**Integration of the Liverpool Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (LDESP) and North Mersey Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (NMDESP)**

***Briefing for:*** *GPs****,*** *other healthcare providers****,*** *diabetic specialist nursing teams****,*** *optometrists****,*** *local voluntary and community sector organisations, including Diabetes UK, other local diabetic support groups, under-represented groups and Healthwatch.*

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LUHFT) has now created one single service for diabetic eye screening, known as the **Liverpool and North Mersey Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (LNMDESP).**

Prior to LUHFT forming Liverpool Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (DESP) was based at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital and the North Mersey DESP was based at Aintree University Hospital, both services also offered screening at several community locations.

LUHFT worked with Public Health Commissioners to facilitate the two programmes coming together into a single service, to be known as the **Liverpool and North Mersey Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (LNMDESP)**, this came into effect on 1 October 2023.

**There is no plan to change the location of service provision however integration will deliver:**

* Care that is provided to the same standards and processes**,** minimising unwarranted variation in how the service communicates, screens, grades, refers and recalls patients.The proposed model of care will bring together elements of best practice from the Liverpool and North Mersey DESPs and align to the [NHS DESP Specification](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/diabetic-eye-screening-pathway-requirements-specification/diabetic-eye-screening-pathway-requirements-specification).
* Improved patient access through choice of screening at a wider range of venues. Should a patient screen positive and require referral, they will have the option of attending St Paul’s Eye Unit clinics on the Royal or Aintree sites where they will receive standardised care and treatment. By strengthening and standardising the interface between LNMDESP and the hospital eye services, patients will also have equitable and more rapid access to diagnostic tests, reducing the waiting time for treatment
* Key Performance Indicators and Quality Assurance Standards will be combined into a single reporting system
* Improved patient experience
* Greater opportunities for shared learning amongst a larger team of staff

# Improved resilience and cost-effective health care within a larger service

* A sustainable city-wide health care service.

A further development is the introduction of a new ‘Improving screening uptake officer’ role which will focus on increasing uptake in under-represented groups, enhancing engagement with screening and reducing harm.

**Contact details for LNMDESP**

Clinical Lead Dr Tici Criddle: ticiana.criddle@liverpoolft.nhs.uk

Programme Manager Guy Roberts: guy.roberts@liverpoolft.nhs.uk

Royal Liverpool University Hospital

Prescot Street

Liverpool

L7 8XP

0151 529 3111 (all previous numbers for both programmes will divert to this)

**LNMDESP Screening Venues:**

Following integration, there will be no change to the location of screening services whether at either of the hubs (Royal or Aintree site) or spokes (community venues) and all screening sites are listed below:

Aintree University Hospital

Breeze Hill neighbourhood Health Centre

Burscough Health Centre

Childwall Fiveways Family Health Centre

Everton Rd Neighbourhood Health Centre

Hants Lane Clinic Ormskirk

Hoghton Street Southport

Kenilworth Road Crosby

Litherland Town Hall

Maghull Health Centre

Picton Neighbourhood Health Centre

Royal Liverpool University Hospital (for digital surveillance & slit lamp)

Sandy Lane Health Centre Skelmersdale

South Liverpool NHS Treatment Centre

Southport Hospital

The Yew Tree Centre