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Cydweithrediad Iechyd GIG Cymru
NHS Wales Health Collaborative

Laboratory Information Network Cymru (LINC)

LINC Overview

July 2021

Laboratory Information Network Cymru

Designing the future of pathology through innovation

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LINC Aim

The *aim* of the LINC Programme is to enable the development of modern, safe, sustainable pathology services through end-to-end information systems & services.

It underpins the delivery of the Welsh Government Pathology Statement of Intent.

A key component is to further standardise pathology services across Wales through the procurement and implementation of a standardised laboratory information management system (LIMS) service.

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LINC Strategic Objectives

1. Learn the lessons from WLIMS1
2. Deliver benefits that improve patient care, safety & outcomes
3. Engage the Pathology and wider NHS to ensure commitment
4. Procure new LIMS Service to replace three current LIMS
5. Ensure long term ownership and management of the service
6. Deliver a seamless end-to-end electronic Pathology solution
7. Standardise Pathology services, with warranted variation
8. Establish a national quality management service and system
9. Develop information and business intelligence services
10. Develop a different approach to integration services

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Andrology
Blood sciences / Blood transfusion
Cellular pathology / mortuary
Microbiology
Welsh Blood Service
Screening services
POCT

34+ million test requests pa
Routine and international work
21 laboratories
>2,000 staff
2%-5% demand increase pa
Shortage of consultants

Pathology

Requesters from:
NHS primary & secondary care
Prisons, private hospitals, hospices
Veterinary practices
Environmental health
Natural Resources Wales

Advances in:
Covid testing
Genetics testing
Artificial intelligence

Current Position

- Three LIMS in place
  - InterSystems TrakCare Lab 2016 (upgraded December 2020)
    - Individual health board configuration
  - Dedalus Telepath (>40 years old)
    - Blood Transfusion for 4 health boards
    - Cellular Pathology in Cardiff and Vale UHB
  - Clinisys Masterlab (>25 years old)
    - Blood Transfusion for 2 health boards
- InterSystems contract ends June 2025
  - Cannot be renewed
    - no legal contractual basis
    - product end of life

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LIMS Service

- Supplier hosted LIMS application providing core and discipline specific functionality for defined pathology services to the required standards.
- Additional tools, including:
  - Document scanning
  - Digital dictation, speech recognition and voice command
  - Vein-to-vein blood tracking with remote issue
  - Integration to the national pathology exchange (NPEx)
- Business intelligence and reporting solution.
- An optional tool for electronic test requesting.
- 99.99% availability

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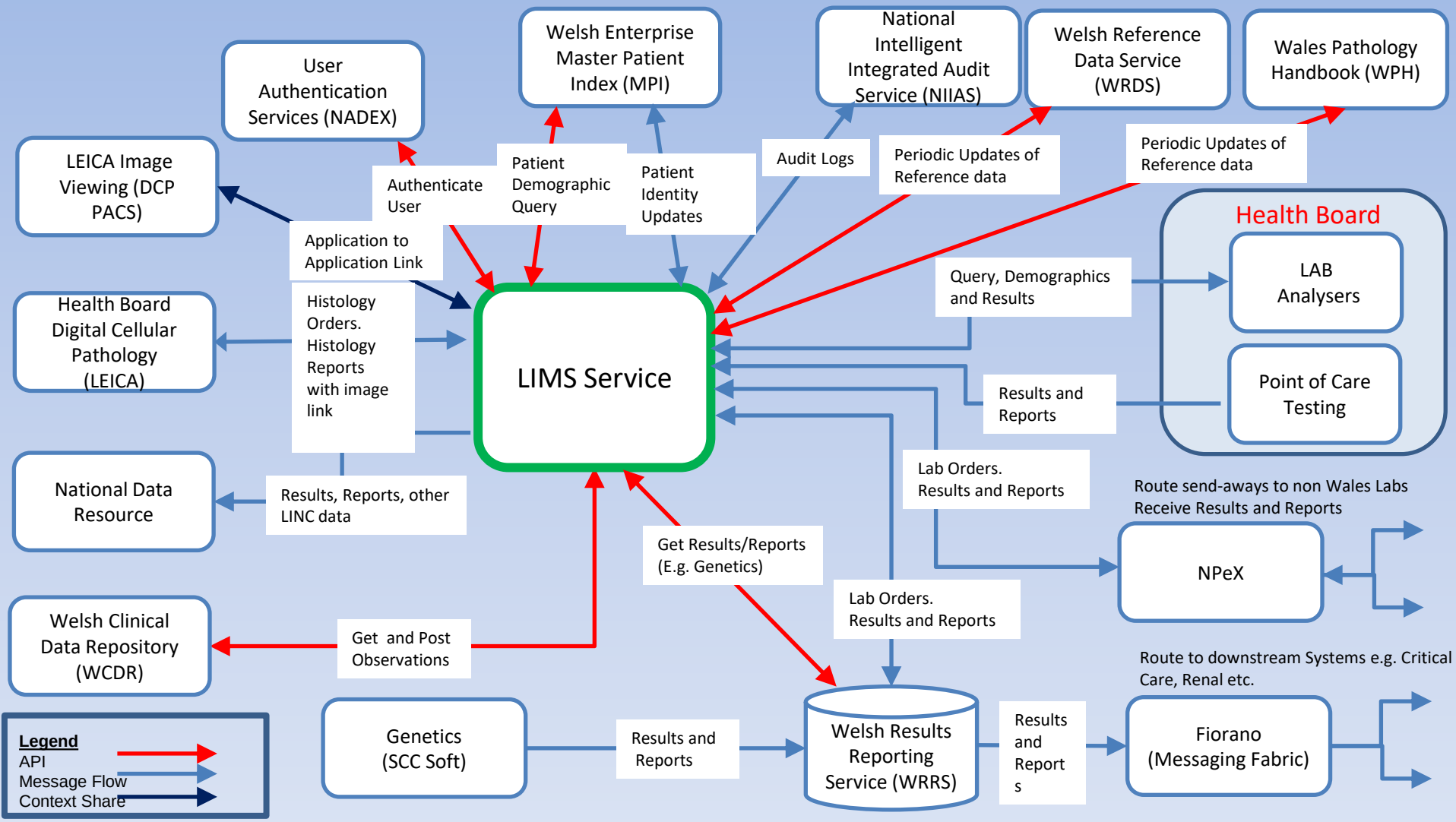
Procurement Strategy

- Master Services Agreement
  - DHCW Contracting Authority
- Local Deployment Orders
- Competitive Dialogue procurement
  - January 2020 – April 2021
- Contract 7 years plus 1 plus 1
- Single, prime contractor solution
- Contract value £22m
- 4 years exit support

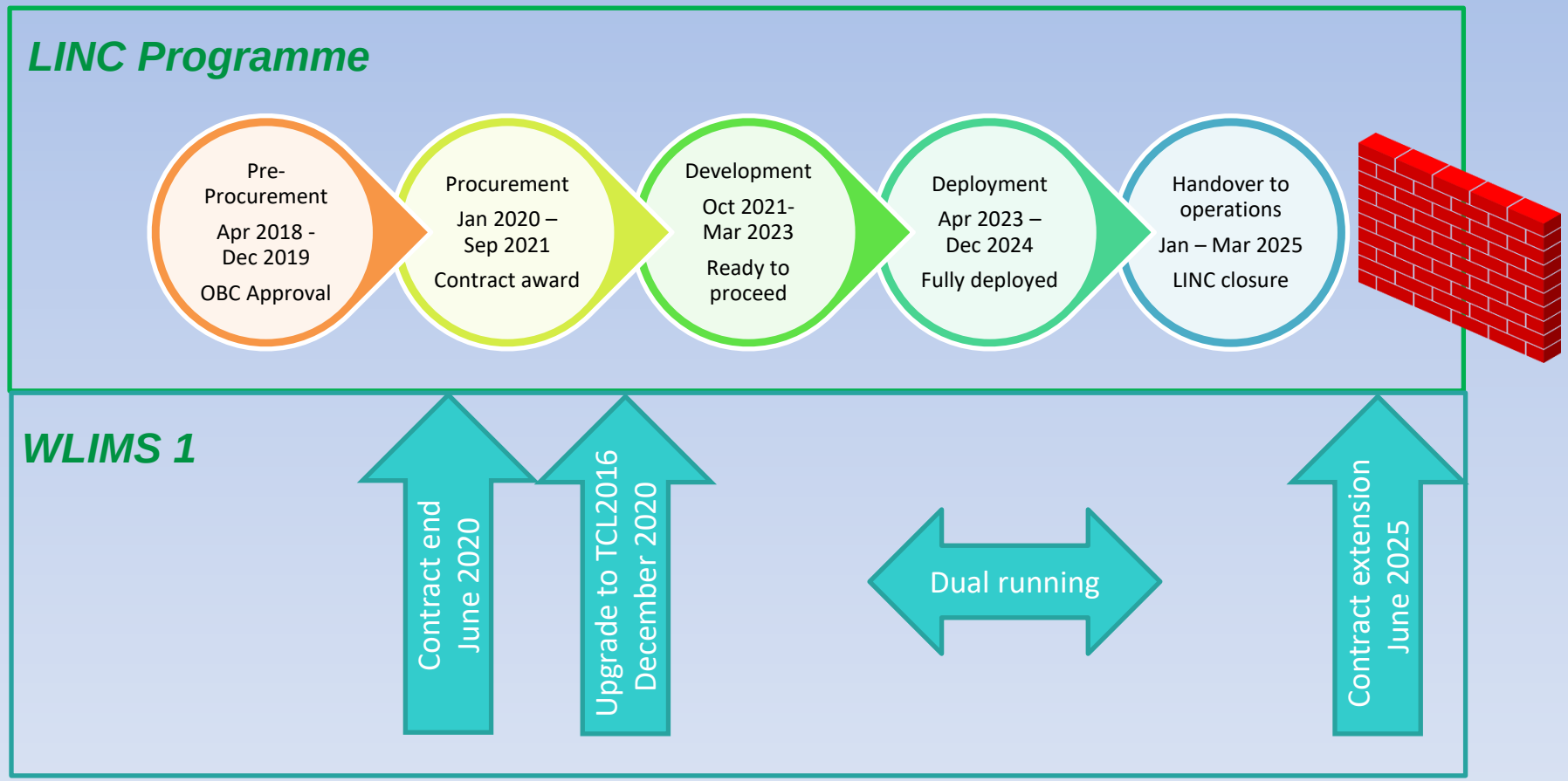
LINC Integration Summary



LINC Timeframe

Tranche 0	Tranche 1	Tranche 2	Tranche 3	Tranche 4
Pre-procurement	Procurement	Development	Deployment	Close
Apr18-Dec19	Jan20-Sep21	Oct21-Mar23	Apr23-Dec24	Jan25-Mar25
Outline business case Contract documentation Standardisation approach Quality management	Procurement Benefits specification Standardisation design Business change Full business case	Hosting LIMS Service - development - Testing - UAT - Validation Once for Wales Preparation for deployment	1. CAV & PHW Screening (6 mths) 2. CTM (3 mths) 3. BCU (3 mths) 4. SBU (3 mths) 5. ABU (3 mths) 6. HDU (3 mths)	Handover to operations Programme closure

LINC Critical Path



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Development

Oct 2021-
Mar 2023

Ready to
proceed

LIMS Service Development

Review future state
Benefits plan
Assets defined
Prepare for deployment

Infrastructure testing
Integration testing
LIMS familiarisation
Role based access testing

User acceptance testing
Detailed deployment planning

All Wales Local Deployment Projects

Phase 1
Oct 21 – Mar 22

- Infrastructure installed
- Design agreed

Phase 2
Apr – Sep 22

- Configuration
- Operational acceptance testing
- Requirements testing

Phase 3
Oct 22 – Mar 23

- User acceptance testing
- Clinical safety evaluation

Validation
GAMP 5

Installation qualification

Operational qualification

Performance qualification

Cutover qualification

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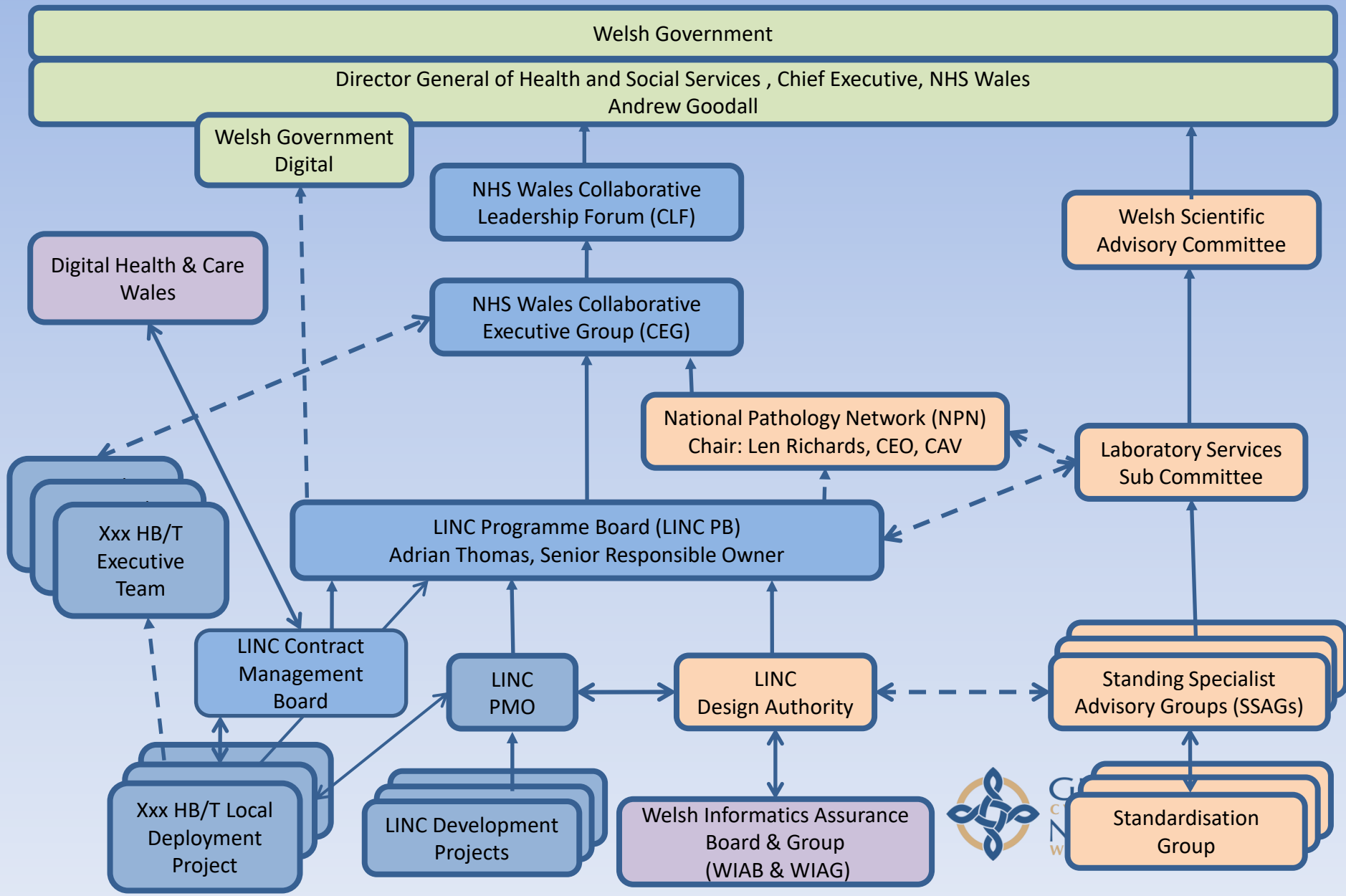
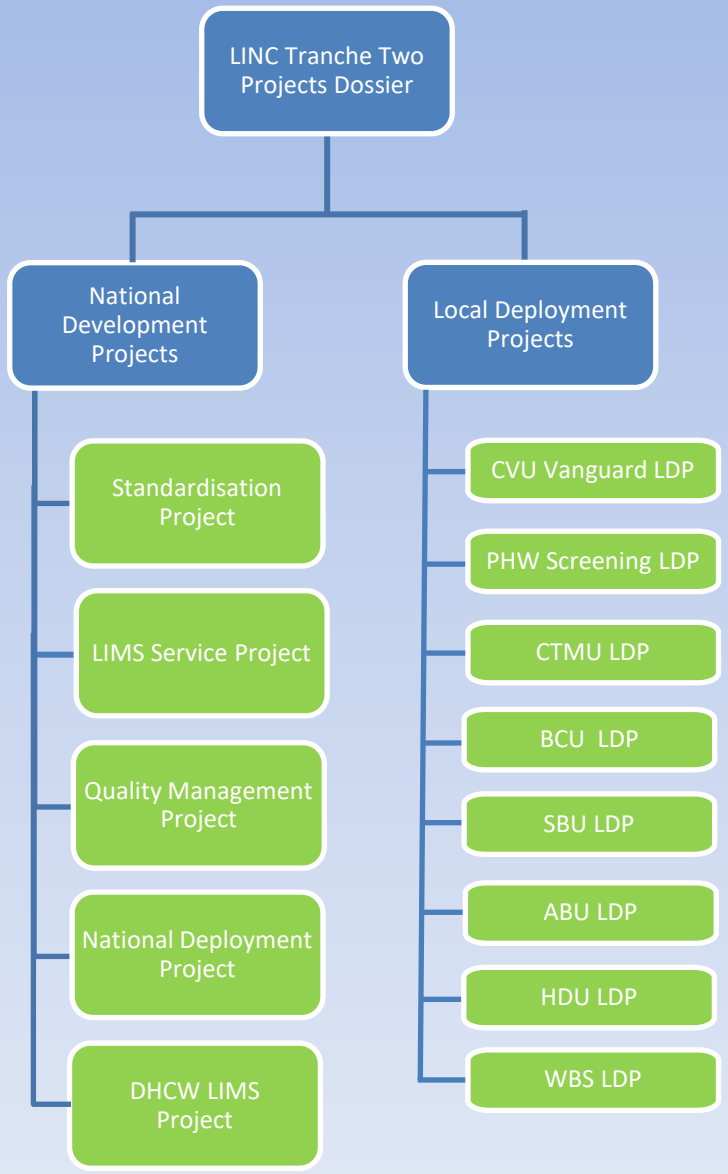
LINC Tranche Two Programme Governance



LINC Projects Dossier Tranche 2



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