

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.



Digital programme

We're utilising the latest digital technology to deliver new models of health and care across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. By supporting in the transformation of local health and care services, digital has the power to help people to live healthier lives, manage their own health and wellbeing and reduce the demand on local services.

Our priorities and projects

- We're excited to lead on the introduction of Your Care Connected, a new digital shared care record linking NHS and local government organisations to benefit patients and health and care professionals
- We want to develop a set of digital standards enabling efficient and equal access to health and care
- We want to see an improvement in frontline health and care services through the use of innovative apps and digital technologies
- We are seeking to establish a robust, future proof and state-of-the-art information technology infrastructure
- We're developing a Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent informatics network that will share best practice and improve services.

Our aims and outcomes

- We're working to ensure health and care information is available to health and care professionals as and when they need it, regardless of their location and organisation
- We want to fully utilise digital technologies so you can manage your own care, including your families, friends and carers
- We're working to best use digital technology to improve efficiency and care coordination
- We want to see a more proactive healthcare management system in place that really works for you.

Case study

How social media has helped Pam to access health and care services: Pam booked her first breast screening appointment after seeing a Facebook post via the North Midlands Breast Screening Service about a mobile screening unit being in the area. She messaged the service directly and was informed that while the unit had left her local town centre she was offered an alternative appointment at a local hospital. Pam said: "I work full-time as a primary school teacher and so the quick responses were vital to me and made me feel genuinely cared for and fully involved in managing my own healthcare." She received clear results from her screening and actively encourages other women to attend appointments. Part of NHS Digital's Widening Digital Participation Programme, the project promoted the service's Facebook page on local community groups that women aged over 50 regularly visited. This project led to a 13% increase in first time attendances for breast screening in Stoke-on-Trent between 2014-18.