

WIRRAL PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP BOARD**12th January 2023**

REPORT TITLE:	PLACE PARTNERSHIP BRIEFING – NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
REPORT OF:	PLACE DIRECTOR, NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE

REPORT SUMMARY

This briefing is intended to update and seek the involvement of Place Partnerships in the development of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside’s Public Engagement Framework (our draft strategy for working with people and communities). Place Partnerships are key to developing effective public involvement mechanisms for local people, that in turn, can inform the work of Integrated Care System (ICS) partners.

Healthwatch, the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector (VCFSE), our Councils, hospitals, providers of primary care, and other partners already have well-established ways of involving people and communities at a local level. Cheshire and Merseyside’s legacy Clinical Commissioning Groups also left an involvement infrastructure, which will provide a basis for some of our future work in Place.

As a new statutory organisation, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside wants to connect with, and build on these strengths and assets in the delivery of our legal duties for public involvement. The draft Public Engagement Framework is built around 10 key principles for working with people and communities (pg. 13). These principles were developed by NHS England, the Local Government Association, Healthwatch England and the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action. They have recently been the subject of national public consultation and have been published in [statutory guidance](#).

It is proposed that, following the establishment of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, and the recent relaunch of the Health and Care Partnership (‘the ICP’) on a new statutory footing, that ICS partners endorse and collectively ‘sign up’ to these principles - as a first step in co-producing a coherent and connected to approach to public involvement in C&M.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Wirral Place Based Partnership Board is recommended to

- 1) Endorse the ten key principles for working with people and communities, as set out in NHS Cheshire and Merseyside’s *draft Public Engagement Framework* (pg.13) and

NHS England's *Working in partnership with people and communities*: [statutory guidance](#).

- 2) Provide feedback and comments on the draft Public Engagement Framework

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside is seeking endorsement for the key principles outlined in the draft Public Engagement Framework and seeking comments and feedback from Place Partnerships.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options were considered as the framework applies to NHS Cheshire and Merseyside and the purpose of this paper is to inform and seek comment.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 As a statutory body, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside has a legal duty to involve the public and is required to have a strategy for working with people and communities. Each shadow Integrated Care Board (ICB) was required to submit a draft strategy to NHS England's Transformation and Participation team by the national deadline of 27 May 2022.
- 3.2 As part of national readiness to operate requirements for ICBs, the strategy was to be drafted in line with [ICS implementation guidance for working with people and communities](#), recently superseded by the publication of [statutory guidance](#) for ICBs and NHS providers (following national consultation) on 12 July, against a nationally prescribed content guide.
- 3.3 Work to develop the 'Public Engagement Framework' – was first launched at the C&M Partnership Assembly meeting of 14 December 2021 and subsequently presented at the ICS Development Advisory Group meeting of 31 March 2021.
- 3.4 Strategy development was then taken forward by a Task and Finish group mobilised on 1 April 2022 as part of the ICS Transition Programme, including an engagement representative from each CCG (now Place) – tasked with linking with local multi-agency forums in Place.
- 3.5 Cheshire and Merseyside's local Healthwatch and VCFSE leaders were members of the T&F group (as subject matter experts) and were also commissioned to co-produce the framework and run a series of workshops in each of the nine C&M Places.
- 3.6 As part of this commissioned activity, local Healthwatch and VCFSE produced feedback reports - that have been used to shape the further development of the draft Public Engagement Framework - and will be used moving forward as key insight and

intelligence to inform the development and connectivity of effective public involvement at Place, that inform and influence ICS partners.

- 3.7 During the initial design and drafting phase (pre-July 1) the following Place forums – which include both networks for communications/involvement/patient experience professionals, and patient/public engagement and involvement groups – were invited to take part in discussions about development of the strategy:

Cheshire Communications and Engagement Group

Liverpool Health and Care Communications and Engagement Network

Knowsley Communications and Engagement network

Wirral Communications Collaborative

Sefton Engagement and Patient Experience Group and Health Information and Communications Group

Warrington Communications and Engagement Network

St Helens Stakeholder Forum

- 3.8 The Public Engagement Framework was presented and adopted as a work-in-progress draft at the first ICB meeting of 1 July, at which a clear commitment was made to ongoing engagement with ICS partners and Place Partnerships to develop our approach to working with people and communities. Following the ICB meeting of 1 July, the Public Engagement Framework has been worked up into an initial designed format, and updated in line with:

- Feedback from ICB Board members
- Feedback from the engagement activity reports commissioned from Local Healthwatch and VCFSE partners
- Feedback from NHS England's National Participation Team (via the national ICB moderation process)
- The publication (following national public consultation) of [Statutory Guidance for Working with People and Communities](#)

- 3.9 As part of the ongoing process to develop NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's draft Public Engagement it is being presented to each Place Partnership for their feedback.

- 3.10 As part of this engagement exercise, we are seeking endorsement and 'collective sign up' by Place Partnerships to the 10 key principles (pg.13) - as a springboard for further work to co-produce a coherent and connected to approach to public involvement in Cheshire and Merseyside.

- 3.11 Once this initial round of engagement with Place Partnerships has been undertaken, it is intended that a further update will be taken to the ICB in early 2023, and a presentation made to the Health and Care Partnership, to make recommendations that inform next steps.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 Wirral Council are supporting the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board and, when required, the Joint Strategic Commissioning Committee. NHS Cheshire and Merseyside will support the remaining governance and assurance infrastructure.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 NHS Cheshire and Merseyside are developing a risk management and assurance framework, which will include Place.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Engagement with system partners has taken place in the development of the Public Engagement Framework.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside have a legal requirement to make sure their policies, and the way they carry out their work, do not discriminate against anyone. This is a draft NHS Cheshire & Merseyside framework which is being shared with Boards and Committees in each of the 9 places across Cheshire and Merseyside for the purposes of review and comment. Any equality implications arising from this draft framework will be considered by the Board of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside as part of its governance process. No Equality Impact Assessment is required for this report as there is no immediate direct impact for Wirral.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Wirral Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside are committed to carrying out their work in an environmentally responsible manner, these principles will be followed by these groups.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Community Wealth Building in Wirral focusses on partnerships and collaboration. These partnerships are led by Wirral Council with external partners and stakeholders, including residents. NHS Cheshire and Merseyside will support the Council in community wealth building by ensuring health and care organisations in the borough have a focus on reducing health inequalities and contribute to the development of a resilient and inclusive economy for Wirral. The groups referred to in this report will take account of this in their work.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 CM Public Engagement Framework Draft 101022
Appendix 2 B1762 Guidance on working in partnership with people and communities

BACKGROUND PAPERS

*CM Public Engagement Framework Draft 101022 - NHS Cheshire and Merseyside
Integrated Care Board Papers - 1st July 2022*

[220701-icb-papers.pdf \(cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk\)](https://www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk/220701-icb-papers.pdf)

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date