

**WIRRAL PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP BOARD****28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>PRIMARY CARE GROUP HIGHLIGHT REPORT</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>PLACE DIRECTOR (WIRRAL), NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

NHS Cheshire and Merseyside is working with each of the nine places in the Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care System (ICS) to establish robust governance and assurance mechanisms through strong partnership arrangements. The Wirral Place Based Partnership Board (WPBPB) is the forum where NHS Cheshire and Merseyside will conduct business pertaining to the Borough transparently in the public domain and in collaboration with system partners. These arrangements will also support further delegation of decision making and resources to each Borough.

The WPBPB is supported by four key governance and assurance groups. This paper is a highlight report from the Primary Care Group.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

It is recommended that the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board notes the work of the Primary Care Group and continues to receive updates as a standing agenda item.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The Primary Care Group has been established to oversee the exercise of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's statutory powers in Wirral relating to the provision of GP primary medical services under the NHS Act 2006, as amended by the Health and Care Act 2022, and other primary care services as delegated in future. The Group will report on these matters to the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board to support the effective conduct of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's business in Wirral.

### 2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 No other options were considered as this group is required by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside to support governance and assurance in Wirral on primary care matters.

### 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Since the last report to the Place Based Partnership Board the Primary Care Group has met on two occasions. This report covers the meetings held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- 3.2 The meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 considered the following items of business.
- 3.2.1 **Risk Register:** The Group reviewed the risk register that pertains to primary care services in the borough.
- 3.2.2 **Work Plan:** The Group reviewed progress against the work plan for 2023/24.
- 3.2.3 **Primary Care Report:** The Group received updates on the following;
- 3.2.4 **Progress against Fuller Stocktake Review:** The Group considered an update on the progress to-date against the recommendations within the Fuller Stocktake Review. It was noted that some of the recommendations are outside of local level control and are awaiting more guidance from NHS England (NHS E). It was agreed this would be a standing agenda item for the Group.
- 3.2.5 **Primary Care Transformation Fund:** The Group received an update on two bids submitted by Wirral Primary Care Networks (PCNs). Bid 1, - Wirral Acute Hub, was for the development and expansion of the Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) Hubs established during Winter 2022. The proposal is for Wirral wide hub(s) to provide comprehensive care enabling the management of urgent, same-day, and long-term conditions for all PCN registered patients. Bid 2 was for a collaboration between Healthier South Wirral PCN and Wirral University Teaching Hospital to enhance integration delivering a new clinical model for Women's Health. Decisions on these bids were expected by early August 2023.

- 3.2.6 **Primary Care Capacity Access Recovery Plans:** The Group were updated on PCN plans for improving capacity and access recovery - The three areas of focus being (i) patient experience of contact (ii) ease of access and demand management and (iii) accuracy of appointment recording. The plans outline the baseline starting position and there will be actions to progress and develop.
- 3.2.7 **Primary Care Dashboard development:** The Group reviewed an initial proposed dashboard detailing a wide range of indicators. The Group agreed that the dashboard is beneficial while the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside wide dashboard is being developed. It was suggested to add in narrative around the data and the period covered by the data collected.
- 3.2.8 **Primary Care Finance:** The Group received a report that detailed the base budget for Wirral Place Delegated Primary Care Commissioning for the financial year 2023/24 which is £63.469m which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in Cheshire and Merseyside. There is an anticipated £1m overspend and the Group noted the inherited legacy overspend from the previous CCG.
- 3.3 The meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023 considered the following items of business.
- 3.3.1 **Risk Register:** The Group reviewed the risk register that pertains to primary care services in the borough.
- 3.3.2 **Work Plan:** The Group reviewed progress against the work plan for 2023/24.
- 3.3.3 **Neighbourhoods:** The two trailblazers neighbourhoods are Birkenhead A and Wallasey C and now moving into mobilisation of the model and undertaking asset mapping and engagement with the population. Alongside this there is a co-production piece of work being done on the population health dashboard for these neighbourhoods.
- 3.3.4 **Asylum Seeker support:** The Group were informed that a meeting had recently taken place between Halton Place and the Home Office regarding asylum seekers and a general update had been provided for NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Executives. It was felt that more funding is a definite requirement as there is often more expenditure than reimbursement for this level of support.
- 3.3.5 **Primary Care Update:** The Group considered a paper on the non-core funding for locally commissioned services which accounts for approximately £1.284m of the Primary Care budget. This includes schemes and services across General Practice, Opticians and Community Pharmacy.
- 3.3.6 **Other contractor updates:** The Group discussed an update from NHS England about a dental provider who has five contracts (two on Wirral) where there was an under-performance issue against contract. Formal action is being taken by NHS England to resolve the situation.
- 3.3.7 **Primary Care Quality Scheme 2022/23:** The Group received a paper on the achievement metrics for each general practice and proposed payments to conclude last year's scheme.

### 3.3.8 **Primary Care Finance:** Members were asked to note:

- the year-to-date position as at Month 3 is an adverse variance to plan of £0.348m against a budget of £15.867m.
- The forecast year-end position as at Month 3 to 31st March 2024, is an adverse variance to plan of £1.349m and the risk and mitigations to delivery against the budget of £63.469m.

3.3.9 Members were also asked to note the amendments to the 2023/24 budget which were set out in the paper. Premises costs reimbursements are reporting a forecast overspend and there is one budget mitigation relating to GP Access that was not included in the delegated budget due to the timing of GP delegated commissioning to NSH Wirral CCG back in April 2020.

## **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 Board. NHS Cheshire and Merseyside will support the remaining governance and assurance infrastructure.

## **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 NHS Cheshire and Merseyside is developing a risk management and assurance framework, which will include place. The Primary Care Group has an existing Risk Register which will contribute to a Place register.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 Engagement with system partners has taken place in the development of the Terms of Reference for the Primary Care Group. This is a governance group that is required by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside for each place. The Primary Care Group has a membership that includes Healthwatch Wirral and representation from the voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector.

## **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. The business of these groups will be conducted with an awareness of the general duty requirements and place equality considerations. No Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for this report, although impact assessments have been received by the Primary Care Group in instances where they have been required to decide on a specific issue.

## 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 the Primary Care Group.

## 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 Primary Care Group will take account of this in their work.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** **Simon Banks**  
Place Director (Wirral), NHS Cheshire and Merseyside  
email: [simon.banks@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk](mailto:simon.banks@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk)

## APPENDICES

There are no appendices to this report.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

Papers brought to the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board meetings on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 provide background information on these groups and how they align to the Board.

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Wirral Place Based Partnership Board	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023