



Cheshire and Merseyside

WIRRAL PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP BOARD

THURSDAY, 19th OCTOBER 2023

REPORT TITLE:	FINANCE, INVESTMENT & RESOURCE GROUP HIGHLIGHT REPORT
REPORT OF:	ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE (WIRRAL PLACE), NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE

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 presents the key issues from the Finance, Investment and Resource Group.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Wirral Place Based Partnership Board is recommended to note the content of the report from the Finance, Investment and Resources Group.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The Finance, Investment and Resource Group has been established to develop and review financial reporting across Wirral Place to ensure that there is a focus upon deploying our resources wisely so that they contribute effectively to the health and wellbeing of our population.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 No other options were considered as it has been agreed that this group is required as part of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's governance and assurance arrangements in Wirral.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Since the last report to the Place Based Partnership Board the Finance, Investment and Resource Group has met twice, meeting on 26th July and 27th September.
- 3.2 The meeting held in July received covered the following issues:
 - 3.2.1 An update on the financial performance of the Pooled Fund at Month 3, noting that the Better Care Fund element remained in line with plan and that other pressures were emerging in relation to all age continuing care and prescribing budgets.
 - 3.2.2 The financial framework supporting the 23/24 Wirral Investment Plan was discussed and agreed. This followed on from the conclusion of the prioritisation workshops across the borough and partners confirmed agreement for the plan.
 - 3.2.3 The Wirral Place financial recovery plan was discussed noting that the ICB had asked for submission of a plan before the end of September.
 - 3.2.4 The Wirral system financial position covering NHS partners was reported for Q1 noting that the system had a year-to-date planned deficit of £10.3m compared to an actual deficit of £16.1m, an adverse variance of £5.8m. The forecast out-turn position remains in line with the planned deficit of £25.6m although all partners acknowledged significant risks to the delivery of this position. The system savings / cost improvement plan reported that £8m had been delivered in Q1 compared to a plan of £9m, an adverse variance of £1m.
- 3.3 The meeting held in September covered the following issues (subject to agreement of minutes of the meeting):
 - 3.3.1 An update on the financial performance of the Pooled Fund at Month 5, noting that the Better Care Fund element remained in line with plan and that other pressures were emerging in relation to all age continuing care and prescribing budgets.
 - 3.3.2 The Wirral system financial position covering all partners was reported for Month 5 (Local Authority report to Month 3) noting that the system had a year-to-date planned

deficit of £14.7m compared to an actual deficit of £23.0m, an adverse variance of £8.3m. The forecast out-turn position remains in line with the planned deficit of £25.6m although all partners acknowledged significant risks to the delivery of this position. The system savings / cost improvement plan reported that £16.2m had been delivered at Month 5 compared to a plan of £17.6m, an adverse variance of £1.4m.

3.3.3 The workplan for Finance, Contracting and Commissioning group of the unscheduled care board was discussed noting that the Finance and Investment Group will now take over responsibility for the financial management of the Wirral Investment Plan for the remainder of the financial year.

3.3.4 The Terms of Reference for the group were reviewed in line with planned date. The inclusion of a primary medical services representative within the group was noted.

3.3.5 The group reviewed and updated its workplan.

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 reporting the financial position and managing the associated risks through its Board Assurance Framework. This includes the risks identified with the delivery of the financial plan.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Engagement with system partners has taken place in the development of the Terms of Reference for the Finance, Investment and Resources Group. This is a group that has been agreed as part of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's governance for Wirral. The Finance, Investment and Resources 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 will be required for any service changes proposed through the Finance, Investment and Resources Group.

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 Finance, Investment and Resources 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 Finance, Investment Group will take account of this in their work.

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APPENDICES

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Wirral Place Based Partnership Board	13 th October 2022 8 th December 2022 9 th February 2023 9 th March 2023