

Meeting:	Northern England Clinical Senate Council Meeting	
Date:	Wednesday 15 November 2023	
Time:	5:00pm – 6:30pm	
Venue:	The Durham Centre, DH1 1TN	
Present:	Name:	Initials
	Sam Bethapudi, GP Principal Dunelm Medical Practice, Post Graduate Trainer & GP Appraiser. Member RCGP National Council	SB
	Prof Mike Bramble, Senior Fellow in Gastroenterology, South Tees Hospital NHS FT	MB
	Prof Andrew Cant, NE Senate Chair, Consultant in Paediatric Immunology, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	AC
	Ben Clark, Deputy Director Clinical Delivery, NHSE	BC
	Dr Katie Elliott, Salaried GP, CRUK Strategic GP NCA Doctor, Representative, South Tees FT, Collingwood Medical Group	KE
	Dr Martyn Farrer, Consultant Cardiologist & Clinical Director for Emergency Medicine, City Hospitals Sunderland NHSFT	MF
	Dr Paul Goldsmith, Consultant Neurologist, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	PG
	Dr Raj Khanna, GP and Emergency Department Consultant, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	RK
	Dr Robin Mitchell, Clinical Director, Northern England Clinical Networks	RM
	Prof Gerry Stansby, Consultant Vascular Surgeon, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT & Chair of NE Vascular Advisory Group	GS
	Kay Marshall, NE Senate Business Support	KM
	Karen Pellegrino, NE Senate Business Support	KP
Apologies	Name	
	Dr John Bourke, Consultant Cardiologist & Senior Lecturer Dept of Cardiology, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	JB
	Lesley Durham, Director and Lead Nurse at the North of England Critical Care Network	LD
	Neil Halford, Deputy Medical Director at Gateshead Health NHS FT	NH
	Mr Gareth Hosie, Consultant in Paediatric Surgery, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT & Chair of NE Maternity Network	GH
	Dr Nicola Hutchinson, CEO, AHSN, NENC	NH
	Dr Lesley Kay, Senate Vice Chair and Consultant Rheumatologist, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	LK
	Dr Angela Kennedy, Consultant Psychologist, Tees Esk & Wear Valley NHS FT & member of NE Mental Health Network	AK
	Fiona McEvoy, Head of Nursing Quality, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT	FMc
	Dr Neil O'Brien, Executive Medical Director Designate for the North East & North Cumbria ICS, Chief Clinical Officer and Accountable Officer	NO'B
	Prof Steve Robson, Consultant Obstetrician, Clinical Lead NENC Maternity Network	SR

	Dr Jon Scott, Consultant Physician/Geriatrician, South Tyneside Hospital NHS FT Dr Andy Simpson, Consultant in Emergency Medicine, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT Jenna Wall, Midwifery Clinical lead for the Maternity Clinical Network		JS
			AS
			JW
MINUTES			
1.	INTRODUCTION		Lead
	1.1	Welcome and Apologies	
		AC welcomed everyone Apologies received, noted as above.	AC
	1.2	Minutes of previous meeting	
		Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 September 2023, agreed as a true record of the meeting.	AC
	1.3	Declarations of interest	
		None noted	AC
	1.4	Matters arising/actions from previous minutes.	
		None noted	AC
2.	AGENDA ITEMS		
	2.1	NE Senate 10 years on	BC
		<p>BC shared a presentation describing the how Senates were formed and the work they had undertaken since then to inform discussion on what the focus of clinical senates should be over the next 3-5 years. The highlights from the slides can be found below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clinical Senates were formed to help ease the passage of the Health and Social Care Bill 2012 as a vehicle for the new GP-led clinical commissioning groups to access advice from a wider range of clinicians and health and care professionals and that also took on the responsibility for undertaking formal independent clinical reviews from the National Clinical Assessment Team (NCAT)The Northern England Clinical Senate has led on and published reviews which can be found on the NE Senate website here and also provided clinicians to join reviews led by other clinical senates e.g. in Bristol, Essex, Lancashire, Hull and Manchester.Moving forward Clinical senates remain a part of the NHS landscape following the New NHS England redesign programme and are a core part of the guidance related to the assurance of service change and will still be available for support on request from ICBs. <p>AC/BC invited the council members to comment on and discuss the following;</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What service challenges are likely to form the bulk of the work being referred into the Senate in the next 3 – 5 years? • How should the senate adapt it's council membership to make sure we have the right skills and knowledge to help provide that support? • What development sessions would senate council members like to have over the next 12 months to support them in their role? <p>A summary of the discussions can be found below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous requests and referrals for Senate advice came mostly from commissioners and providers. Future requests for independent advice may come from ICB's and potentially Provider Collaboratives. Council members added that they would encourage the Senate to work more locally within the region and that it could become more proactive in its role going forward, getting involved with service change and reconfiguration. • The group discussed how best to approach the ICB to ensure they were aware of the support that the senate can provide including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approaching the ICB Medical Director to suggest a meeting with the senior ICB Medical Directorate team to outline the senate role - Using the National meetings to work with the other clinical senates to develop a '10 years on' document to highlight the range of work that Senates had undertaken. - Using the upcoming Development Days in 2024 to engage ICB medical leadership in the senate environment • In post reviews the Senate could take the opportunity to reflect on the process and use feedback taking into consideration sustainability, addressing inequalities and confidence in assurance. • A suggestion was made that the Senate could strengthen this role using a reconfiguration test/checkmark, to give a more universal recognition of clinically credible and also a sense check to look at the impact of what was agreed to be done and if anything had been done following the Senate advice. • Nationally, Senate Terms of Reference and operating model will be reviewed and updated. The Service Change guidance is due to be reviewed also. • Potential challenges due to organisational changes and restructures could impact how the Senate provides support. This includes changes to Clinical Leads in NHSE. • Recruitment and training. <p>Following on from the success of the development days in 2023, two development days are being planned for 2024 (1 day virtual and 1 day face to face) to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual wards • Health Inequalities/how to build into service reviews • Sustainability • Workforce 		
	2.2	National Update <p>The next National Clinical Senate Meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 22 November, AC and BC will provide feedback at the next</p>	AC/BC	

		Council meeting		
	2.3	North of England Senate development discussion Previously discussed, see item 2.1 last paragraph	AC/BC	
	2.4	Northern England Senate-led Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rothbury, awaiting completion of template 	AC/BC	
	2.5	Northern England Senate-related Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North West, New Hospitals programme, on hold, awaiting ICB restructure 	AC/BC	
	2.6	Reconfiguration report for information only (circulated with Agenda) The key updates from the report are in relation to the following service change schemes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcastle Urgent Care NENC Non-surgical Oncology Review 	AC/BC	
	2.7	Thank you to Senate members retiring and resigning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof Mike Bramble (MB) Elaine Henderson (EH) Prof Peter Kelly (PK) Dr Jon Scott VC Chair (JS) <p>AC thanked Prof Mike Bramble for all his support and hard work and wished him well as he is standing down.</p> <p>Elaine Henderson, Peter Kelly and Jon Scott are all resigning from the Council. AC took it in turn to thank each of them for their support and highlighted JS, Vice Chair, who had taken part in many reviews.</p>	AC	
3.	MEETING CLOSE			
	3.1	Any Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHSE Regional Medical Director position is vacant and advertised via NHSE jobs. The confirmed NHSE Medical Directors for System Improvement and Medical Standards going forward will be Dr Jonathan Slade and Dr Yasmin Khan. AC congratulated BC in his new role as Deputy Director – Clinical Delivery & Programmes (which will include the support of clinical senates in his portfolio). BC added that due to the restructure KP is moving into the Nursing Directorate and KM will now be supporting the Senate. AC and BC thanked KP for her incredible support of the clinical senate over the past years which has been greatly appreciated by senate leadership and membership alike. 	AC/BC	
	3.2	Next meeting Monday 15 January 2024, via Teams		