

## Appendix 1 Update on actions from Place Review Meeting, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Update: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Ref	Date	Action	Update
1	24/10/22	Share the outputs of the work you are undertaking on stratification of NCTR.	<p>Work has been ongoing in the Wirral system to understand and intervene in terms of flow, discharges and non-criteria to reside. This action pertains to work that was undertaken in October 2022, the results of which were shared with the Place Director and Wirral Chief Executives on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022.</p> <p>This work has also been shared with NHS England's Emergency Care Intensive Support Team, with whom NHS Cheshire and Merseyside are in dialogue around the Wirral system.</p> <p>A discharge challenge, as recommended to the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, took place between 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The final report and action plan has been requested.</p>
2	24/10/22	Share the work undertaken to date on the strategic mapping of the care home marketplace including risk analysis.	<p>Wirral Council were approached following receipt of the Place Review summary letter on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022. They have responded as below:</p> <p>Wirral Council recognises that the number of care homes rated in quality by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) as less than "Good" places the borough low on the league table as compared with regional Local Authorities (LAs). The Council has a Quality Improvement Team which works with "Inadequate" and "Requires Improvement" care home providers to support their Improvement Plans and to monitor progress on their journey to improved quality ratings. The Council's Contracts Team have all care homes RAG rated using a validated and recognised Provider Assessment and Assurance tool, and the Contract Team takes actions where risk is identified, such as suspension on new care home admissions, or working alongside CQC with any enforcement action by the regulator. Wirral continues to have an above average number of care home beds, and a high number of care home providers. Care Home vacancy rates are monitored closely and there continues to be sufficient capacity overall across the market, with a typical vacancy rate of approximately 11.5%. The Council is developing a Care Home Quality Improvement Strategy.</p>

3	24/10/22	Please share how you have provided assurance to the domiciliary care market – including declaration and commitment on number of hours/packages the system intends to buy.	<p>Wirral Council were approached following receipt of the Place Review summary letter on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022. They have responded as below:</p> <p>Wirral Council has invested significantly with the domiciliary care market to ensure that the workforce is paid at least the Real Living Wage and that domiciliary care provider organisations are supported with incentives and enhancements to aid recruitment and retention. For the last five months, an upward trajectory has demonstrated an increased number of hours allocated, an increased number of new recruits with an overall net increase in the workforce. The overall waiting list for domiciliary care has reduced, and the waiting list for hospital discharges has reduced from its previous levels. Whilst the domiciliary care sector remains challenging due to recruitment and retention pressures regionally and nationally, there has been a significant marked increase in the sector's capacity in Wirral. The domiciliary care provider organisations have regular dialogue with the Council's commissioning team and providers are aware of the pressures and the need to support maximum discharges. The domiciliary care providers are paid for the care delivered, rather than a block contract amount, and they are fully briefed on the Council's priorities to support as many people in their own homes as possible. The Council has grown its Extra Care Housing offer significantly, which supports several people who were previously receiving domiciliary care in their own homes. The Council is also in full support of the planned expansion of the Home First and Reablement model which should result in less demand for intensive and long-term packages of domiciliary care at the point of hospital discharge, as the service offer becomes more widely available.</p>
4	24/10/22	Update on PBPB development programme.	This requires action and support from the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside corporate team. There was also a request from Wirral Place for NHS Cheshire and Merseyside to provide Wirral specific performance and finance reports and to give a timeline for the delegation of further responsibilities to place.
5	24/10/22	Update on the underspend of the ARRS funding, including the development needs in order to understand how C&M ICB can support.	Wirral is not underspending against the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) funding allocated to general practice in place. Discussions are starting shortly via the Wirral Place Primary Care Network (PCN) Forum to establish the approach taken by PCNs, supported by data and plans, to

			<p>validate their approach to their ARRS recruitment and future workforce planning. There have been challenges with the recruitment of Mental Health practitioner roles in two PCNs. NHS Cheshire and Merseyside has facilitated and continues to support conversations between Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and PCNs to progress recruitment to these roles.</p>
6	24/10/22	Update on the outcome of the decision on the Social Care contract.	<p>Wirral Council's Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee received a report on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022 setting out how, since 2017, social work functions have been delivered through two key contractual arrangements. These are held with Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (WCHCFT) and Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP). These arrangements contract out the Council's statutory duties to assess the needs of people who may need social care and support services and functions including assessment, support planning, safeguarding, mental health assessment and professional case management. The responsibility and accountability for the delivery of these duties remains with Council. Accountability is held by the Director of Adult Care and Health, and constitutionally through the delegated duties of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee.</p> <p>On 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the Committee resolved, amongst other matters, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• extend the contract with WCHCFT for the provision of social care services on substantially the same terms and conditions for a period of 1 year, ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 [with the option to extend];</li> <li>• extend the contract with CWP for the delivery of All Age Disability and Mental Health Services on substantially the same terms and conditions for a period of 1 year, ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 [with the option to extend]; and</li> <li>• approve that a further report be brought to the Committee setting out the considerations involved in moving towards returning the provision of social care services and all age disability and mental health services to the Council's direct delivery.</li> </ul> <p>The intention behind the proposed extension agreement was that it would</p>

			<p>enable both NHS Trusts to continue to provide Social Work services on behalf of the Council, within the current contract to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. This would enable more detailed work and consideration of the issues involved in moving towards return of provision to the Council whilst maintaining the best aspects of integrated provision.</p> <p>The Committee is meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to receive an update of the current position on contractual arrangements. This follows receipt of correspondence from the contracted NHS organisations regarding the decision of the Committee. One of the Council's two contractors for social care, WCHCFT, has rejected the Council's offer of a further one-year contract extension from September 2023 until September 2024. The Trust has advised that this is specifically due to perceived risk to the organisation. The Trust has subsequently notified the Council of its purported termination of the current contract and intention to return the provision of social care services to the Council by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. Written notice was provided by WCHCFT on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022, with a request that the Council considers an option to extend a five-year contract to WCHCFT as an alternative. The Committee will consider the Council's position in relation to the decision of the Trust's Board. The Trust and Wirral Council officers are currently working closely together to facilitate a safe and effective transfer that will support staff through the change of employer and maintain the best aspects of integrated working.</p>
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