

Title	Primary Care Group Report
Authors	Iain Stewart, Head of Transformation and Partnerships, (Primary Care, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism), NHS Cheshire and Merseyside (Wirral)
Report for	Wirral Place Based Partnership Board
Date of Meeting	21 st March 2024

Report Purpose and Recommendations	
<p>The purpose of this report is to provide the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board with an update on the work of the Primary Care Group (PCG).</p> <p>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.</p>	

Key Risks	
<p>The report relates to the following key risks identified in the Place Delivery Assurance Framework presented to the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board on 21st December 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PDAF 1 Service Delivery:</i> Wirral system partners are unable to deliver the priority programmes within the Wirral Health and Care Plan which will result in poorer outcomes and greater inequalities for our population. • <i>PDAF 3 Collaboration:</i> Leaders and organisations in the Wirral health and care system may not work together effectively to improve population health and healthcare. 	

Governance journey			
Date	Forum	Report Title	Purpose/Decision
27 th February 2024	Primary Care Group	Agenda and papers for meeting	Meeting held and work progressed.

1	Narrative
1.1	Background
1.1.1	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.
1.1.2	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.
1.2	Primary Care Group Meeting, 27th February 2024
1.2.1	Risk Register: The Group were advised that further work is being completed with populating the new risk register template in the new Cheshire and Merseyside format and will be available from the next meeting. No changes to previous risk scores were proposed.
1.2.2	Work Plan: The Group reviewed progress against the work plan for 2023/24.
1.2.3	Neighbourhood development: Following the retirement of the Associate Director Transformation and Partnerships, new reporting lines are being established to maintain the progress of the agreed developments across the trailblazer sites. The new Neighbourhood Oversight Group will provide grip on progress against projects. The Board will receive a more comprehensive update at its next meeting.
1.2.4	Primary Care Update: The Group were updated on access and progress against the Fuller Stocktake recommendations. The Access Hub operating from Birkenhead Medical Building reported the following data; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum of 462 extra appointments per week. - Utilisation (number of booked appointments) 98.9% of which 88.4% of patients are seen. - Average of 303 patients seen the same day. - Average DNA rate 10.1% <p>Cloud Based Telephony – all practice contracts signed. All installations and practices in Phase 1 of the programme to be live by 24th March 2024. All other installations and practices to be live by end of June 2024. There are no Wirral practices on an analogue system.</p> <p>Fuller Stocktake update – implementation of the two trailblazer neighbourhoods continues. Lessons learnt have been captured to aid the wider roll out.</p>
1.2.5	Primary Care Networks (PCNs) Maturity Matrix update: The five PCNs have updated their self-assessment against the matrix requirements and report progress on integrated working with partners; system interoperability; and involvement in several clinical initiatives. All PCNs continue to face challenges with their estates, mainly connected to the growth in additional roles recruitment and the expansion in practice-level services.
1.2.6	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) LEAP (Leading Excellence for ADHD in Primary Care) service expansion: The Group considered a business case for further investment into the service with two aims; further reduce the current waiting list held at Cheshire Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust so as to enable the Trust to re-open their service to new assessments and secondly, to upskill GP Reviewers for assessment skills so the LEAP service can undertake new assessments in response to the growing demand. The Group supported the recommendation for further investment.
1.2.7	General Practice Improvement Grants: The Group were informed of applications for estates improvements that had been submitted to NHS England, having met the eligibility criteria. The practices are Moreton Group Practice; Spital Surgery; Teehey Lane Medical Centre; The Orchard Surgery. Applications were similar, i.e. creation of additional clinical space by converting administration space; improvement to surgery entrances for aid access.

1.2.8	<p>Primary Care Quality Scheme 2024/25: The Group was updated on progress with the proposed scheme to-date; five components consisting of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Antimicrobial Resistance Reduction - Reduction in prescribing of addictive drugs - Funding for a Patient Safety Specialist at PCN level - ScriptSwitch - Carers – increased identification and support to carers. <p>Final work is being completed on performance indicators and expected outcomes with the aim of April 2024 start. The Scheme value is £1m.</p>
1.2.9	<p>COVID Vaccination campaign: The Group received the following update;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Autumn 2023 COVID-19 vaccination campaign commenced on 11th September 2023 and ended on 31st January 2024. Wirral’s autumn campaign uptake rate was 55.5%. - The Spring 2024 campaign will run from 15th April-30th June 2024, with the initial focus being residents in older adult care homes and eligible housebound patients. - Eligible cohorts in Spring 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adults aged 75 years and over • residents in care homes for older adults • individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed (as defined in the Green Book) - With the exception of one community pharmacy, all providers from previous campaigns have opted in to spring campaign.
1.3.0	<p>Primary Care Finance: The Group received the report, with the following headlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group is asked to note: • The year-to-date position as at Month 10 is an adverse variance to plan of £0.229m against a budget of £55.997m. • The forecast yearend position as at Month 10, to 31st March 2024 is an adverse variance to plan of £0.360m, (Month 9 £0.305m) and the risk and mitigations to delivery against the budget of £65.532m. • The in-year allocation and virements to the 2023/24 budget
1.3.1	<p>Other contractor updates: The Group received a verbal summary update from the dental advisor representative on current dentistry contracting matters.</p>
1.3.2	<p>NHS Talking Therapies update: No update was available.</p>
1.3.3	<p>Quality update: Full update due at next meeting.</p>

2	Implications
2.1	<p><i>Risk Mitigation and Assurance</i></p> <p>The work taken through the Primary Care Group provides controls for and support assurance of the management of the strategic risks PDAF 1 and PDAF 3. The Primary Care Group also has a Risk Register, which will into the PDAF and discussions at the Place Based Partnership Board around risk.</p>
2.2	<p><i>Financial</i></p>

	The financial implications arising from this report are articulated in 1.2.6 above.
2.3	<i>Legal and regulatory</i> There are no direct legal and regulatory implications arising from this report.
2.4	<i>Resources</i> 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.
2.5	<i>Engagement and consultation</i> Engagement with system partners has taken place in the development of the Terms of Reference for the Primary Care Group. This is a group that has been agreed as part of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's governance for Wirral. The Primary Care Group has a membership that includes Healthwatch Wirral and representation from the voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector. The PCG is co-chaired by representatives from the VCFSE.
2.6	<i>Equality</i> 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 Primary Care Group.
2.7	<i>Environment and Climate</i> 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.
2.8	<i>Community Wealth Building</i> 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.

3	Conclusion
3.1	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.

4	Appendices
	There are no appendices to this report.

Author	Iain Stewart
Contact Number	07887 503 262

Email

iain.stewart@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk