

APPENDIX 4

WIRRAL PLACE STRATEGY AND TRANSFORMATION GROUP, 19th JANUARY 2023, HIGHLIGHT REPORT

1. Governance

The Terms of Reference for the Sustainability and Transformation Group (STG) are a standing item on the agenda for reference and noting. The membership of the group has been confirmed with the voluntary, faith, community and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector confirming two representatives who will attend the STG on behalf of the sector. Primary care colleagues have agreed to initially nominate two representatives, although the Terms of Reference allow for up to four representatives to reflect that primary care covers community dentistry, pharmacy and optometry as well as general practice.

2. Strategy and Planning

2.1 NHS 2023/24 Priorities and Operational Planning Guidance

The STG received the NHS 2023/24 Priorities and Operational Planning Guidance. The Wirral Place Based Partnership Board (PBPB) received a paper on 9th February 2023 which provided an outline of this document. The STG discussed the Wirral response to this guidance, which involves a refresh of the Wirral Health and Care Delivery Plan 2022/23. This refresh is being supported by a series of system workshops and through the contracting round. The final draft of the Wirral Health and Care Delivery Plan 2023/24 will be brought to the June meeting of the PBPB.

2.2 Home First Proposal

The STG received a presentation on Home First. Home First means assessing someone's long term care and therapy needs in their home environment. It is national guidance that all NHS and social care services should adopt a Home First Approach. There is an expectation that the majority of people on Pathway 1 could go home once medically fit for discharge and would be safe to be supported with visiting services operating 8am-10pm, in line with the current Home First offer. The presentation outlined progress in developing a Home First offer in Wirral and the successes of this approach.

The presentation highlighted that the Wirral model is not yet a true Home First offer as there is still ongoing ward-based assessments for people going home. It identified that there needed to be a shared system vision and high-level model to take forward the next steps to implement an enhanced offer. This requires a system decision on ongoing funding to set substantive staffing levels and inform recruitment plans for an interim period of double running. Further developments would also need to connect with the Wirral Council reablement review.

3. Delivery and Assurance

3.1 Adult Social Care Discharge Fund Update

On 18th November 2022, the Government confirmed that the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund would be released through local authorities and integrated care boards (ICBs) to pool into local Better Care Fund (BCF) arrangements. The presentation to the STG outlined how the £2.8m allocated to Wirral through NHS

Cheshire and Merseyside and the £1.5m allocated directly to Wirral Council was being utilised.

Discussion also took place in regard to the announcement on 13th January 2023 of an additional national allocation of £200m to be used to purchase bedded step-down capacity plus associated clinical support for patients with no criteria to reside but who cannot be discharged with the capacity available through existing funding routes of the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund. Unlike the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund, which will be recurrent for 2023/24, this funding is short term and ceases on 31st March 2023.

3.2 Discharge Challenge – Learning and Next Steps

A Discharge Challenge took place between 5th and 9th December 2022. The STG received a copy of the draft report from this event. The STG asked that the final report, lessons learnt and next steps be brought to the meeting on 16th February 2022 by the Chief Operating Officers.

3.3 Shared Systems Options Appraisal

This presentation highlighted an opportunity to review the mechanisms for sharing and aggregating patient and client records in Wirral. There is work being undertaken across Cheshire and Merseyside to look at a common approach to shared care records. There is also an existing contract with Cerner, held by Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (WUTH), for the systems that are used in Wirral. The presentation proposed that an options appraisal with a recommendation should be produced by May 2023 for all interested parties. This proposal was supported by the STG.

3.4 Priority Project Highlight Reports

The STG received updates on three key delivery projects sitting in the Urgent and Emergency Care Programme for Wirral.

3.4.1 Care Market Sufficiency

This project aims to ensure sufficiency in community care market to respond local need. This will be achieved by increasing the capacity and responsiveness of domiciliary care provision to support Pathway One discharges from (i) hospital, (ii) Home First service and (iii) Clatterbridge Intermediate Care Centre (CICC). There is also a focus on meeting requests for packages of support from people living at home in their communities. It was reported that this project is on track, but the care market metrics are slightly below target. The care market has been responsive in relation to current hospital pressures and are working closely with assessment and discharge schemes.

3.4.2 Discharge to Assess (D2A) Reablement

The scope and deliverables of this project have changed significantly since it was established. The reason for the change in scope is due to significant additional investment from Wirral Place through Winter Funding monies, an increase in staff establishment and an extension in service provision to include WUTH discharges alongside CICC. This project is driving the implementation of Home First. The update to the STG reiterated the information given in the presentation to the same meeting (see 2.2 above).

3.4.3 Virtual Wards

Virtual wards will provide Wirral with a significant opportunity to support the pressure on acute bed capacity, by providing an alternative to admission and/or early discharge by supporting people in their own homes for up to 14 days. There are two aspects to this programme - respiratory and frailty. The respiratory scheme had exceeded targets for December 2022 (target 58 people/achieved 88 people). The frailty scheme had met targets for December 2022 (target 40 people/achieved 40 people). Risks were highlighted for the next stage of the frailty beds roll out due to delays in recruitment.

4. Next Meetings

16th February 2023

16th March 2023

20th April 2023

Simon Banks, Place Director (Wirral)
Chair, Strategy and Transformation Group
23rd January 2023