



PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

9th NOVEMBER 2021

REPORT TITLE:	NHS WIRRAL CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (CCG): COMMISSIONING AND FINANCE
REPORT OF:	SIMON BANKS, CHIEF OFFICER, NHS WIRRAL CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP AND WIRRAL HEALTH AND CARE COMMISSIONING

REPORT SUMMARY

Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group is statutorily accountable for commissioning health services for the population of Wirral. Commissioning is the process of assessing needs, planning and prioritising, purchasing and monitoring health services to get the best health outcomes. Subject to legislation, CCGs will be abolished on 31st March 2022 and their functions transferred to Integrated Care Boards on 1st April 2022.

The Partnerships Committee have asked to receive information on the functions and activities of NHS Wirral CCG. The NHS Wirral CCG Annual Report 2020/21 gives an overview of the work of the organisation and is attached to this paper.

The Partnerships Committee have specifically asked for further information on matters pertaining to performance and finance, the relevant papers extracted from the last public Governing Body held on 7th September 2021 are attached to this paper. The next public Governing Body is due to be held on 16th November 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

Partnerships Committee is recommended to note the report and supporting documentation and decide what further action it wishes to take.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 This report is for the information of the Partnership Committee. It is therefore recommended that the Partnership Committee notes the report and supporting documentation and decides what further action it wishes to take.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This is a report for information and therefore does not present options for consideration or recommendation.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and became statutory NHS organisations on 1st April 2013. CCGs were preceded by Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), which were abolished on 31st March 2013.
- 3.2 NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group is statutorily accountable for commissioning health services for the population of Wirral. Commissioning is the process of assessing needs, planning and prioritising, purchasing and monitoring health services to get the best health outcomes.
- 3.3 NHS Wirral CCG commissions most of the hospital and community NHS services in Wirral. CCGs are assured by NHS England, which retains responsibility for commissioning primary care services such as GP and dental services, as well as some specialised hospital services. NHS Wirral CCG has delegated authority from NHS England to commission GP services on their behalf.
- 3.4 All GP practices belong to a CCG, but CCGs also include other health professionals, such as nurses. Services CCGs commission include:
- most planned hospital care
 - rehabilitative care
 - urgent and emergency care (including out-of-hours)
 - most community health services
 - mental health and learning disability services.
- 3.5 NHS Wirral CCG has been working in partnership with Wirral Council for the last four years through the vehicle of Wirral Health and Care Commissioning. This has facilitated joint commissioning of health and care services in a number of areas including services for people with learning disabilities and/or autism and for community services.
- 3.6 The Health and Care Bill introduced in Parliament on 6th July 2021 confirmed the Government's intentions to introduce statutory arrangements for integrated care systems (ICSs) from April 2022. Under this legislation, CCGs will be abolished on 31st March 2022. Statutory functions, currently exercised by CCGs, will be conferred on Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) from 1st April 2022, along with the transfer of all

CCG staff, assets and liabilities (including commissioning responsibilities and contracts). Relevant duties of CCGs include those regarding health inequalities, quality, safeguarding, children in care and children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability. While preparations for these new arrangements are being made, all NHS organisations must continue to operate within the current legislative framework retaining any governance mechanisms necessary to maintain operational delivery (including patient safety, quality and financial performance).

- 3.7 The Partnerships Committee have asked to receive information on the functions and activities of NHS Wirral CCG. The NHS Wirral CCG Annual Report 2020/21 gives an overview of the work of the organisation and is attached to this paper.
- 3.8 The NHS Wirral CCG Governing Body also meets regularly in public. The Governing Body papers are published on the NHS Wirral CCG website (<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/about-us/governing-body-meetings/>). These papers contain more information about the work of NHS Wirral CCG. Given that the Partnerships Committee have specifically asked for further information on matters pertaining to performance and finance, the relevant papers extracted from the last public Governing Body held on 7th September 2021 are attached to this paper. The next public Governing Body is due to be held on 16th November 2021.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None as a direct result of this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None as a direct result of this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 None as a direct result of this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 None as a direct result of this report. Risk registers are produced to cover this activity and appropriate mitigations have been taken against any relevant risks.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 None as a direct result of this report.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 NHS Wirral CCG and Wirral Council have a legal requirement to make sure their policies, and the way they carry out their work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help public services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity. These will be taken into account in this work.

This report is for information and no EIA is required.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) takes its responsibilities to the environment very seriously. It undertakes a range of measures that are mindful of the future environment, these include:

- Recycling paper and plastics
- Use of motion operated lighting and hence when rooms are not utilised, lights automatically switch off
- Staff are actively encouraged to turn off their laptops when not in use
- All procurements require potential bidders to describe their approach to sustainability
- The CCG operates from a single site therefore reducing the usage of cars
- Purchase of new, more efficient and environmentally friendly printers
- Utilisation of back to back printing where paper copies of documents are required to be printed
- Using tablet computers and laptops for staff who frequently attend meetings
- Storing scanned documents electronically where legally appropriate
- NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group's Headquarters are co-located in Marriss House (Birkenhead) based on a shared cost rental lease agreement with the University of Chester held by Wirral Council.

For the entirety of 2020/21 all CCG staff have been working remotely due to the coronavirus pandemic. This has meant CCG has not been utilising an office environment and this, in turn, has meant almost no travel to meetings.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The NHS in Wirral is a key contributor to an economy that benefits all of our residents and one which keeps money within Wirral; a prosperous, inclusive economy where local people can get good jobs and achieve their aspirations.

Examples of this include:

- Local Employment – creation of local employment and training opportunities, the NHS is one of the biggest employers in the borough.
- Maximising the Wirral Pound – buying locally where possible to reduce unemployment and raise local skills.
- Community development - development of resilient local community and community support organisations, especially in those areas and communities with the greatest need, as demonstrated in our work with local communities and partnerships with the voluntary, community, social enterprise and faith sectors.
- Good Employer - support for staff development and welfare within our employment policies and practices.
- Green and Sustainable: protecting the environment, minimising waste and energy consumption and using other resources efficiently.

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APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 NHS Wirral CCG Annual Report
- Appendix 2 NHS Wirral CCG Finance Report to Month 4
- Appendix 3 NHS Wirral CCG, Quality and Safety Report
- Appendix 4 NHS Wirral CCG, Summary of Performance against Constitutional Standards, August 2021
- Appendix 5 NHS Wirral CCG, Commissioning Policy 2019-20

The PDF files may not be suitable to view for people with disabilities, users of assistive technology or mobile phone devices. Please contact wiccg.communications@nhs.net if you would like this document in an accessible format.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- NHS Wirral CCG Governing Body Papers - <https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/about-us/governing-body-meetings/>