



Cheshire and Merseyside

WIRRAL PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP BOARD

THURSDAY, 19th OCTOBER 2023

REPORT TITLE:	PRIMARY CARE GROUP HIGHLIGHT REPORT
REPORT OF:	PLACE DIRECTOR (WIRRAL), 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 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 one occasion. This report covers the meeting held on 26th September 2023 (no scheduled meeting in August 2023).
- 3.2 The meeting held on 26th September 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 and agreed to remove the risk associated with floating accommodation for asylum seekers. It was also agreed to re-format the register to align with the new Cheshire and Merseyside ICB risk register template.
- 3.2.2 **Work Plan:** The Group reviewed progress against the work plan for 2023/24.
- 3.2.3 **Review of Terms of Reference:** The Group received updated terms of reference to account for changes in meetings frequency, quoracy accuracy and updated job titles for members.
- 3.2.4 **Medicines Management reporting:** The Group considered an illustrative example of the medicines management summary report which is part of the Medicines Management Group agenda. It was agreed the level of detail is sufficient for Primary Care Group to be informed on progress for medicines optimisation.
- 3.2.5 **Primary Care Access Plans:** The Group received an update on developing plans prepared by the Primary Care Networks in response to the national Primary Care Access Recovery Plan. There are five access improvement plans (one for each PCN) with a focus on modernising general practice and improving patient experience. Wirral is coming out as high overall on the baseline metrics, although there are some individual practices within PCNs that some improvement is needed. SBS advised there is lots of support and funding available to practices/PCNs. The first update report is due in November 2023

- 3.2.6 **New guidance on NHS Talking Therapies:** The Group received updated guidance on joint working between NHS Talking Therapies (previously known as Improving Access to Psychological Therapies) services and Community Mental Health services.
- 3.2.7 **Primary Care Finance:** The Group received a report that detailed the month 5 position - there is an 177k overspend against a budget of £26. 635m. This is predicted to be 651k by year end.

The Group were asked to note the 2023/24 budget changes presented and note that the budget was set with standardised inflation rates, but actual inflation is higher.

Place Finance advised they are working with the ICB to bring this to the national team's attention.

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.

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APPENDICES

There are no appendices to this report.

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 these 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 22 nd June 2023