

Partnerships Committee 13 January 2021

Public question submitted

Given that:

1. The introduction of a so-called integrated care system (ICS) for Cheshire and Merseyside will lead to wholesale further privatisation, fragmentation and loss of democratic accountability in our National Health Service; and that:
2. Any changes will end democratic control of a genuinely NATIONAL health service, including even the limited accountability provided by the existence of a Wirral clinical commissioning group; and that:
3. At a previous meeting it was resolved *“That the Partnerships Committee considers that local people, patient groups and other invested parties be consulted before any large scale Clinical Commissioning Group mergers are considered for Wirral. Furthermore, this Committee calls for a meeting with our counterparts from all other authorities involved in these proposals.”*; and that:
4. Opposition to the plan for so-called integrated care is the policy of many political parties (including the party of Wirral Council’s majority); and that:
5. Campaigners have exposed the dangerous rationale behind these proposed changes to the NHS (see for example [We say NO! to proposed NHS legislation that would restrict access to care and profit global companies – Calderdale and Kirklees 999 Call for the NHS \(wordpress.com\)](#))

Can I ask:

Will this Committee pause all involvement in the development of the Cheshire and Merseyside ICS, including any nomination of members to the new Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for Cheshire and Merseyside, pending such consultations and meeting referred to in 3 above?