

<b>Title</b>	Primary Care Group Report
<b>Authors</b>	Iain Stewart, Head of Transformation and Partnerships, (Primary Care, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism), NHS Cheshire and Merseyside (Wirral)
<b>Report for</b>	Wirral Place Based Partnership Board
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024

<b>Report Purpose and Recommendations</b>	
<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>	

<b>Key Risks</b>	
<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 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <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.</li> <li>• <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.</li> </ul>	

<b>Governance journey</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Forum</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Purpose/Decision</b>
26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Primary Care Group	Agenda and papers for meeting	Meeting held and work progressed.

<b>1</b>	<b>Narrative</b>
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Background</b>
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.
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Primary Care Group Meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>
1.2.1	<b>Risk Register:</b> The Group were updated on the progress of the new risk register template. No changes to previous risk scores were proposed.
1.2.2	<b>Work Plan:</b> The Group reviewed progress against the work plan for 2023/24.
1.2.3	<b>Terms of Reference review:</b> changes agreed by the Group were the addition of commissioning of Community Pharmacy and Commissioning of Dentistry; the role and responsibilities to be confirmed, and the removal of the Place Associate Director of Transformation and Partnerships role.
1.2.4	<p><b>Primary Care Update:</b></p> <p>The Group was updated on Primary Care Access Recovery Plan (PCARP); Access Hub; GP contract 24/25; patient experience on access; digital developments; proposed Primary Care Quality Scheme 24/25;</p> <p>PCARP - PCNs will be required to demonstrate their achievements against PCARP plans and Capacity access improvement to receive the 30% achievement payment. A summary of PCN achievement will be compiled in due course.</p> <p>Access Hub – The Access Hub will be coming to its planned end on 31st March 2024. An evaluation of the service will be undertaken. The Access Hub provided approximately 460 additional appointments per week.</p> <p>GP Contract - the GP contract for 24-45 has been issued with queries raised by practices relating to the financial uplift to contract values.</p> <p>The QOF aspiration payment threshold will be raised from 70% to 80%. There is also greater flexibility within ARRS roles. A new role introduced is an advanced nurse.</p> <p>Patient experience on Access- The focus on access and improving patient experience continues into 24/25. Telephony data will be used to better understand the demand. There is also a focus on implementing the modern general practice model and a greater focus on considering continuity of care when determining appropriate responses for patients.</p> <p>Digital - System Development Fund (SDF) surplus of £157k to be committed to the continuing development of the Blood Pressure @ Home and hypertension project. PCNs are securing clinical system hubs to improve interoperability on patient records within each PCN.</p> <p>Primary Care Quality Scheme 24-25 - currently being finalised and moving to be more improvement focused and will include COPD and 7 to 5 day prescribing, carers support and opioid QI/reduction element.</p>
1.2.5	<p><b>Townfield Health Centre APMS Procurement:</b> An overall 10-year contract term is proposed made up of break clauses to provide the opportunity for the ICB or the provider to terminate the contract at the designated intervals should the need arise.</p> <p>To maintain consistency with an existing APMS contract it is proposed that a term of 4 years, with two additional break clauses at three-year intervals is adopted (4+3+3). Local quality, performance and outcomes will be monitored throughout the contract.</p>

	<p>The Group was asked to consider the details within the paper and to support the recommendation from Place Leadership Team for a 10-year contract term for the Townfield Health Centre APMS procurement. The Group supported the recommendation for a 10 year contract period as described.</p> <p>Following this, onward recommendation to System Primary Care Committee and Board is required with final submission for approval to NHS England</p>
1.2.6	<p><b>Primary Care Medicines Management Update</b></p> <p>The Group noted the summary performance report.</p>
1.2.7	<p><b>Quality Update</b></p> <p>The Group noted the update and agreed to discuss in further detail at April's meeting.</p>
1.2.8	<p><b>Update from Local Representative Committees</b></p> <p>Community Dentistry – the Group were informed of the current offers to improve access to dentistry – a national and a local offer – dental practices are currently considering the offers.</p> <p>The national offer is focused on if a practice sees a patient who has not seen a dentist within the last 2 years, the practice will receive an enhanced credit of £50. This equates to half an hour of dentistry time. For patients needing more comprehensive treatment, this level of funding is insufficient.</p> <p>The local offer is dental practices will receive 100% of contract if achieve 90% of the agreed activity target, as long as they agree to also see a certain number of patients who have not seen a dentist in the last 2 years.</p>
1.2.9	<p><b>COVID Vaccination campaign:</b> The Group received the following update;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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%.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Eligible cohorts in Spring 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- • adults aged 75 years and over</li> <li>- • residents in care homes for older adults</li> <li>- • individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed (as defined in the Green Book)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- With the exception of one community pharmacy, all providers from previous campaigns have opted in to spring campaign.</li> </ul>
1.3.0	<p><b>Primary Care Finance:</b> The Group received the report, with the following headlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wirral Place budget is £67.265m and is reporting an adverse forecast variance of £0.469m to 31st March 2024.</li> <li>- The £1.7m ARRS allocation is in for month 11 and is being matched to the forecast.</li> </ul>

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> <p>The financial implications arising from this report are articulated in 1.2.6 above.</p>
2.3	<p><i>Legal and regulatory</i></p> <p>There are no direct legal and regulatory implications arising from this report.</p>
2.4	<p><i>Resources</i></p> <p>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.</p>
2.5	<p><i>Engagement and consultation</i></p> <p>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.</p>
2.6	<p><i>Equality</i></p> <p>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.</p>
2.7	<p><i>Environment and Climate</i></p> <p>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.</p>
2.8	<p><i>Community Wealth Building</i></p> <p>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.</p>

3	Conclusion
3.1	<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>

<b>4</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	There are no appendices to this report.

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