over time. Nationally the GBoD Survey reported that:

- Dietary causes (e.g. high levels of simple sugars; insufficient fruit and vegetables; over-eating) is now seen to be as important a risk as tobacco.
- Alcohol related harm is now more prevalent than earlier surveys suggested.
• Occupational risks are now included in the ‘top 10’. This will contribute particularly through components of anxiety and stress, musculoskeletal conditions, particularly back and neck problems, and sensory deficits, particularly impact on hearing and sight.

Programmes to address these risks so as to impact on population level disease will need to be multifaceted, and developed with sufficient system and scale. Behaviour change is not straightforward to achieve, particularly for people living in complex and challenging environments: in these circumstances risky behaviours are less ‘lifestyle choices’ and more elements rooted in local cultural norms.

In addition, risk behaviours often cluster together in more deprived communities, multiplying the risks and providing even greater challenges for substantially downgrading risks. The chart (Figure 35) shows stark differences in survival of people with 0 – 4 out of four of the main risk behaviours (smoking; excessive use of alcohol; fruit and vegetable consumption; physical exercise) (Buck, 2012). Survival is clearly reduced for each added risk behaviour. From an inequalities point of view analysis showed that:

• Unskilled manual labour is 3 times more likely to have all 4 risk behaviours than professionals
• People with no qualifications are 5 times more likely to have all 4 risk behaviours than those with high level qualifications

**Figure 35 The relationship between multiple lifestyle risks and mortality**

![Graph showing survival rates](image)

**Risk conditions**

The remaining 5 risk factors in the top 10 are in fact measurable abnormalities in physiological/pathological state. In general they are not recognised as a problem in individuals without some invasive ‘clinical’ test. They may become apparent opportunistically during investigation of a patient for another condition, or may be tested for in a systematic case-finding exercise e.g. GP Quality
Outcomes Framework (QOF) or the Health Checks programme. Key points about this group of conditions include:

- High body mass index (BMI) - excess weight and obesity – is often not acknowledged by patients themselves, or by professionals judging on appearance alone. Proper weight and height measurement may be necessary for its recognition.

- High blood pressure is not always a consequence of excess weight, lack of physical exercise, stress and anxiety etc. A large proportion is labelled ‘ideopathic’, i.e. with no established cause.

- High cholesterol is not always the result of an imbalanced diet, and so cannot be necessarily predicted.

- High blood sugar can be indicative of a number of (related) disease states which include ‘pre-diabetes’ as well as diabetes.

Individual abnormal test results need to be confirmed with repeat testing. If confirmed, further diagnostic testing protocols usually need to be followed for the degree of risk to be established, and in some cases for disease state to be confirmed (e.g. glucose tolerance test for diabetes).

Search strategies need to be systematic and scaled up, and take into account disadvantaged patients who do not have the knowledge, skills and resources to easily take up the offers of testing.

In many cases, confirmation of the problem may be followed with a supported care plan e.g. weight management; dietary control; fitness programme. These will need to be fastidious to achieve measurable change and risk reduction. In many cases if the initial care plan is insufficient, medication may be necessary.

4.2 Reduce disease incidence

Some of the major conditions contributing to the disease burden once established have an identifiable pre-condition, not the disease itself but part of the pathological pathway which can provide a ‘warning’ that the disease itself may be developing. If this state can be detected and acted upon effectively, the incidence of the disease itself, with all its downstream consequences, may be averted.

Detecting and managing these pre-conditions on a population-wide basis requires scaled-up and systematic processes, but because they can literally prevent serious disease developing, the processes can be very cost effective. Examples include the following:

- Screening for and treating ‘pre-disease’ e.g.:
  - Cancer of the cervix and bowel
  - Aortic aneurysm

- Vaccinating against and treating causative pathogens:
  - Human Papilloma Virus (causative in development of cervical and other cancers)
  - Hepatitis B and C, causative in cirrhosis and other liver disease, including cancer
• Case finding and intensively managing metabolic pre-disease:
  – Pre-diabetes
  – Cardiac risk
  – Renal disease

As with other population level interventions, success depends on access to and uptake of the test/intervention, and quality assurance work to ensure consistent standards rather than patchiness and variability in service provision.

4.3 Managing long-term conditions (LTCs)
Once long term conditions are established there are a number of management goals which will need to be pursued. For the main contenders, e.g. cardiovascular disease; diabetes; respiratory disease, there is a good evidence base and plenty of authoritative guidance and protocols for effective management. However, effective implementation of such protocols by professionals and practitioners can be patchy. A major component of the success or otherwise of each care plan remains the patient capacity and capability to self-manage. This needs to be supported in bespoke ways, both by the practitioners, family and other carers, and by peer ‘expert patients’.

Ambitions for care plans to maximise damage control from the condition can be viewed in the following stages:

• Optimise control and management costs: initial strategies will include gaining control of key symptoms e.g. angina; wheeze, and disease markers e.g. hypertension; raised cholesterol; raised blood sugar. Protocols should be followed that achieve measurable normalisation where possible, with minimal side effects and lowest maintenance cost. Self-management should focus on helping patients to ‘take control’ of their own condition and wellbeing where possible. Attention should be paid to mental state, particularly depression which is common and will affect health and wellbeing outcomes.

• Preventing decline in function: previously there has been a belief that most long term conditions are irreversible and follow an inexorable declining course (e.g. Type 2 diabetes becoming increasingly medication resistant and eventually requiring insulin). This is now being challenged, and trials of therapy are showing improvement and even reversal of disease processes e.g. through severe weight loss in diabetes; cardiac rehab; pulmonary rehab.
• Prevent and manage acute exacerbations: these are likely to occur on occasion despite maintenance efforts e.g. chest infection in patient with COPD. Figure 36 illustrates possible management process involving integrated clinical care.

• Prevention of complications: this may involve separate programmes for detection and management of common sequelae. In diabetes, for example this includes:
  - Eye screening
  - Foot checks for vascular and neurological deterioration
  - Tests of renal function

Each annual check-up should be overseen by general practice, once the patient has a formal diagnosis, and is included on the disease register. However, this can be imperfect, particularly when other systems run independently e.g. diabetic eye screen; diabetic foot check with podiatry. Audits show that of 8 care processes recommended by NICE for diabetes, only 62% of patients had received all 8, and that did not include the eye screen, which was known to be low. The results varied considerably by geography and practice (National Diabetes Information Service, 2013).

4.4 Managing multi-morbidity
With increasing survival comes the potential to aggregate a number of LTCs. These may frequently derive from common risk factors e.g. tobacco use; overweight; alcohol related harm. Patients with multi-morbidity can find management problems e.g.:
  - due to mixed signs and symptoms complicating diagnosis;
  - interacting/conflicting care plans;
transitions across healthcare boundaries and specialisms

Because of these effects the modelling of the impact of interventions on individual conditions can no longer be relied upon. They will be at best indicative.

Little routine data is available in this issue yet, but studies are beginning to describe the extent of the problem. In one study (Salisbury C, (2011)) sixteen per cent of patients had more than one chronic condition included in the Quality and Outcomes Framework, but these people accounted for 32% of all consultations. Using the wider (Johns Hopkins) list of conditions, 58% of people had multi-morbidity and they accounted for 78% of consultations. People with multi-morbidity had higher consultation rates and less continuity of care compared with people without multi-morbidity.

Multi-morbidity is strongly related to age and deprivation. Figure 37 shows the accumulation of chronic conditions with age.

A key factor emerging from this appraisal was that people in deprived circumstances have the same prevalence of multi-morbidity as more affluent patients who were 10 – 15 years older (Barnett, 2012). This will have significant consequences for resourcing across health and social care.

4.5 Manage frailty

- Frailty is a transitional state of vulnerability to accumulated impairments. It affects 20 – 50% of people > 80 years.

- There are five main frailty syndromes (‘the pillars of frailty’):
  - falls;
  - immobility;
  - delirium;
  - incontinence;
  - susceptibility to the side effects of medication
• Currently, patients often present in crisis without prior warning to urgent or emergency care services and such episodes can precipitate episodic decline.

• Frailty is not a static condition and can be improved. Identifying people living with frailty can help improve outcomes, and should enable prevention plans and contingency arrangements to be put in place.

4.6 Functional decline
For those with disability, multi-morbidity and accumulated frailty, the critical impact will be the rate and progress of functional decline in the activities of daily living e.g. self-managing shopping; housework; stairs; bathing; preparing meals; personal hygiene. This decline may be gradual or episodic e.g. following a fall or infection.

Again, this decline is not inexorable, and can be managed usefully in many cases where resources are deployed effectively and efficiently. The supports may be employed as:

• Proactive health promotion to include addressing cold, damp housing; nutrition; hydration; mobility, strength and flexibility

• Rehabilitation following an acute episode or crisis (fall; urinary tract or chest infection)

• Re-ablement; providing personal care, help with daily living activities and other practical tasks, re-ablement encourages service users to develop the confidence and skills to carry out these activities themselves and continue to live at home.

Managing frailty and functional decline effectively and efficiently will be a key concern at the centre of place based approaches and integrated systems for health and social care. In close conjunction with management of dementia, the ageing demographic will be generating increasing numbers of residents at risk of losing their independence. Working proactively at all possible steps down the burden of disease chain will be critical to enable residents to maintain their independence for as long as comfortably possible, supported where necessary. The intention will be to defer, and compress, the period of time living with (expensive) dependency towards the end of life.

As all points in the burden of disease ‘pathway’ described above, there are a range of social determinants that will affect the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of interventions, including:

• Personal skills, and capacity to self-manage

• Family and carer involvement

• Other social networks; otherwise, loneliness and isolation

• Mental wellbeing

• Physical resources for maintenance and recovery (including financial)

These determinants apply to individuals across the social spectrum. However, elements of these social determinants will often apply to a greater proportion of individuals living in more deprived sub-populations and neighbourhoods. Care resources are likely to be required to disproportionate levels in such areas to achieve desired outcomes, because of the complexity of need.
5. Implications: key components of population level actions

Strategically, it will not be possible to select a single set of interventions with which to dramatically reduce the disease burden. Obviously, it is ideal to be able to prevent a disease or group of diseases from occurring at all, and the chances of this can be substantially improved at individual level. Even this is not for certain, however; e.g. a proportion of non-smokers get lung cancer. What can be done strategically is to ensure that by applying certain principles appropriately, most is done to achieve the best possible percentage change at population level. This applies to any point along the pathway. Small improvements and efficiencies, e.g. of 1% at each stage of the process can result in major outcome ‘wins’ (Brailsford, 2012), as illustrated in Figure 38.

![Figure 38 Aggregation of Marginal Gains](image)

Key principles of delivery to achieve percentage change at population level are outlined below.

5.1 Commitment of effort and resource needs to be graded proportionately to complexity of need.

It is not enough to commit equal shares to different sub-populations. Some individuals, families and communities will seemingly require disproportionate support to achieve the same outcomes as others. This is illustrated in Figure 5. There is a gradient of need right across the population, not just confined to a particularly disadvantaged group. Describing and understanding that gradient should allow a graded level of matched input.

However, there is a part of that population e.g. in the most deprived national 20% of neighbourhoods (Figure 2) where risk factors combine into a complex whole i.e. multiple social risks (income and debt; unemployment; housing issues), clusters of behavioural risks (tobacco and alcohol use; poor diet; inactivity) and early multi-morbidity.
These people will be the most problematic to support to reduce their overall risk. However, they are also the ones suffering the greatest degree of years of life lost (Figure 10), the greatest number of years of life with disability and chronic illness, and make the greatest use of crisis and emergency services (Figure 20).

5.2 Interventions selected for population level change programmes must meet a tight set of criteria

Programme characteristics will include being:

- **Evidence based** – concentrate on interventions where research findings and professional consensus are strongest
- **Outcomes orientated** – with measurements locally relevant and locally owned
- **Systematically applied** – not depending on exceptional circumstances and exceptional champions
- **Scaled up appropriately** – “industrial scale” processes require different thinking to small “bench experiments”
- **Appropriately resourced** – refocus on core budgets and services rather than short bursts of project funding
- **Persistent** – continue for the long haul, capitalising on, but not dependant on fads, fashion and policy priorities

Small projects, those based on ‘grey’ evidence and services that are unsystematic and of patchy and variable quality will not generally result in measurable change at population level.

5.3 To achieve population level change will require multifaceted approaches delivered with system and scale.

The overlapping mechanisms capable of delivering population level change are illustrated as the Population Intervention Triangle, Figure 39. These components are described in more detail elsewhere (Bentley, 2008), with brief commentary below.
• Population level: civic interventions to help ‘make the healthy choices easy choices’, e.g. legislation; regulation; taxation; licencing; healthy public policy; campaigns. Stopping smoking in enclosed public places, regulation of sales to minors, licencing of off-licences and fast food outlets should all impact on risky behaviours, although they still need enforcement in some areas e.g. by trading standards and environmental health.

• Intervention through services: should be driven with system, scale and sustainability, with governance systems to ensure delivery is of consistent quality producing good equitable service outcomes. Attention should be given to addressing inequalities in access and reaching out to bring effective services appropriately to all who can benefit.

• Intervention through communities: place-based approaches should harness all mechanisms to reach out to help communities strengthen their own leadership and local engagement, build on their own assets (e.g. community based venues, organisations and networks), empower participation and local control in health and related activities. This engagement with communities should not be passive, working just with those that push themselves forward, but should systematically seek to support communities that intelligence suggests are most compromised.

• Strengthening links between services and communities: much work is needed particularly in more deprived neighbourhoods to blur boundaries between service and community infrastructures. Service outreach, delivery in community based venues, harnessing community champions and advocates are all strategies to reduce barriers and gaps to resident access and support. The voluntary, community and faith sector has a large part to play in cross linking systems. Frontline agencies need to work together to provide single points of access and joint pathways for supporting delivery and self-care.
Each of the above components can deliver population level change with certain interventions. However, strategies will be particularly strong which are multifaceted, bringing together all the elements of the intervention triangle. For example, smoking prevalence will not be measurably reduced using smoking cessation services alone. Service numbers will never be enough. However, NICE evidence based guidance to local authorities maps well across all the elements of the triangle. This forms a good basis for a comprehensive place-based strategy with responsibilities across the partnership.

5.4 Addressing inequalities in access and outcome.
In all systems aiming to achieve optimal population level outcomes the challenge is to bring effectively delivered, evidence-based intervention to as many people as can benefit. However, analysis tends to show that attempts to achieve this are often far from optimal (Figure 40) (Harrison, 2006).

Figure 40 Disease management provided according to evidence-based protocols e.g. NICE guidance

The modelling shows that for four of the main long term conditions, coronary heart disease (CHD), diabetes, congestive heart failure (CHF) and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) there was a similar pattern of ‘implementation decay. For example there were estimated to be nearly 6 million people with CHD, a condition for which there is a very strong evidence base of effective treatment. Only just over half of those were aware of the condition. For nearly all of them there was likely to be effective treatment available, but still just over half were prescribed that treatment. Then only ¾ were compliant with that treatment, making only 1 in 6 of those who could benefit accessing the recommended treatment.

Any strategy wishing to ‘optimise the impact’ of evidence based interventions needs to address all these stages of decay (Figure 41).
Figure 41 Components of Unmet Need

Figure 42 then identifies that the lead provider (general practice in the case of CHD) can only be fully responsible for activities in the red ellipse. Responsibilities for community engagement and education (A), identifying and channelling people into appropriate care (B), and supporting self-management (D) are responsibilities that must largely fall to other (place-based) partners. This will require good leadership, commitment and co-ordination.

Figure 43 estimates disease management in North East Lincolnshire for diabetes, COPD, stroke, hypertension and CHD. It shows that for COPD, hypertension and CHD there is a considerable cohort of people in North East Lincolnshire who are estimated to have the conditions but are yet to be diagnosed. For hypertension and CHD, the chart demonstrates that once diagnosis occurs the proportion who
receive optimal treatment and are then compliant with treatment is relatively high. Alternatively, for diabetes there is a considerable proportion of patients who are diagnosed but not receiving optimal treatment.

**Figure 43 Estimates of disease management in North East Lincolnshire**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Have LTC</th>
<th>Aware of LTC</th>
<th>Eligible for treatment</th>
<th>Optimal treatment</th>
<th>Compliant with Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>11,394</td>
<td>9,265</td>
<td>8,486</td>
<td>5,747</td>
<td>5,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>5,103</td>
<td>2,970</td>
<td>2,627</td>
<td>2,154</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>3,758</td>
<td>3,109</td>
<td>2,602</td>
<td>2,416</td>
<td>2,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>42,765</td>
<td>25,459</td>
<td>24,849</td>
<td>22,983</td>
<td>22,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHD</td>
<td>8,615</td>
<td>5,059</td>
<td>4,608</td>
<td>4,207</td>
<td>4,149</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.5 System, scale and selection of intervention ‘best buys’
Interventions that might work well at the level of the individual, or in a small project with special conditions (e.g. extra short-term resources; particularly skilled leadership) may well not expand
effectively to deliver on a grander scale. A key consideration revolves around the concept of Numbers Needed to Treat (NNT). This is illustrated as Figure 44.

**Figure 44 Numbers Needed to Treat (NNT)**

![Numbers Needed to Treat (NNT) diagram]

NNT is a figure giving an estimate of the number of recipients that will need to be treated to achieve one target success in a given timeframe. In the example above, the aim is to prevent stroke in people at risk within a 3 year period. For people presenting with a mini-stroke or ‘transient ischaemic attack’ (which resolves in 24 hours, but gives warning of a possible full stroke to come), prompt clinical action can probably prevent a stroke in about 1 in 6 patients. Detecting patients with a heart rhythm problem AF, and treating with anticoagulant therapy can prevent a stroke for every 60 patients treated. Managing high blood pressure may require 600 patients to be treated to prevent one stroke. Addressing risk management by behaviour change e.g smoking; excessive drinking; poor diet involve interventions with even more substantial NNTs (over 1000) for outcome in the short term.

The challenge for systematic delivery of these interventions is how to assure the quality of the intervention as the NNTs increase, and the number of practitioners necessary expands accordingly. Supervision of 5 staff in a TIA clinic is relatively easy. Governance of smoking cessation support involving dozens of practitioners across a range of agencies will be much more of a challenge.

Figure 45 shows the patchy and variable outcomes achieved, plotted against average prescribing spend by GPs in trying to manage blood sugar control in diabetic patients. Some achieve excellent results at low cost (top-left quadrant), while others poor results at high cost (bottom-right). The scatter of inefficient practice substantially increases the NNT, which in the trials and studies refers to the number needed to treat effectively. The seemingly random scatter can be addressed, helping Practices to achieve better cost effective prescribing and much improved outcomes using guidelines, protocols, audits and pharmacist support. This needs to be a specific goal with a tight action plan, however, and implementation requires consensus commitment of opportunity cost.
Importantly, most of the target risk behaviours and risk conditions contribute to a number of disease endpoints, so the number needed to treat effectively for any positive endpoint will effectively be smaller. This impacts on the cost benefit, and the cost per Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY) for successful risk reduction activity in an individual remains very low. The efficiency of delivery principle/problem, however, remains.

Figure 46 below summarises some of the issues related implementation within the BoD pathway given consideration of the population health intervention principles.
### Figure 46 Population levels of intervention in the Burden of Disease Pathway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step on Pathway</th>
<th>Advantages for intervention</th>
<th>Disadvantages for intervention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reduce Risk:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| – **Social determinants** (e.g. ‘early start’; income and debt; unemployment) | • Fundamental – ‘causes of the causes’  
  • Impact down the whole pathway – e.g. health seeking behaviour  
  • Potential to break the cycle of deprivation | • ‘Proportionate universalism’ - potentially there are needs right across society  
  • But complex needs in most disadvantaged can be disproportionate  
  • Interventions multifaceted and interdependent  
  • Evidence base patchy |
| – **Behaviours** (e.g. tobacco; alcohol harm; diet; inactivity) | • Individual risks impact on multiple diseases  
  • Primary – may prevent the disease itself  
  • Otherwise, impacts on the whole pathway | • Behaviour change difficult to deliver effectively to scale  
  • Behaviours often rooted in social conditions which may need to change first  
  • In most disadvantaged, risk behaviours cluster – need multifaceted support |
| – **Conditions** (e.g. ↑ BP; ↑ cholesterol; ↑ blood sugar) | • Direct action at the point of risk  
  • Direct measures enable tight control through therapy and/or drugs | • ‘Invasive’ testing needed – inefficient  
  • Tight systems required for results management and disciplined subsequent action  
  • Testing uptake variable: worse where most disadvantage |
| **Reduce incidence** (e.g. cancer screening; vaccination; pre-diabetes management) | • Focus is where risk is greatest and NNT smallest  
  • Direct impact at the point of change  
  • Good evidence base for systematic population level interventions | • Scaled up system needs quality assurance to get cost/benefit  
  • Uptake variable: worse where most disadvantage |
| **Manage Long Term Conditions** (CVD; COPD; back and neck; clinical depression) | • Registers enable scaled systematic intervention with strong evidence base  
  • Systematic monitoring supports | • Required ‘industrial scale’ processes often patchy  
  • Depends on working with variable patient self-management skills |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step on Pathway</th>
<th>Advantages for intervention</th>
<th>Disadvantages for intervention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good potential control</td>
<td>Support for crucial mental health and socio-economic needs often missing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Upstream control substantially reduces complications; ‘salvage costs; premature mortality</td>
<td>• ↑ Maintenance costs accrue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage multi-morbidity (e.g. CHD + COPD; CVD + diabetes + renal disease)</td>
<td>Recognition of commonly associated diseases can clarify guidelines and protocols</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pathway design could address silo working</td>
<td>Silo/sub-specialty working often deep rooted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Single clinical lead for patient across specialties: better co-ordination; outcome; patient experience</td>
<td>Complexities of mixed clinical diagnosis; therapeutics; monitoring not yet mainstreamed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage frailty</td>
<td>Large and increasing numbers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recognition and recording supports active management: important for co-ordination of integrated care</td>
<td>With scale comes need for effective systems to co-ordinate and rationalise inputs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Potential to reduce stepwise decline (e.g. after falls)</td>
<td>Pressure on practitioner and volunteer workforce numbers and skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promotes concept of re-ablement to restore/extend supported independence</td>
<td>Clarity needed on cost-effectiveness of skill-mix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Highlights role and importance of carer support</td>
<td>Resource constraints lead to cost ineffective reactive rather than pro-active care plans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage functional decline (activities of daily living)</td>
<td>Need and demand potentially unlimited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Practical focus to improve and maintain independence, confidence and wellbeing</td>
<td>Low level needs may fall <strong>below</strong> thresholds for action when funding constrained</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Targeted low level inputs to improve skills and provide practical aids can be cost effective</td>
<td>Oversight by specialists (OT and physio) may be limited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Implications: ‘best buys’ for reducing the burden of disease

Based on all the considerations in previous sections of this Report, there follow a proposed series of steps amplified to draw in some key implications if there is to be a measurable impact on population level BoD.

6.1 Formalise the basis of a consistent, graduated service response to need based on community deprivation score.

There are stark inequalities in health and social care need related to deprivation score. This is reflected in inequalities in access to and outcome from services across the described pathway. Addressing this is an ethical and legal (Commissioning Strategy/ Equity and Health Inequalities Unit, 2015) imperative, but in addition the situation is having a substantial impact on the effective and efficient use of service resources along the pathway, e.g.:

- Over 50% YLL occur under the age of 64 in the most deprived quintiles, compared to 25% in the least deprived (Figure 12).
- Pattern of cause of death in under 65’s is different in the most deprived quintile with major components of accidental death, alcohol related harm, and cirrhosis partly alcohol related, and part due to infectious hepatitis. However, early onset of cardiovascular disease, cancer and respiratory disease (10 – 15 years earlier on average than least deprived areas), also cause much premature mortality.
- Substantially different use of health services, with less appropriate use of elective services according to need, but greatly increased use of crisis and emergency services (Figure 20).

Formal agreement around the mapped distribution of deprivation (Figure 47) amongst commissioners and providers, allows systematic planning assumptions to be made about the likely required distribution of resources according to need.
A number of levels of graded response might be planned for on this basis, with a disproportionate input for populations in the most deprived quintile:

- Definition of ‘natural communities’, with co-ordinated approaches to community engagement. Stocktake of assets including leadership; infrastructures; networks and venues. Co-ordinate and harness inputs from frontline agencies in-place.

- Map general practice support to worst quintile areas, and review support and incentives

- More resource e.g. larger health visiting team for more Healthy Child Programme (HCP) universal plus; larger integrated community teams for elderly frail; more primary care health care assistants to support LTC register work.

- Different configuration of services e.g. multifaceted health promotion to manage clustered risk behaviours; income and debt (e.g. Citizen’s Advice - CAB) support linked to services; targeted Local Awareness Early Disease Identification (LAEDI) for lung cancer; focus on Tier 2 alcohol harm reduction services: preferential targeting of Health Checks uptake in 40 – 54 year age group.

- Greater local access: outreach and use of community based venues; enhanced access through community Champions, health trainers, health advocates.

The agreed mapped national quintiles should then be used as the basis of an agreed monitoring scorecard to track progress in relation to service uptake, use and outcomes.
6.2 Identify and connect effectively with the ‘missing thousands’.
However good the service outcomes are, these will not be reflected as population level outcomes unless attention is paid to the way the population uses those services and are supported to do so. Mapping commonly will illustrate a discrepancy between level of need and appropriate use and benefit from services (e.g. Figure 48).

Registering patients with CHD so as to systematically support them in benefitting from strongly evidence based interventions can reduce their chance of a heart attack or stroke by 30 – 40%. However, for well documented reasons people with the greatest levels of need and risk are often unsuccessful at connecting appropriately with services.
Figure 48 Maps of Birmingham illustrating mismatch between CHD registration with GP (left) and CHD mortality (right)
Figure 49 NEL CHD GP register prevalence and CHD under 75 mortality
The mapped correlation of prevalence of registration against CHD death rate is clear cut (Figure 49). However, the central areas of North East Lincolnshire show correlations between the highest death rate (red) having relatively low registration rates (white). It should be noted that the registration rates are not standardised for age, so a younger population but with earlier onset CHD and premature mortality may be less likely to register ‘in time’ for effective preventive action. The points at which this process can break down were examined through Figure 40, Figure 41 (repeated below) and Figure 42. The narrative emphasised that working to address the pathway of ‘intervention decline’ requires whole system collaboration. Harnessing the wider workforce can be crucial even for medicalised interventions e.g.:

- Knowing the early signs of diabetes or cancer, and where to go for help
- Uptake on Health Checks; screening; vaccinations
- Support to self-manage long term conditions

Proposed HLHF models of out-of-hospital and place–based care arrangements should provide the culture and structures to support strategies to address the intervention decline in key areas of input. This will work if knowledge and information, plans and sought for outcomes are shared and addressed together.

![Components of Unmet Need](image)

Particularly for mapped communities in the most deprived quintile, from where there can be many barriers to uptake of formal services, there will be added benefit in finding ways to engage with infrastructures supported by the community itself. This is not a straightforward task, but if it is possible to connect effectively, the community itself coming on board to improve their own health and wellbeing can bring with it assets such as leadership, networks and community venues (South, 2015).

There are many good examples of a developed workforce of Community Champions playing a major role as two-way conduits and effective activists for the wellbeing agenda. Recent initiatives have
burden of disease in north east lincolnshire

• hard to identify and contact (e.g. rough sleepers, illegal immigrants)

• not available, no time (e.g. families with young children, people working long hours, carers)

• hard for public agencies to communicate with (e.g. non-English speakers, people with learning disabilities, people unable to read or write, those with hearing difficulties, those who are visually impaired)

• resistant to involvement with statutory bodies (e.g. because they feel threatened), (e.g. tenant in arrears, mother in an abusive relationship)

• hard to engage on public bodies’ agendas (e.g. young people on health issues)

• taken for granted. Not hard to reach or engage with, but at risk of under-representation (e.g. white working class men).

Figure 51 Seldom seen, seldom heard residents

6.3 ‘Sweat the assets’ of disease registers to bring best outcomes from a clear evidence base systematically to those who could benefit.

Disease registers are a critical component of population health systems. Properly used, they will make sure that once a disease is identified and registered, health care is doing all it can to control LTCs, to reduce deterioration and prevent complications.

North East Lincolnshire primary care is doing relatively well in managing some of its conditions. For example, controlling blood pressure in people with CHD (Figure 52).
It is seen that in nearly all practices over 80% of patients have their blood pressure well controlled. However, the question should always be asked, who makes up the remaining nearly 20%. The concern is that the remainder include a significant percentage of the most complex cases with the highest risk, and that these may still go on to heart attack and stroke, despite being on the register. Figure 53 puts that different perspective (Primary Care CVD Leadership Forum, 2016).
From this perspective, it can be stated that, for example in North East Lincolnshire:

- In total, including exceptions, there are 608 people whose BP is not $\leq 150 / 90$
- GP practice range: 0% to 30.8%
- If all practices were to achieve as well as the average of the best achieving practices, then an additional 263 people would be treated

Diabetes is increasing in prevalence following the obesity epidemic, and contributes to an increasing proportion of the burden of disease and years of life with disability. 80% of the cost of diabetic care is spent on (preventable) complications (amputations; blindness; renal failure; stroke). However, the extent to which full advantage is taken of control measures, by practice, is very variable. For example the National Diabetes Audit (in which just over half of North East Lincolnshire practices responded) (Primary Care CVD Leadership Forum, 2016):

- % receiving all 8 control measures
  - NEL average 67% (36% - 79%)
- % achieving all 3 QOF treatment targets (blood sugar; BP; cholesterol)
  - NEL average 40% (range 34% - 58%)

The question is not how does this benchmark, but how can such wasted opportunities for prevention be missed? Once the patient is diagnosed, and on the register, the extra resource needed to make it count in preventing deterioration and serious complications can only be cost effective, and hugely beneficial to the patient, family and society.

The register ‘tool’ is also available to understand where improvements in control over other components of the cardiovascular disease cluster can be achieved such as hypertension, renal disease (CKD), heart failure; atrial fibrillation. For each good control information is locally available on an ongoing basis, and strategically on a regular basis (Primary Care CVD Leadership Forum, 2016).

The main mechanisms for improving the impact of registers have been well documented, and include the following: (HINST, 2010)

- The main responsibility lies with the practice itself, to improve the efficiency with which registers are run, and to ensure the clinical protocols for management are clear, and are followed by all trained staff.
- Primary care is under pressure, so it is important that the ‘industrial scale’ that registers represent is understood within the appropriate systems. Skill mix will be critical for cost effectiveness. Health care assistants (HCAs) can manage much of the process if well supervised, with referral chain up to practice nurse and doctor in defined circumstances. Recruitment and training of HCAs could be done on a group/CCG basis, employment based practice, with possibility of shared sessions by smaller practices. (Goodwin, 2010)
- Variability in practice performance can be mitigated through local governance and support mechanisms. For example a small specialist CVD support team can produce substantial improvements in consistent delivery.
However, system efficiency is only half of the story, and engaging the patient in good, supported self-management is also critical to successful outcomes. In particular, evidence review shows the importance of the following:

- Care planning: this is an on-going process where an individual’s needs are discussed with a professional, joint goals are agreed and these goals are monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. Care planning appointments require that the patient and the professional have enough time to discuss a range of issues which may be impacting on an individual’s ability to manage their health. Part or all of this support may be delivered by non-clinical staff. This may include social and psychological issues in addition to those related to physical health. Subjects which may be useful to discuss for those with complex health needs include finances, nutrition, loneliness and warmth (Smith, 2016).

- Self-management: a systematic review of this critical element concluded the following (Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, 2015):
  - Commissioners and providers should consider how they promote a culture of actively supporting self-management
  - Successful self-management interventions are multicomponent and tailored to individuals’ needs
  - Key components of self-management support include education, action planning, and practical, psychological and social support
  - Condition-specific self-management support reduces overall hospital use and improves quality of life in the short-term; effects on costs are mixed
  - Work schedules, family commitments, lack of transportation, and the cost of medication and dietary changes are possible barriers to patients engaging with self-management
  - Key considerations for implementation include strong clinical leadership, training and resources, and regular evaluation

6.4 Sweat the assets of screening, case finding and quality assured action plans to address risk conditions and pre-disease.
At critical points in the genesis of some diseases it is possible to intervene to prevent the development of the disease itself and its consequences down the burden of disease pathway. Unfortunately, most of these conditions require some form of ‘clinical’ testing as they are asymptomatic, and must be sought out pro-actively. Success therefore depends on the efficiency and effectiveness of the search.
Figure 54 illustrates the potential scope for improved early detection and control in relation to cardiovascular disease. However good the control once a patient is on the register, that effort and expertise is not available to those ‘missing’ from the register (light blue bar in the Figure). There is a significant proportion of the population likely to be undiagnosed or ‘missing’ from the register and the likely reason for this is complexity of identifying a younger patient group in more deprived circumstances.

Search strategies will be a combination of opportunistic testing for specific risk conditions (which can be systematised e.g. by flagging notes; software aided predictive searching) or by specific system of health checks.

The **NHS Health Check** is a sophisticated check of heart health. Aimed at adults in England aged 40 to 74, it checks vascular or circulatory health and works out your risk of developing some of the most disabling – but preventable – illnesses. Crucially, the NHS Health Check can detect potential problems before they do real damage. The check is designed to detect the risk of developing heart disease, stroke, Type 2 diabetes, kidney disease and some forms of dementia. There is also a simple screen for possible alcohol related harm.

As NHS Health Checks are currently mandated, the scope for improving effectiveness lies in how they are delivered. The evidence suggests that targeting to the neediest populations earliest may be more effective than opportunistic programmes and would also reduce the risk of exacerbating health inequalities. (Christmas, 2016).

The mandated NHS Health Check does not have a strong record of success, and locally within North East Lincolnshire the systems are far from reaching their potential. There have been a number of changes in approach, but it will be critical to pursue effective change as this provides a vital way in to reducing the burden of disease right down the pathway.
Figure 55 demonstrates the recent performance of NEL, benchmarked against England and the Region (Primary Care CVD Leadership Forum, 2016).

Figure 55 % invited and % taking up Health Check (Yorkshire and Humber)

The chart shows that the invitation rate (for the latest year in a 5 year cycle) is lower than the England percentage but relatively average within the region. NEL has an uptake rate of only 6.4%; considerably lower than England and regional percentage. However this benchmarks, it is not doing its fundamental job!

In principle, this process is one that needs to involve the whole system, following the ‘intervention decay’ model described above. One of the most effective of such schemes, before this became ‘mandated’ was ‘The Big Bolton Plan’, which engaged the whole system to great effect, achieving a very high proportion of the population being tested (Blair-Stevens, 2010).

Identification on its own, of course, will not prevent the development of disease. It is important to be just as systematic about care planning and support for the necessary changes to be made by the individual. Reviewed evidence suggests that changes made after ascertainment of risk are generally patchy and variable, which of course will compromise any population level measurable outcome (Christmas, 2016). While structured programmes to achieve moderation of risk through lifestyle and behaviour change (see next section) can be effective, these need to be monitored closely for effect. This might best be achieved systematically using a risk register. Where the required behaviour modification (e.g. substantial weight loss) is not being achieved, there should be defined time to proceed to other forms of risk modification e.g. statins; antihypertensive medication.

A particular national priority initiative is underway which involves the identification of pre-diabetes. People at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes can be identified through the NHS Health Check and evidence shows that the disease could be prevented in 30-60% through appropriate behaviour
change support (NICE, 2015). Generally, more intensive programmes (more contact, lasting longer) achieved better results. This will be a critically important initiative to address with system and scale in North East Lincolnshire, as elsewhere, as:

- The incidence of Type 2 diabetes is increasing year on year in association with the obesity epidemic
- Diabetes is a major and most rapidly increasing contributor to fatal (YLL) and disability related (YLD) burden of disease.
- Prevention of progression to disease will prevent downstream cost and effort of its LTC control programme, and ultimately the high ‘salvage costs’ of managing severe complications.

**Screening programmes.** Most of the main national adult screening programmes are aimed at detecting and mitigating pre-disease states before they progress to full often catastrophic disease (cervical cancer; bowel cancer; aortic aneurysm; diabetic retinopathy). All these programmes have been judged to be effective and cost effective at population level. Responsibility for running the screening programmes is mandated to NHS England, and this is quality assured through PHE. The NHS is commissioned to complete diagnostic procedures and treatments, along agreed pathways.

There are significant inequalities in access and uptake to screening, particularly for bowel cancer. Responsibilities for action on inequalities in uptake lie with NHS England. While local public health does not have responsibility specifically for screening uptake, responsibility for population health generally requires oversight and action where inequalities are not being addressed. The impact of such inequalities is demonstrated in Figure 56.

While there are some problems with data access to monitor this issue, this important element of the prevention of downstream burden of disease needs to be vigorously pursued.

*Figure 56 Impact of screening on cancer survival (PHE)*

**Survival is significantly better if presenting through screening**

![Relative survival estimates by presentation route and survival time, Colorectal, 2006-2013](image-url)
Vaccination and treatment. Nationally approved vaccination programmes are clearly effective and cost effective, and should be pursued to get maximum uptake.

Human Papilloma Virus vaccine is dramatically effective in ultimately preventing a large proportion of cervical and other epithelial cancers. Currently only available systematically for young women, uptakes are high in North East Lincolnshire (91.5%). These are good results. However, reviews show that the missing 10 – 15 % are frequently young women regarded as ‘making poor life decisions’, and regarded as having high degree of risk across a number of key areas. There is no herd immunity ‘when you live outside the herd’. It is probably worth giving frontline staff (school nurses; vaccination teams) the capacity and empowerment to follow up completion of courses in these ‘missing’ young women.

Hepatitis C is a significant contributor to components of liver disease, including cirrhosis and cancer, and a notable element of premature death particularly in young disadvantaged residents. 90% of infections are attributed to infecting drug use.

This is a difficult disease prevention programme to implement at population level, but NICE has produced the following guidance (NICE, 2012):

- Identifying a hepatitis lead with the knowledge and skills to promote testing and treatment. Consideration given to training peer mentors and health champions to promote this work.
- Ensure there is a local pathway to specialist care for infected people; including the possibility of providing treatment in the community combined with opiate substitution therapy.
- Offering and promoting testing to all service users, with annual screening for those who test negative for Hep C infection, but remain high risk
- Ensure staff have the knowledge and skills to promote testing and treatment, and are trained and competent to undertake pre- and post-test discussions and dried blood spot testing for those with venous access.

6.5 Programmes to modify risk behaviours

The main identified risk behaviours are critical ones to address, not just because they are really upstream in the pathway, but also because they each contribute to numbers of the main components of the disease burden. The problem is how to address them with sufficient system and scale. Although the cost per QALY is very low on an individual basis, the numbers needed to treat (NNT) are very large (Figure 44). This means large numbers of agents will be necessary to support the intervention, and assuring their quality and support brings clear challenges.

There are no ‘magic bullets’ here, so North East Lincolnshire needs a comprehensive strategy for each of the main risk ‘behaviours’:

- Dietary risks
- Low physical activity
- Tobacco smoke
- Alcohol and drug use
- Occupational risks
For the first two of these, it is likely that the most effective and cost effective interventions will have been brought together in the national obesity strategy, due to be launched in 2016 (Gov.UK, 2016). Otherwise, a number of key principles for population level action will be as follows:

- Strategies need to cover interventions at all points of the population intervention triangle (Figure 57). It is advisable to focus on clear cut; evidence based interventions only, and focus on implementing these effectively with system and scale. A good starting point is the NICE guidance to Local Authorities e.g. on Tobacco Control, which can be mapped across the intervention triangle to assure a balanced programme (NICE, 2015).

**Figure 57 Producing percentage change at population level**

- Brief interventions (BI) are short, opportunistic interventions aimed at encouraging healthier lifestyle/ behaviour in an individual. There are numerous published studies on BI for many different behaviours. In general the findings are positive, with BI reported to be both effective and cost effective. NICE specifically recommends use of BI in a number of fields including stop smoking, obesity, physical activity and alcohol and prevention of frailty and dementia. There is good evidence that BI is an effective and cost-effective intervention; and there is good evidence about what works in individual behavioural areas.

As with other health improvement interventions, the evidence generally shows that BI is good at prompting change, but there is less evidence for the long term sustainability of that change – this needs taking into account when planning services.

Delivery of BI with system and scale requires sustainable programmes of training and re-training as well as monitoring impact and feedback to practitioners.
Making Every Contact Count is an important approach to equipping frontline staff in health and social care organisations to deliver BIIs having identified specific risk behaviours in patients /clients during routine service activity. Some programmes have evaluated well, where systematic and sustained programmes have been put in place.

- Tier 2 services: BIIs are short interventions lasting 5 -10 minutes. Where it is believed there is readiness to change but more support is needed, referral to Tier 2 services can be effective. NICE advises that for alcohol related harm, this can involve, say, 6 half-hour support sessions even from lower level trained staff.

Tier 2 services are often missing or inadequately provided, falling for commissioning purposes between Tier 1 (primary care) and Tiers 4 and 3 (hospital based and specialist outreach services). Boosted provision of ‘Tier 2’ services for a range of risk behaviours may be a useful cost effective option for population level impact.

- Targeting high risk individuals. From a population health perspective, services to address individual risk behaviours, e.g. stopping smoking, will not reach sufficient numbers to measurably change population prevalence on its own. They will need to contribute to multifaceted approaches across the population intervention triangle.

The value of such activity on outcomes, however, will be amplified if the activity is focussed on individuals with ‘multiplicative’ risks. This should substantially reduce the NNT.

Most straightforwardly, such a target population is to be found on the LTC registers in each practice. Programmes to address, for example numbers still smoking on the major disease registers, should be actively monitored, and interventions such as BI, and referrals to ‘Tier 2’ and specialist services systematically documented.

- The biggest challenge will be where risk behaviours cluster, often in people with most disadvantage (see Figure 35). Where this is the case services will need to have a multifaceted approach, being able to flexibly respond to client’s readiness to change to address particular risks at particular times.

6.6 Addressing the social determinants of the disease burden

The local authority and partners in North East Lincolnshire are working to address the social determinants of health and wellbeing, including those described in the Marmot Report, to address inequalities across the social ‘gradient’ and the ‘life-course’.

Important priorities for those working to specifically manage the Burden of Disease will be the following:

- Early years development: this is evidenced to be the most critical and fundamental period of the life course. There are a number of key initiatives that focus on the early years, and the core of these is provided across the social gradient as ‘universal’, with triggers to initiate ‘universal plus’ extra inputs according to identified need. This principle (with different labels across health, social care and education services) is applied across Children’s Services in more or less integrated ways. With significant funding constraints, however, there is a risk that the resources available for any graduated input may fall short, particularly of the
‘disproportionate’ need in the most deprived areas. Key components of response, which should embody integrated approaches, key workers and outreach links, include:

- Promoting early antenatal booking
- Smoking cessation in pregnancy
- Perinatal screening uptake
- Healthy Child Programme (capacity to fully respond to universal + need)
- ‘Early Help’ co-ordinated children’s service teams
- Children’s Centres
- Focussed initiatives (Family Nurse Practitioners; Troubled Families)
- Good quality early years education and childcare

These initiatives should all be in place across the Districts. However, it is important to carry out audits and monitoring to ensure that:

- Access is easiest and outreach is focussed on the most disadvantaged natural communities, as mapped (see 6.1 above), including single points of access and key workers
- Resources are mapped against modelled need, including appropriate and efficient use of skill mix
- Commissioning and incentives support capacity to respond appropriately to significant identified need
- The system endeavours to make measures of input, outputs and (intermediate) outcomes available on a community basis to promote effective responses.
- Good co-ordinated information systems will be critical to ensure the identification of and actions to address barriers and gaps. Children and parents in need should not be allowed to fall through the gaps.

Similar systematic, targeted and often community based approaches to support will apply to other elements of the Marmot objectives e.g.

- Skills and good work

Programmes for skills development should be accessible within areas of greatest need. Training and skills development is most effective when needs based, and when training itself involves participatory planning.

- Income and debt

Community based advice and support (e.g. Citizen’s Advice; credit unions) can be critical parts of multi-faceted support to self-management, at the core of health and wellbeing. It should be clear in all communities where support is available, and health and social care should provide signposting and advocacy, at least, to support access and outcomes.
On a ‘place’ basis all partners should work on a holistic and contributory basis to improve personal, family and community resilience. Dividends will be widespread where this is effective, and will have a downstream impact on risk behaviours and the burden of disease.

6.7 Addressing/managing leading causes of Years of Life with Disability (YLD)

The GBoD identifies two major causes of YLD which will have a significant impact on wellbeing, social isolation and loss of independence. They will also have a significant impact on health services, mainly primary care. However, there is little evidence of serious population level attempts to impact on their BoD.

6.7.1 Sensory loss

Mild but progressive sight and hearing loss is a common feature of ageing and may go unnoticed for some time, but can have a serious effect on a person’s communication, confidence and independence. The recognition and recording of needs arising from sensory impairment by staff who are alert to the symptoms and signs and aware of the role of the GP in the route to referral can help to ensure early assessment and access to appropriate healthcare services.

The majority of people who are registered as having a sensory impairment are over the age of 65. Given the projected increase in the number of people over the age of 65 in the population, there is likely to be greater demand on services to support the needs of people with sensory impairments.

While there is minimal support for population level approaches to hearing loss, there are important initiatives in progress for sight loss.

Research by the Royal National Institute for Blind People research suggests that 50% of blindness and serious sight loss could be prevented if detected and treated in time. Prevention of sight loss helps people to maintain independence and reduces the need for social care support. Sight loss is heavily influenced by health inequalities, including deprivation and age. Sight loss can increase the risk of depression and falls related injuries such as hip fractures as well as loss of independence and poverty.

Costs and demands on NHS outpatient services are high with ophthalmology services having the third highest attendances of all services from 2011-2012. In 2008, the direct and indirect cost of sight loss was £6.5 Billion and by 2013 these costs were predicted to rise to £7.9 Billion (UK Vision Strategy).

There are 4 measures in the Public Health Outcomes Framework on this issue. The figures show the level of difference between NEL and Yorkshire and Humber region (Figure 58). Despite a relatively young population in North East Lincolnshire the number of sight loss certifications is quite high. Similar differences occur for cases of glaucoma and macula degeneration related sight loss.

Eye health, with a focus on ageing and sight loss, is a UK-wide Royal College of General Practitioner (RCGP) clinical priority for April 2013 to March 2016. A GP network on eye health has been set up to help the clinical champion to further develop and deliver the programme, as well as supporting the dissemination of key messages. The programme aims to enable GPs to:
- Prevent avoidable sight loss amongst their older patients and associated conditions such as falls, fractures and depression
- Refer into eye care services patients with signs of 'correctable' sight loss (e.g. refractive error, cataracts etc) to maintain and improve their quality of life
- Ensure patients with permanent sight loss maintain their independence for longer by helping them to access rehabilitation, low vision and other support services

This programme might provide a basis for a systematic approach in North East Lincolnshire.

Figure 58 Preventable sight loss - sight loss certifications

6.7.2 Musculoskeletal conditions (MSK)

While it is no surprise that MSK is a major contributor to YLD (Figure 15) and to hospital admissions (Figure 19), analysis of the conditions contributing to those figures show a very different profile to both. While hospital admissions are dominated by joint replacements and fractures, the YLD is very much dominated by back and neck pain.

The high volume of associated problems should make this a priority condition for identification and systematic early management to prevent the condition becoming a chronic problem.

A large proportion of cases occur in the workplace, and the Health and Safety Executive have reviewed the evidence around the costs and benefits of case management and rehabilitation in this setting (HuTech Associates Ltd, 2006). In the NHS workforce MSK is one of the main causes of sickness absence, and it is important that Occupational Health and Health and Safety develop organisational strategies for prevention and rehabilitation, driven by good intelligence and needs assessment.

Outside the workplace, the incidence and prevalence of back and neck pain should make it a priority for systematic approaches within the out-of-hospital plans for integrated care.

Arthritis Care have produced guidance to emphasise self-management, but this needs to be used in conjunction with NICE guidance and technical reviews.
6.8 Approach to multi-morbidity.
Studies e.g. (Kadam UT, (2013)) have shown how pairings of LTCs affected A & E attendance and the increased costs of hospital care. For example, transition, defined as at least one episode in each of 3-year time periods, was as follows: patients with hypertension and diabetes had the fewest transitions in the 3-year time period (37% A&E episode and 51% hospital admission), but those with heart failure and renal disease had the most transitions (67% A&E episode and 79% hospital admission).

Specific common multi-morbid pairs are associated with higher healthcare transitions and differential costs. The adjusted costs were significantly higher for all six multi-morbid groups compared with their respective single disease groups.

The overall conclusion is that identification of multi-morbidity type, starting with common pairings, and linkage of information across interfaces provides opportunities for targeted protocols and guidance for intervention and delivery of integrated care.

Clinical information systems should increasingly be able to provide appropriate intelligence for more efficient and effective management.

6.9 Systematic population-based approaches to frailty and dementia
There are currently systematic approaches to the identification, registration and management of dementia. These involve mainstream population level initiatives, driven by ‘commissioning’ incentives, including Health Checks, QOF and CQuINs. This focus is based on the substantial improvements that can be achieved by the coordination of proactive support for patient and carers on their health and wellbeing. Partly as a result of this, but also through substantial improvements in ‘pathway’ co-ordination there have been measurable improvements in:

- Retained (supported) independence, and deferred entry to residential care
- Reduction in the numbers presenting in crisis to social care, emergency departments and urgent care centres
- Reduction in the number of avoidable hospital admissions/bed days for patients with a dementia diagnosis.

It is recognised that similar advantages could be gained through a formalised recognition of the state of frailty. In addition there is the advantage that, unlike dementia at present, progressive degrees of frailty can be halted and even reversed with pro-active approaches.
There are significant overlaps between the two syndromes, which will enable system efficiencies, e.g.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frailty</th>
<th>Dementia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mild</strong></td>
<td>Evident slowing; need help with higher Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) e.g. finances; transportation; heavy housework; medications. Progressively impairs shopping, walking outside alone, meal preparation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderate</strong></td>
<td>Need help with all outside activities and keeping house. Inside problems with stairs, bathing and minimal assistance with dressing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Severe</strong></td>
<td>Completely dependent for personal care whatever cause (physical or cognitive). May seem stable and not at high risk of dying within 6 months.</td>
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</table>

Systematic processes for pro-active management could include:

- Pro-active assessment and identification. A useful tool for use at GP level appears to be the electronic Frailty Index (eFI). (NIHR CLAHRC Yorkshire and Humber, 2015) This works through GP clinical systems, and identifies patients on a mild/moderate/severe basis. The aims of the process are stated to be:

The eFI will help improve care for older people with frailty by:

- Directing better primary care pathways for older people by considering individual frailty rather than chronological age
- Identifying the top 2% most vulnerable patients for targeted care planning to reduce unplanned hospitalisations
- Structuring integrated care around frailty, to ensure that those who may benefit most are identified for integrated services
- Enabling targeted medication reviews for older people with frailty using evidence-based checklists (e.g. STOPP/START criteria)
- Identifying the presence of frailty to guide more appropriate, shared decision making in secondary care, for example in cancer services for older people
Identifying those with advanced frailty who may be entering the terminal phase of life for advance care planning discussions

- Proactive care should include graduated integrated inputs to address care and contingency planning. Place-based out-of-hospital arrangements, including the voluntary, community and faith based networks, should work towards key worker designation and attention to generic issues to include nutrition, loneliness and warmth.

- Frailty programmes should include prevention and management pathways for the 5 pillars of frailty:
  - Falls
  - Delirium
  - Immobility
  - Incontinence
  - Medication problems

- Key performance indicators and audits should be focussed to monitor the impact of frailty interventions over time.

6.10 Predictive modelling
Predictive modelling is an approach using the potential of Big Data to identify predictors of patient risk from very large clinical data sets. Software derived from this can then be used at a local level to derive lists of patients at defined stratified levels of risk, enabling cost beneficial targeting of efforts and resources. There are now a wide range of commercial models for this approach, and a market place from which to choose from alternative providers.

One of the early versions of this incorporated several systems into a Combined Predictive Model (Health Dialog UK Ltd./ King’s Fund, 2006). The Combined Model was reported to offer an increase in predictive power for the highest risk patients, and also to facilitate the identification of a much broader population with emerging risk (Figure 59).
Experience with such systems subsequently has shown that focus on the very high relative risk patients at local level, those with, for example, high levels of hospital admission, are mainly in the last year of life. In strategic terms, it is likely to include patients with moderate and severe forms of frailty and dementia, and case management approaches on this basis may be most appropriate.

It is probably the next level of risk where focus on prevention of deterioration and development of complications from LTCs is the focus, that substantial interventions can be most effective.

In this regard, predictive modelling will be an important intervention to help prioritise patients at high risk and effectively focus particularly where NNT will be smallest for short term impact (Figure 60).

Figure 60 Numbers Needed to Treat (NNT) predictive models identifying patients with high risk (dark blue)
7. Conclusions

This Report focuses on the growing Burden of Disease nationally and within North East Lincolnshire. It emphasises how the burden, numerically is set to rise substantially, driven particularly by uncontrollable factors of population growth and ageing.

The approach taken is therefore to identify where population level interventions can be used to mitigate some of the growth in substantial ways. This is based on a Burden of Disease ‘pathway’ which identifies stages in the development of disease and its consequences, and establishes points of intervention, where ‘upstream’ prevention can avoid or defer ‘downstream’ problems.

A major factor which determines current and future extent of the burden is identified to be the inequalities arising from socio-economic deprivation. The case is made that working to address the inequalities is not just a case of working against social injustice. There are major consequences for service workload and cost in North East Lincolnshire.

Mapping the necessary graduated response to address unmet needs upstream on the pathway so as to impact substantially downstream will be critical. Working on appropriate access and uptake according to need will involve, at least for the most deprived areas, systematically reaching out to engage communities where they are, and connecting to work with assets such as leadership, networks and venues, not as patchy small projects, but to scale. This should be a necessary extension of ‘place-based’ approaches currently in planning.

Variations in risk and disease are described across the life-course, again varying by deprivation quintile, and this should dictate differences in priority focus, and the differential timing of interventions, based on good intelligence.

The focus for chosen interventions is based on choosing approaches that are capable of making percentage change at population level. Otherwise they may be tokenistic as the burden of disease grows.

Many of the necessary interventions are already in place to a degree, but the implementation and access is patchy and variable. Much greater value and impact can be achieved by tightening management approaches to address system, scale and sustainability.

In particular, the case is made that all partners need to be engaged, as do the communities themselves, if substantial impact is to be made. Using the A-B-C-D strategic approach described, different agents and sectors will play different roles depending on the intervention. It will be important to be clear how the local authority, CCG, primary care, frontline community services and the voluntary, community and faith sector can each play their part, for each of the prioritised interventions.
Burden of Disease in North East Lincolnshire

Works Cited


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Kadam UT, e. a. ((2013)). Chronic disease multimorbidity transitions across healthcare interfaces. BMJ Open .


## Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Phrase</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BI</td>
<td>Brief intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>Body mass index</td>
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<tr>
<td>BP</td>
<td>Blood pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAB</td>
<td>Citizens Advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCG</td>
<td>Clinical Commissioning Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHD</td>
<td>Coronary heart disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHF</td>
<td>Congestive cardiac failure</td>
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<tr>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>Chronic obstructive lung disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>CQuINs</td>
<td>Commissioning for Quality and Innovation payments</td>
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<td>eFI</td>
<td>electronic frailty index</td>
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<td>GBDoD</td>
<td>Global Burden of Disease study</td>
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<td>HCP</td>
<td>Healthy Child Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>HLHF</td>
<td>Healthy Lives, Healthy Futures programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>IGR</td>
<td>Impaired Glucose Regulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>JSNA</td>
<td>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAEDI</td>
<td>Local Awareness Early Disease Identification (cancer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSOA</td>
<td>Lower Super Output Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>LTCs</td>
<td>Long Term Conditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>MECC</td>
<td>Making Every Contact Count</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSK</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEL</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire</td>
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<tr>
<td>NICE</td>
<td>National Institute of (Health and) Clinical Excellence</td>
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<tr>
<td>NNT</td>
<td>Numbers Needed to Treat</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHE</td>
<td>Public Health England</td>
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<td>QOF</td>
<td>Quality and Outcomes Framework</td>
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<td>QALY</td>
<td>Quality Adjusted Life Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>quintile</td>
<td>20% segment</td>
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<td>RCGP</td>
<td>Royal College of GPs</td>
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<tr>
<td>YLD</td>
<td>Years of Life with Disability</td>
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<tr>
<td>YLL</td>
<td>Years of Life Lost</td>
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