

<b>Title</b>	Planning 2024/25 Update
<b>Authors</b>	Simon Banks, Place Director (Wirral), NHS Cheshire and Merseyside
<b>Report for</b>	Wirral Place Based Partnership Board
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Report Purpose and Recommendations

This paper sets out the latest position on NHS Planning Guidance 2024/25. It also sets out the approach being taken in Wirral by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside with Place partners to refresh the Wirral Health and Care Plan 2023/24 for 2024/25.

It is recommended that the Board:

- Notes the update provided by this paper.
- Supports the approach being taken to update the Wirral Health and Care Plan for the planning year 2024/25.
- Receives the Wirral Health and Care Plan 2024/25 for approval at the June meeting.

### Key Risks

The Place Delivery Assurance Framework, last reviewed by the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024, has identified the key strategic risks for Wirral Place in the following areas:

- Service Delivery
- Children and Young People
- Collaboration
- Workforce
- Finance
- Community Wealth Building
- Unscheduled Care

The planning process and an agreed Wirral Health and Care Plan, supported by an agreed implementation framework provide controls that mitigate these key risks.

### Governance journey

Date	Forum	Report Title	Purpose/Decision
23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023	Health and Wellbeing Board	Interim Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership Strategy	For approval. Approved.
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023	Place Based Partnership Board	Wirral Health and Care Plan 2023-24	For agreement. Agreed.
21 <sup>st</sup> September 2023	Health and Wellbeing Board	Cheshire and Merseyside Joint Forward Plan 2023-28	For approval. Approved.

25 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Place Based Partnership Board	Planning for 2024/25 Update	For approval. Approved.
21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	Place Based Partnership Board	Planning for 2024/25 Update	For approval. Approved.

1	Narrative
1.1	<b>Background</b>
1.1.1	Planning for the delivery of health and care services takes place at several levels – nationally, regionally, sub-regionally and at Place. Planning is influenced by national guidance and local needs, the latter usually emerging from local authority led Health and Wellbeing Strategies.
1.1.2	The Health and Care Act 2022 created a new framework for planning, based around the footprint of an Integrated Care System (ICS). As described in Appendix One, the Government’s NHS Mandate is translated by NHS England into the NHS Long Term Plan and planning guidance and then into Joint Forward Plans by each Integrated Care Board (ICB). The NHS Mandate also influences Integrated Care Strategies of Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs), which relate to Place Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) and Health and Wellbeing Strategies, which then connect into ICB’s Joint Forward Plans (JFP).
1.1.3	This paper sets out the latest position on NHS Planning Guidance 2024/25. It also sets out the approach being taken in Wirral by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside with Place partners to refresh the Wirral Health and Care Plan 2023-24. The refresh of the Wirral Health and Care Plan will contribute to the work to revise Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership’s Integrated Care Strategy and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside’s Joint Forward Plan.
1.2	<b>NHS Planning Guidance 2024/25</b>
1.2.1	Planning guidance for the forthcoming operating year is usually issued in the month of December for implementation in the following April. As reported to the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board in January 2024 and March 2024, the 2024/25 planning guidance was delayed whilst NHS England continued discussions with Government on agreeing expectation and priorities.
1.2.2	On 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, NHS England published <i>Priorities and operational planning guidance 2024/25</i> . This planning guidance focuses on the recovery of core services through continuous improvement in access, quality, and productivity, whilst transforming the way care is delivered to create stronger foundations for delivery in the future.
1.2.3	The full guidance can be found on the NHS England website. Appendix One, an extract from the guidance, sets out the national objectives for 2024/25. These will be the basis for NHS England will assess the performance of the NHS alongside the local priorities agreed by ICSs.
1.2.4	The guidance asks ICBs and their partner trusts and foundation trusts to work with wider system partners to develop plans to meet the national objectives set out in this guidance and the local priorities agreed by ICSs. The supplementary guidance and the annex to <i>Priorities and operational planning guidance 2024/25</i> identify the most critical, evidence-based actions that systems and NHS providers are being asked to take to deliver these objectives. These are based on what systems and providers

	<p>have already demonstrated makes the most difference to patient outcomes, experience, access and safety.</p> <p>System plans must be triangulated across activity, workforce and finance, and signed off by ICB and partner NHS trust and foundation trust boards. NHS England has set 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 as the date for ICBs to publish and share their plan with them, their ICPs and health and wellbeing boards.</p>
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Wirral Place Approach</b>
1.3.1	<p>Planning for health and care services is not only driven by NHS Planning Guidance. As set out in Appendix Two it is also influenced by local priorities as set out in Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Health and Wellbeing Strategies. NHS Cheshire and Merseyside has recognised the importance of Place in how we have established our governance and working relationships in Wirral with system partners. Our planning for health and care services is influenced by and incorporates the Wirral Plan 2026 and the Wirral Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027 as well as NHS planning guidance. This is demonstrated within the Wirral Health and Care Plan 2023/24, which was agreed by the Wirral Place Based Partnership Board on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.</p>
1.3.2	<p>As previously agreed, the Wirral Health and Care Plan will not be rewritten for 2024/25 but will be refreshed and updated. The programmes of work agreed by the Board in June 2023 will continue and each Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) will be asked to review and update these for the 2024/25 planning year, taking account of the planning guidance.</p> <p>A series of workshops have been taking place to support this work. Due to the uncertainty created by delays in issuing the national planning guidance, the workshop on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 was moved to MS Teams and the workshop scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 was cancelled. It is anticipated that a further workshop will be arranged in May 2024 to finalise our plans in line with the national timetable.</p> <p>The production of a refreshed Wirral Health and Care Plan will be overseen through the Strategy and Transformation Group and will be supported by the Wirral Improvement Team. The Place Director has written to each SRO to obtain an update for the Wirral Health and Care Plan 2024/25 (Appendix Three). It is still anticipated that the Board will be asked to approve the final Wirral Health and Care Plan 2024/25 at the June 2024 meeting.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Implications</b>
2.1	<p><i>Risk Mitigation and Assurance</i></p> <p>The planning process and an agreed Wirral Health and Care Plan, supported by an agreed implementation framework provide controls that mitigate the key strategic risks identified in the Place Delivery Assurance Framework (PDAF).</p>
2.2	<p><i>Financial</i></p> <p>The financial allocations for 2024/25 have been published and there are no significant changes in the overall financial framework for health and care services. The expectation is that system plans will be delivered that achieve and prioritise financial balance.</p>
2.3	<p><i>Legal and regulatory</i></p> <p>There is a legislative framework within which the NHS is required to undertake planning with partner organisations.</p>

2.4	<i>Resources</i> There are no additional resource implications arising from this report.
2.5	<i>Engagement and consultation</i> Engagement with system partners will take place during the refresh of the Cheshire and Merseyside HCP Strategy, JFP and Wirral Health and Care Plan. A series of Place workshops have been established in Wirral, which include voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector representation.
2.6	<i>Equality</i> Wirral Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside and statutory partners have a legal requirement to make sure their policies, and the way they carry out their work, do not discriminate against anyone. No Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for this report but EIAs will be required for any changes to services arising from the implementation of the Wirral Health and Care Plan.
2.7	<i>Environment and Climate</i> Wirral Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside and partners in Wirral are committed to carrying out their work in an environmentally responsible manner. There are no environment and climate implications arising from this report.
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 and partner organisations 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 Wirral Health and Care Plan will contribute towards this shared goal.

<b>3</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
3.1	This paper has set out the latest position on NHS Planning Guidance 2024/25. It has also set out the approach being taken in Wirral by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside with Place partners to refresh the Wirral Health and Care Plan 2023-24 for 2024/25.
3.2	The Board is asked to note the work underway in Place that will contribute to the refresh of Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership's Integrated Care Strategy and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside's Joint Forward Plan. It is also requested that the Board supports the approach being taken to update the Wirral Health and Care Plan for the planning year 2024-25. The Wirral Health and Care Plan 2024/25 will be brought to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

<b>4</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	Appendix One NHS National Objectives 2024/25 Appendix Two Alignment of Integrated Care System Planning Appendix Three Communications requesting update of Wirral Health and Care Plan

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