

An abstract graphic composed of multiple overlapping, flowing ribbons in various shades of blue and pink. The ribbons create a sense of movement and depth, with some appearing to loop and cross over others. The background is white, and the overall composition is dynamic and modern.

**NOE CPC case study**  
**Wound care dressings**  
**community distribution service**  
Humber NHS Foundation Trust

# Background

Humber NHS Foundation Trust provides a comprehensive range of healthcare services in Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire. These services are delivered by nearly 3,000 staff across an area of approximately 2,400 square kilometres to a population of approximately 600,000.

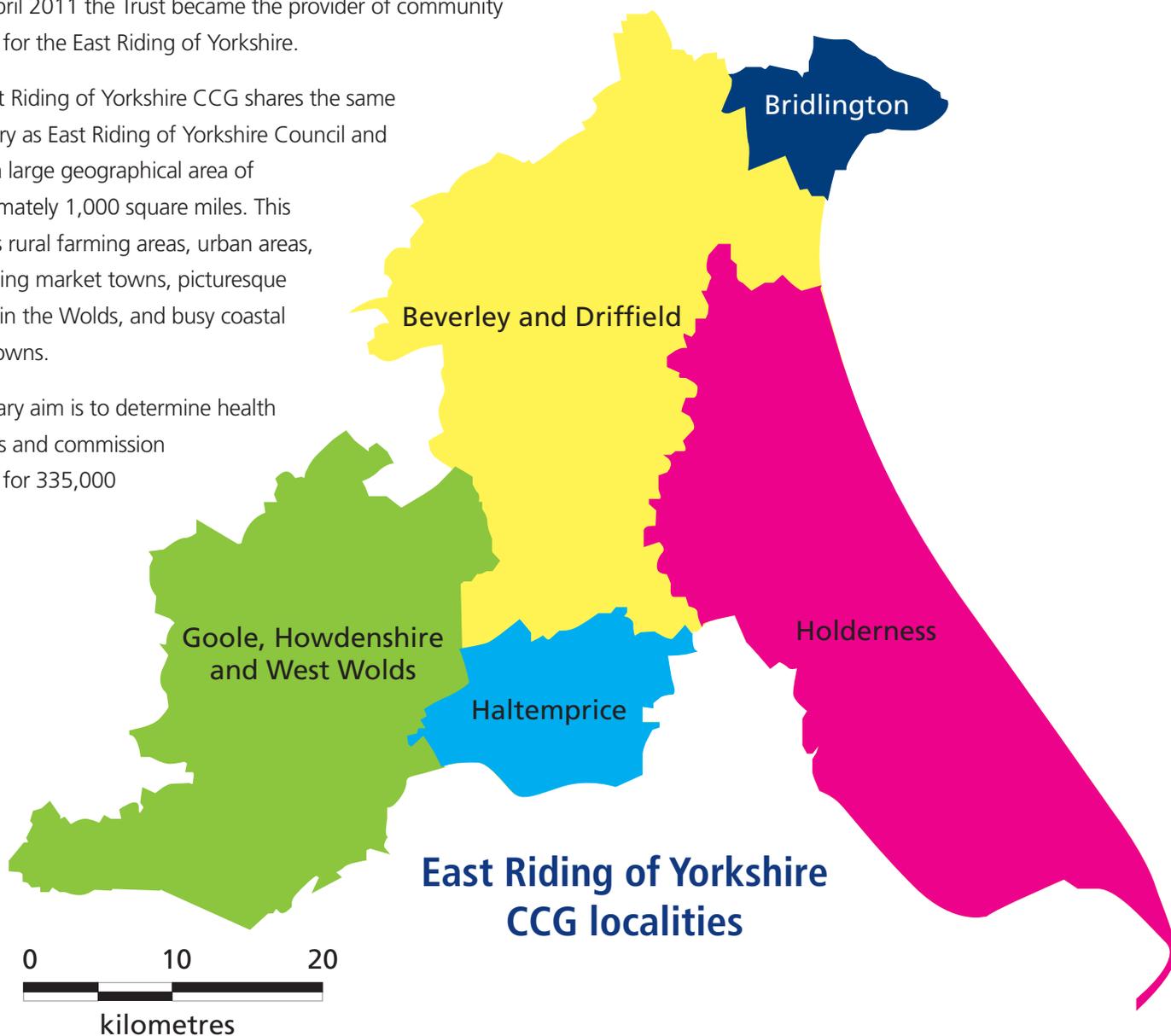
Trust income in 2011/12 was £134million; most of this came from two key commissioning partners, one being NHS East Riding of Yorkshire.

As a teaching trust it works closely with academic partners, Hull York Medical School and Hull University, nurturing a workforce of tomorrow's doctors, nurses and other health professionals.

On 1 April 2011 the Trust became the provider of community services for the East Riding of Yorkshire.

The East Riding of Yorkshire CCG shares the same boundary as East Riding of Yorkshire Council and covers a large geographical area of approximately 1,000 square miles. This includes rural farming areas, urban areas, developing market towns, picturesque villages in the Wolds, and busy coastal resort towns.

Its primary aim is to determine health priorities and commission services for 335,000 people.



# The challenge for NHS East Riding of Yorkshire and community wound care

Various issues required attention:

- Prescribed dressings – becoming the patients property
- Wastage – anecdotal evidence (and various published papers) clearly illustrate that a large percentage of prescribed dressings are wasted
- Significant differences in market price – lack of equity in terms of cost between primary and secondary care
- Difficulty in monitoring usage and ensuring all dressings are prescribed appropriately
- Formulary review/standardisation
- Reduction in non-compliance
- Limited funds – reducing dressing budget



## The solution

## The award of a framework agreement which transforms the provision of wound care dressings

The framework features two suppliers; **Coloplast** and **ConvaTec**.

Humber NHS Foundation Trust's chosen provider was Coloplast. NOE CPC, in partnership with Coloplast, worked closely with a multidisciplinary team from the Trust to review supply chain routes and clinical practice. Associated outcomes have been based on the output of several pilot sites which delivered the key objectives noted above.

The outline benefits pertained not only to financial elements but also to other factors such as a reduction in wastage and the appropriate use of products which aligns itself to clinical governance.

The feedback from clinical staff was positive and this has subsequently been reflected in the ongoing review meetings since the tender was awarded.

### Benefits for Humber NHS FT included:

- Baseline audit of woundcare products stocked
- Delivery of pre-agreed level of formulary stock
- Provision of online ordering and removal of dispensing fees
- Free in-service training
- Monthly usage/spend reports by location
- Spend by each formulary category/top ten, etc
- Only agreed formulary items made available (limits maverick spend)
- Improved communication with locations
- No need for reinvestment in IT
- Generate prescribing controls (reduce over-ordering and inappropriate ordering)
- Free up nurses/GPs time

## How the contract could help **your** organisation

There are numerous business benefits for your organisation in adopting the NOE CPC wound care dressings community distribution service framework.

- It enables nurses and other care practitioners to order various wound care items from an agreed formulary without the need for paperwork, reducing the burden of administration on both PCTs and pharmacies.
- The available systems are an invaluable tool for helping PCTs control and plan dressing expenditure, with specific benefits for patients, nurses, pharmacists and finance managers.
- There is huge potential for cash releasing savings. For example, with the change of just one product line Humber NHS Foundation Trust saved in the region of £72K. Savings will vary from trust to trust, so contact us to see how you could benefit.

Taking advantage of this contract will help to rationalise dressing formularies and redesign the supply route to patients in the community. The project will also deliver a reduction in the quantity of dressings wasted, reverse the increasing cost of dressings and improve the quality of service provided to the patient.

“

This service has enabled us to continually monitor and improve the quality of service and products supplied for the benefit of our patients.

Consequently this has helped deliver valuable savings and increased efficiencies whilst also enabling greater visibility of product supply and control.

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**Mark Turner**  
**Procurement Manager**  
**Humber NHS Foundation Trust**

**To ensure your patients, staff and organisation can benefit from this system, please contact:**

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