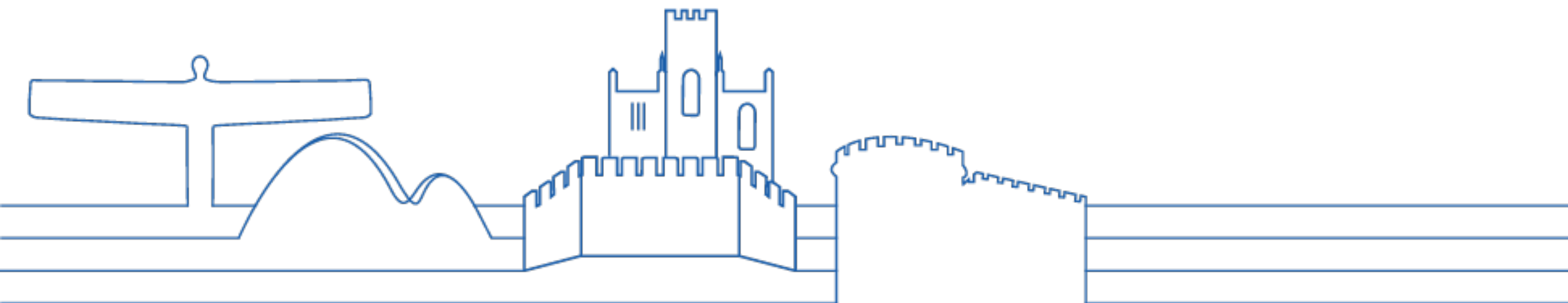




**North East and
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Darlington HWBB – Winter Planning

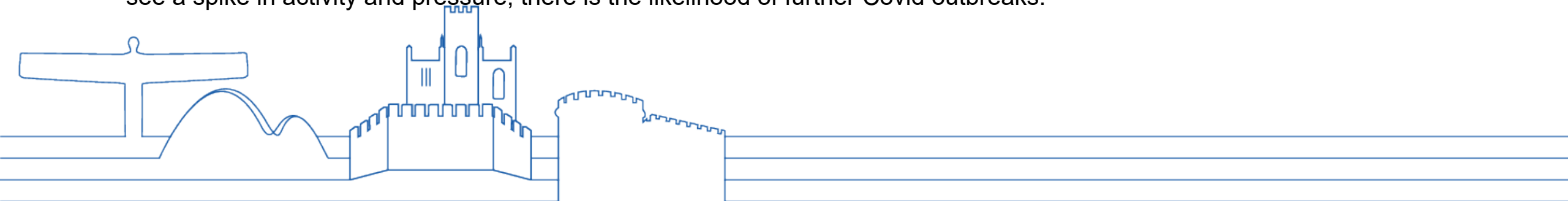


'It feels like Winter in the middle of July'

The Tees Valley Urgent & Emergency Care (UEC) System, like UEC services in the rest of the region and the country, remains under significant and sustained pressure and we have not seen the reduction in demand that we usually see during the spring/summer months. This pressure is being felt across all parts of the Tees Valley system and all partners, from Primary Care and Out of Hours to Acute and Ambulance providers, to Social Care and Mental Health Services.

This is inevitably impacting on performance across all Providers and particularly having a significant impact on Ambulance Handover Delays resulting in unacceptable long waits for people in the community waiting for an emergency response.

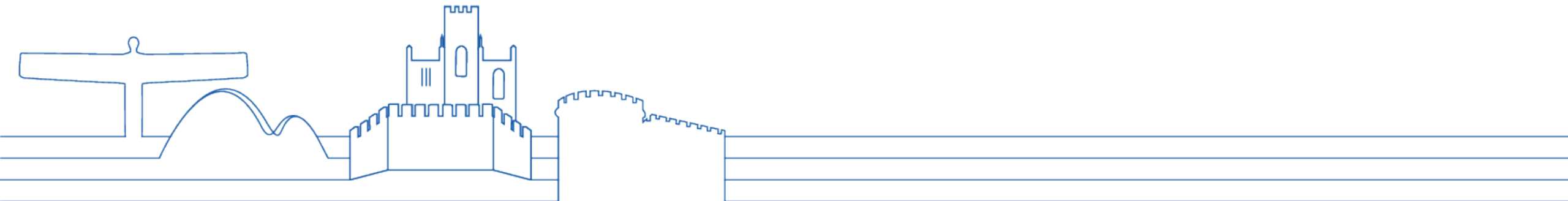
On top of this significant and sustained pressure and as we head into the winter period, where ordinarily we would see a spike in activity and pressure, there is the likelihood of further Covid outbreaks.



Introduction

The pressure is created by:

- Staffing issues across all partners (linked to Covid absence, general sickness, vacancies and burnout)
- High/increased activity levels within Primary and Secondary Care (linked to Elective backlog and Primary Care access)
- Higher acuity of patients resulting in longer Length of Stay (LOS) and impacting flow
- Continued impact of Covid (vaccine rollout requirements in Primary Care, Covid in hospital beds, staff sickness, Infection, Prevention, Control (IPC))
- Discharge delays (Internal Trust delays and Social Care and Home Care Staffing pressures)
- Bed Pressures and Flow through hospitals (linked to all the above)



Winter Plans

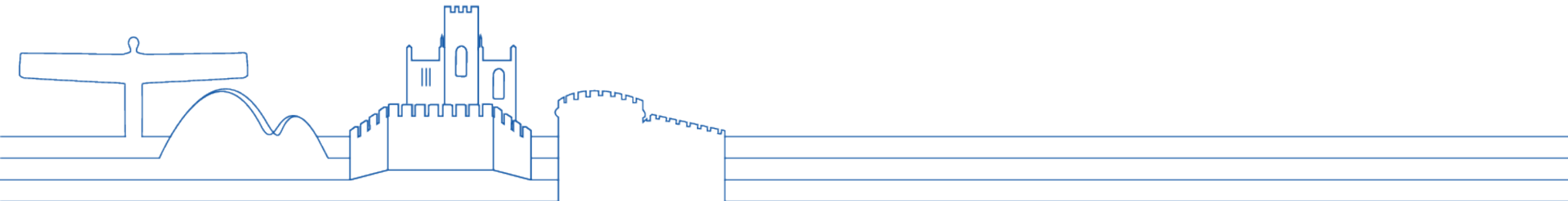


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A Winter planning template was produced by NHSE/I which required each Local A&E Delivery Board (LADB) area to RAG rate against a specified list of priorities. Each LADB partner was required to submit a response and this was consolidated into a LADB submission.

The timetable for this process is set out below:

- Draft LADB plans Friday 1 July 2022
- Feedback with check and challenge during July
- Revised plans completed for Friday 29 July 2022
- System wide plan testing event Wednesday 17 August 2022
- Final plans submitted by Friday 2 September 2022



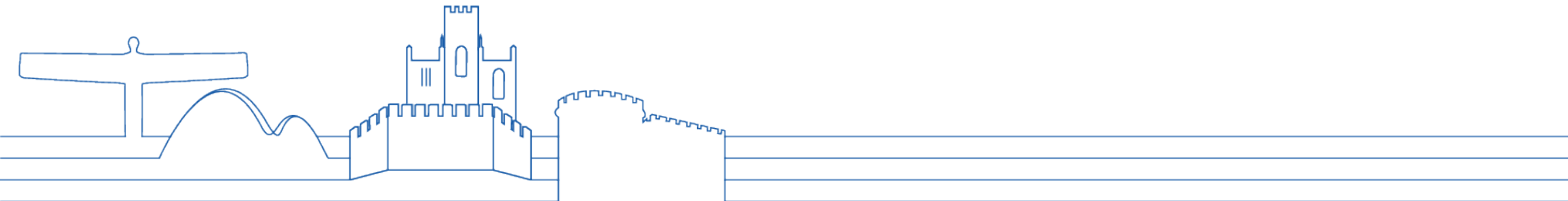
Winter Plans - template



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The template included 33 priority areas against the following themes:

- Front door plans
- Plans for improving flow
- Plans for improving discharges
- Plans for managing for peaks in demand over weekends and bank holidays
- Ambulance service / 111 provider plans
- Pandemic / Outbreak plans / IPC
- Other areas of assurance



Winter Plans - template

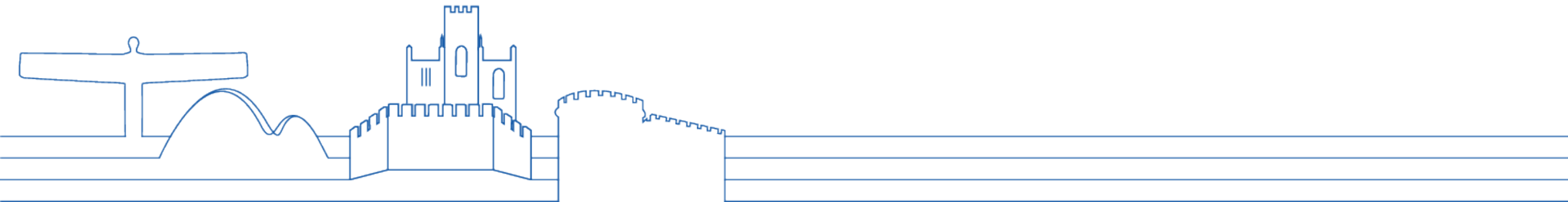
Each of the 33 indicators were RAG rated using the following criteria:

- Blue = already in place/alternative in place or standard met
- Green = actions in place and on track to be implemented within timeframes
- Amber = in plans, but risks associated with delivery
- Red = no evidence of existing implementation or in system plans

All 33 indicators within the Tees Valley LADB submission were Blue (15), Green (7) or Amber (11).

Every priority is being considered and is included within Winter plans but there is inevitably some risks associated given the significant and sustained pressure the whole UEC system is under.

The planning template has been discussed, agreed and signed off through the appropriate LADB meetings, prior to submission.



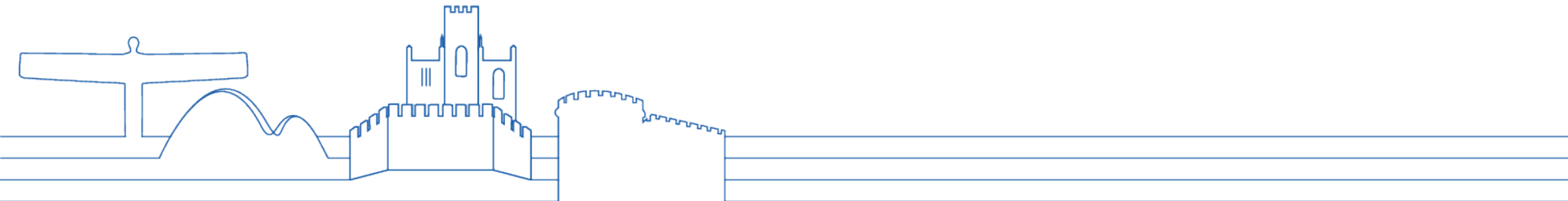
Winter Plans – current work underway to support this Winter



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The following work has become business as usual/process improvement and is being prioritised by all partners:

- Continued comms to the public regarding 'Think 111 first' to direct presentation to appropriate service
- Direct patient messaging service via GP practices
- Greater utilisation of GP 111 slots
- Internal Trust process improvements in relation to Discharge
- Implementation of Urgent Community Response
- Implementation of Virtual Wards
- Increase of Acute bed base



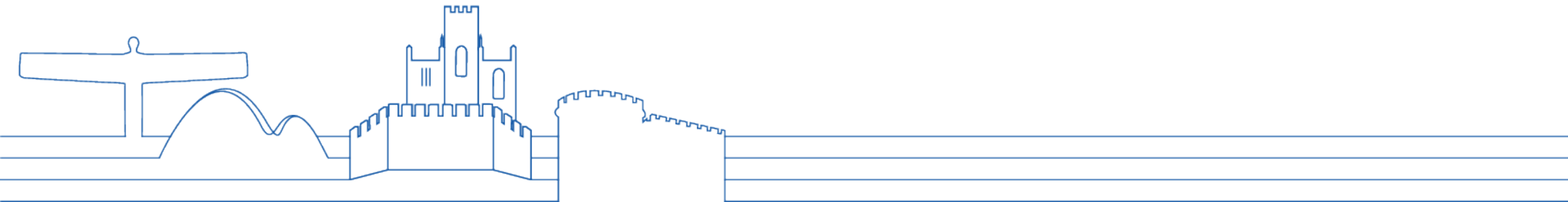
Winter Plans – potential schemes this winter



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The following schemes have been identified as potential winter schemes that would greatly support the UEC system if implemented ahead of winter:

- Additional capacity into Primary Care
- Additional capacity into Urgent Treatment Centres
- Additional capacity into Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) or equivalent
- Commissioning of Care Home/Intermediate care beds to support medically optimised patients
- Expansion of Home First and Discharge Teams
- Private Transport provision to support with discharge
- Management support to GP practices in times of SURGE





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Thank you

