

Introduction

'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.

Since 2016, we have been working together to identify areas of innovation, integration and, most importantly, deliver better and more joined up care for patients. It's great to see real momentum building, with all partners actively driving our clinically-led programmes of work. Undoubtedly this is an ambitious task and will take us several years to realise in full, but we remain clear in our view that local people deserve the best health and care services that we can provide with the money we have available.

Every single day in our local system, health and care staff on the front line and behind the scenes deliver amazing care and support. Of course, there are times when we could do better and we are striving to make our local system the best that it can be. It is really important to recognise that local staff go the extra mile to help make sure that local people are well looked after. We are grateful for the work they do and it is important we thank them for that.

To achieve the lasting change we all want to see, it's vital that everyone is given the opportunity to influence our decision making and in Spring 2019 we plan to begin a conversation with local people to develop proposals jointly with patients, carers, clinicians, staff and everyone who is interested in having a say. These early discussions will help to shape and form the basis of any future formal consultation, if appropriate. We hope you will take part in the events and digital conversations that we are planning. Over the coming months, we will be sharing some of the fantastic stories about how local staff, clinicians and communities are making a difference whilst also talking about the areas where we have ideas to make changes.



Sir Neil McKay
Chairman



Simon Whitehouse
Director

Our vision

"Working with you to make Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent the healthiest places to live and work"

What we're about

- People living well for longer
- Treating people and not a set of conditions
- Supporting and enabling people to stay well and independent so we can be there when they need us
- Care being delivered closer to a person's home
- Giving mental health equal priority to physical health
- Ensuring a person's experience of health and care is the best it can be.

Our programmes

We are developing new models of care and programmes to deliver our vision. 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:

- Urgent and Emergency Care
- Planned Care
- Maternity, Children and Young People
- Prevention
- Mental Health
- Enhanced Primary and Community Care
- Workforce
- Digital
- Estates
- Organisational Development and Leadership
- Health and Care in Stafford
- Communications and Engagement.

Our partnership

Together We're Better is the health and care partnership transforming health and social care for the people of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. We are NHS and local government organisations, working with independent and voluntary bodies, including Healthwatch Staffordshire, Healthwatch Stoke-on-Trent, Support Staffordshire and VAST.

Case study

How an Integrated Care Team has helped Bill: Following the death of his wife, Bill's mental and physical health started to deteriorate. A conversation with his local GP led to Bill being signposted to members of his local Integrated Care Team (ICT). Bringing together a range of primary, community and mental health services, alongside social care professionals and the voluntary and independent sector, ICTs enable a coordinated approach to improving the health of the community they serve.

Bill received support in his home from numerous members of the team, including a district nurse and community matron. When Bill's physical health took a downward turn, the team was on hand to support him. Thanks to the support he has received from the ICT, Bill now leads a healthier, happier life.

This is just one example of how our health and care partners are working together to support integration. You can watch Bill's story here: <https://youtu.be/6zoW5MP3IW0>

Preparing for engagement

Partners are working together to agree what we will be asking the public, staff and stakeholders to help us to change. This will include:

1. **Simplifying urgent and emergency care**
2. **Developing a new vision for health and care that meets the needs of local communities and builds a more integrated health and care system**
3. **Reviewing the use of community hospitals in the south of the county and ensuring we have effective and efficient hospital services for planned care**
4. **Identifying additional priorities that will deliver clinical and financial stability.**

Clinicians from across the system are involved in all our work programmes to help define the scope of work.

There will be a range of ways you can take part in the discussions, to help shape local services. We will be promoting these during 2019.

The image below outlines the proposed timeline of the various stages of the process towards any potential public consultation.

This includes developing a pre-consultation business case that will take into account the feedback we receive from all the engagement we carry out, including the 12-week pre-consultation engagement due to take place in Spring 2019.

The image also provides an indication of the timeline for the assurance process that will take place with the independent Clinical Senate and with NHS England.

Due to the complex nature of this programme this timeline may change and is unlikely to be as linear as depicted.

Find out more

We hope you found this factsheet useful. Over the coming months, we will be sharing further updates on the work across the TWB partnership.

To find out more about our work visit www.twbstaffsandstoke.org.uk

