



News Release

11 June 2025

NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB Chief Executive, Stephen Eames, to retire after over 50 years' service

Stephen Eames, the Chief Executive of NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has announced his intention to retire at the end of June after over 50 years' service in the NHS.

Stephen said: "I've been honoured and privileged to have spent my entire working life in the NHS, alongside some wonderful colleagues. As the NHS reforms, and the renewed direction for ICBs becomes clearer as strategic commissioners, I feel that it's time to bring in new leadership to shape and drive the ambition for the future. I have therefore taken the decision to retire."

He added: "I am extremely proud of the achievements of NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB as well as the wider health and care partnership. Our ambition to achieve better outcomes for the people we serve and in particular, in addressing the inequalities faced by our most underserved communities has been our greatest achievement."

Stephen began his NHS career as a trainee at Batley and District General Hospital in 1973. Over his 52 year career, Stephen has developed a track record of successfully leading complex organisations and systems through major strategic change; his experience includes delivering several large-scale organisational mergers in acute and mental health services, leading a number of high profile turnarounds, establishing the first Integrated Care Trust in England and pioneering integrated care systems.

Awarded a CBE for services to the NHS in 2019, Stephen has led NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB since its inception.

ENDS

For media enquiries, email: hnyicb.communications@nhs.net

Notes to editors

About Stephen Eames

Personal

Stephen lives in a village near Thirsk, North Yorkshire. He has two sons and is a lifelong Leeds United fan, attending his first game at Elland Road in January 1965, aged just nine. Aside from football, Stephen enjoys playing the piano and guitar in his spare time. In 2019, Stephen was awarded a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Stephen has a long term interest in coaching and mentoring and is a fully accredited Executive coach, He has Masters degrees in Health Service Management and in Professional Coaching Practice.

Career timeline

1973-1991: Various NHS management roles in West Yorkshire, the South East and London

1991-1998: CEO Havering Hospitals NHS Trust

1998-2001: CEO West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust

2001-2002: CEO University Hospital of North Staffordshire

2002-2005: CEO Cheshire and Wirral Partnership FT/Acting CE Mid Cheshire Hospitals

2005-2007: CEO Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT

2007-2012: CEO County Durham and Darlington NHS FT

2012-2016: CEO Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust

2016-2020: CEO North Cumbria FT/System Lead North Cumbria STP/ICS

2020-present: CEO Humber and North Yorkshire ICB

About Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership

The <u>Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership</u> is a collaboration of health and care organisations which brings together NHS organisations, local councils, health and care providers and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations. It is committed to ensuring everyone living in in the area can live a happy, healthy life. North Yorkshire is one of the six geographical places that makes up the Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership, along with the City or York, Hull, East Riding, North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire.

About Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB is a statutory organisation accountable for NHS spend and performance for 1.8 million people across York, North Yorkshire, East Riding of Yorkshire, Hull, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. The ICB is a core member of the Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership, alongside NHS providers, local councils, health and care providers and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations.