



WIRRAL PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP BOARD

THURSDAY 22 JUNE 2023

REPORT TITLE:	TRANSFER OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE CONTRACT FROM WCHC TO WIRRAL COUNCIL
REPORT OF:	KAREN HOWELL OBE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER WIRRAL COMMUNITY HEALTH AND CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is:

- To provide evidence of the impact and improved position that Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (WCHC) made whilst delivering services via the Adult Social Care (ASOC) contract to date; and how it has added value having adult social care services provided alongside NHS Healthcare
- To provide evidence that ASOC services have performed well and beyond contract, up to the point of transfer, delivering person-centred, safe support whilst delivering all care on budget and making the required financial efficiencies
- To describe the joint approach with Wirral Council (WC) and specific actions taken by WCHC to ensure the safe and seamless transfer of the service by 30 June 2023.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

This is not a key decision.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Wirral Place Based Partnership Board is recommended to note the content of the report and highlight any areas requiring further clarification or action.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure Wirral Place Based Partnership Board has the opportunity to understand the impact that Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (WCHC) has had in delivering Adult Social Care (ASOC), performance up to the point of transfer and the joint approach with Wirral Council (WC) to ensure the safe and effective transfer of the service on 30 June 2023 and the retention of best practice.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 No further option to be considered.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In 2017 WC and WCHC implemented a Section 75 Agreement to transfer ASOC to WCHC. The aim was to provide integrated seamless health and social care services for older people and adults.
- 3.2 The ASOC contract expired on 31 March 2022. A contract extension was offered until September 2023 to enable a review of the service to take place. Following the review, the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee made the decision not to renew the 5-year contract and put in place an extension until September 2024.
- 3.3 WCHC could not accept the extension due to the significant risks to the retention and welfare of staff and the potential of destabilisation to service provision. These risks could not be satisfied by each organisation resulting in WCHC agreeing that the risks were of such consequence and potential that mitigation could not be put in place to ensure during the short term the integrity and the retention of essential staff confirming its intention to cease delivery of the ASOC Service on 31 March 23.
- 3.4 On 11 January 2023 WC's Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee resolved in response to the notice, that the Committee would expect WC to secure a safe, effective, and timely transfer that puts staff at the centre of the process. A joint project plan was produced at the request of WC to ensure a safe and effective transfer. The 06 March 2023 Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee approved the project plan to complete the transfer by midnight 30 March 2023.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 There are no project risks to the transfer plan due to robust mitigation identified at weekly joint project meetings.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Not applicable.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report due to the service not being redesigned.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Not applicable.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Consideration as part of internal plan.

REPORT AUTHOR: Sharon Clunn, Deputy Director of Contracts and Commissioning
sharon.clunn@nhs.net
Simon Garner, Deputy Director Adult Social Care
simon.garner@nhs.net

APPENDICES – Evidence report

BACKGROUND PAPERS – Adult Social Care (ASOC) contract

TERMS OF REFERENCE – Not applicable

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Not Applicable	