

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.



Estates programme

We're working closely with each of Together We're Better's programmes to deliver real, meaningful change. By working with partners in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, we are helping to shape thoughts and ideas, resulting in a transformation in how services are provided as well as delivering savings to the local health and care system.

Our priorities and projects

- We're supporting Together We're Better's five capital priority projects – Outwoods health and care campus in Burton, additional bed capacity in our acute hospitals, Longton South, urgent care and detoxification, and maternity and neonatal
- We're seeking to reform and upgrade our estate to support the transformation of local health and care services
- We're working to identify surplus land and housing opportunities
- We're supporting the development of new models of care through new Community Hubs in places such as Codsall in South Staffordshire

Our aims and outcomes

- We are committed to delivering the right services, in the right places, that are locality focused and offer fully joined up health and care services
- Our approach is one of prevention and wellness, developing resilience and reducing the future cost of care with a clear focus on housing
- We're working with other Together We're Better programmes to ensure changes are made to the way we work, enabling savings to be made in the efficient use of our estate
- We will continuously review of our long-term estate, ensuring Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) and Private Finance Initiative (PFI) properties are fully utilised
- We want to use our estate flexibly to ensure it is being fully utilised, including seven day working
- We want to address and reduce the backlog of maintenance, duplication and underutilised estate.

Case study

How an integrated health and care hub has empowered Julia to become more independent:

Julia was a service user at a day centre operated by Aspire in Northfield Village, Stafford. With Aspire's support, Julia was able to move into one of 80 supported living apartments at Elmwood Extra Care, part of Northfield. Comprising a dementia care facility, health centre, restaurant and other services, Northfield promotes independent living, linking health and wider community development and integrating housing and health to provide 'wrap around' care. The safety provided by having everything in one place resulted in Julia feeling empowered to move out of her parents' home and she now has the confidence to take part in various activities at Northfield. She also now works onsite as a valued member of the Aspire team. Northfield Village is a fantastic example of how health and care services can be more fully integrated to benefit the local population and forms part of the wider estates strategy.