

Together We're Better is your local partnership of NHS, local government and voluntary sector organisations. We are working collectively to make decisions to transform health and care services across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

Our partners are working closely together to achieve this transformation through a series of work programmes. Each programme is clinically-led and focussed on its own aims and objectives to ensure local people have access to high quality, sustainable services for the future.



Workforce programme

We're working with health and social care provider organisations, as well as the voluntary sector across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to deliver our three core priorities of sustainability, transformation and developing a future workforce.

Our priorities and projects

- We're developing a number of new recruitment initiatives, including UK/international recruitment, retention and flexible working, while also improving how temporary staff are used
- We're supporting local health and social care services to become more joined up
- We're helping to transform our 'primary care' workforce (staff providing the first point of contact in our healthcare system), while also delivering Health Education England's 'Facing the Facts, Shaping the Future' workforce strategy
- We're also focusing on developing our future health and care workforce by widening participation, for example nursing apprenticeships, and generating new opportunities, including training hubs and working more closely with the voluntary and independent sector.

Our aims and outcomes

- We've developed a Together We're Better Workforce Strategy which takes a system wide approach to workforce development, recruitment and retention
- The Redeployment Service has generated £3.6m of savings to date and stopped 150 people from being made redundant across health; local government organisations have recently joined the process
- We're working to implement new roles to address skills gaps and patient needs more effectively and efficiently
- A Domiciliary Care Strategy has been developed and work is taking place across the system to address workforce gaps
- We're developing a Careers Hub to encourage employees considering leaving the profession to receive advice, guidance and signposting
- We're developing flexible apprenticeships for end of life, therapies and frailty care to enhance the quality of the service offered.

Case study

The important role Jo is playing in delivering care alongside GPs:

Jo is one of a number of nurses who are working within GP practices across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to deliver care to patients. Jo has been serving as a Practice Nurse in Burntwood since September 2018. The role has been something of a learning curve for Jo, having worked in the NHS for more than 20 years. She has been busy with her own clinic, supporting GPs to carry out treatments on previously diagnosed patients, providing healthy lifestyle advice and support and delivering such things as flu vaccinations and vitamin B12 injections. Practice nurses work alongside other healthcare professionals, including doctors, health visitors and pharmacists. Jo is looking forward to developing her learning in order to expand her role and provide further support to patients."

