

# Integrated Care Board Briefing

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent  
ICB Meeting

15 June 2023

## NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board

This briefing aims to keep partners informed of the discussions at the NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) meeting in public. To watch the recording and read the papers [visit the ICB website](#).

### ICB Chair and Executive update

- David Pearson, ICB Chair, and Peter Axon, ICB Chief Executive Officer, thanked John Henderson, Chief Executive of Staffordshire County Council, for his contributions to the system and the ICB Board, as he retires soon.
- Peter Axon drew attention to the fact that the Industrial Action continues but the system is successfully mitigating the issues this causes. He gave thanks to those helping to manage the flow within the system.
- Peter confirmed there will be a medium to long term granular evaluation of our financial, clinical and workforce position over the next 3-5 years. There is no national mandate for this, but it is important for our system that we do this. The first planning workshop is on 14 July.
- Peter shared that the Government has responded to the Hewitt report. In their response, they conveyed “the importance of stronger emphasis on improvement and transformation” which is good news, as this is a fundamental part of our ambition as described within our Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) strategy.

The Board thanked David and Peter for the report.

### Living My Best Life: A Joint Strategy for Disabled and Neurodivergent people in Staffordshire 2023-2028

- Chris Bird, Chief Transformation Officer, introduced the all-age strategy.
- There has been extensive engagement around the strategy, which has led to the development of outcomes that have a shared approach to reaching them.

The Board welcomed this strategy and commented that this strategy was about “enabling people” which was a shift on previous strategies. The Board approved and endorsed the strategy and look forward to seeing the delivery action plan.

### Quality and Safety Report

- Heather Johnstone, Chief Nursing and Therapies Officer, introduced the report.
- Heather shared that Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (MPUFT) continues to make good progress against the action plan developed as a result of a Section 29A ruling following a CQC visit in November 2022 and subsequent warning notice in December 2022. In addition, University Hospital of North Midlands (UHNM) are awaiting their final CQC report following a visit to Maternity Services in March 2023.
- Heather commented that following ICS (Integrated Care System) PSIRF (Patient Safety Incident Framework) training for system partners, UHNM were commended by the training provider on their bespoke template which is expected to be shared across other ICS’ as good practice.

The Board asked Heather how confident we are that serious incidents in care homes are captured and reported appropriately. Heather confirmed that PSIRF will shift how this happens once it is implemented, but report currently varies. The Board thanked Heather for the comprehensive report and endorsed the recommendations.

### System Finance and Performance Report

- Helen Dempsey, Director of Planning, introduced the finance report and mentioned that a new format for this report is currently being developed and will come to the next Board.

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- Helen shared that we are coming to the end of the audit period for 2022/23 and there are no issues arising so we are confident we will deliver the breakeven position.
- Phil Smith, Chief Delivery Officer, introduced the performance report.
- Phil shared that pressures in Urgent and Emergency Care during April remained in line with Q1. There have been some challenging days in May but overall, the picture is improving. Lost ambulance hours are continuing to decrease and there is a reduction in corridor car. System partners have worked well to manage de-escalation. An Urgent and Emergency improvement plan has been drafted and is currently being approved by the different committees. Looking ahead to winter, capacity plans and global data are being looked into to prepare for this winter's flu season.
- In reference to planned care, Phil shared that UHNM remain in Tier 1 for planned care and the position continue to be challenging. The forecast is that 78- and 104-week waits will be addressed by July. In reference to cancer backlogs, the majority of wait times have been affected by the backlog with patients receiving endoscopies. Additional capacity to manage this backlog is in place now.
- Megan Nurse, Non-Executive Director, shared the Finance and Performance Committee report. Megan commented that there is still significant risk around de-escalation of winter schemes. Work is taking place and a report will go to July's Finance and Performance committee if schemes are still operational.
- Megan also shared that work is taking place on the Better Care Fund Plan 2023 – 2025, with the two Local Authorities. Final narrative plans and completed planning templates are due to be submitted by 28 June 2023.

The Board thanked Helen, Phil and Megan for the update. The Board asked for more detail into the global picture on flu so we can get ahead of planning for the local winter surge.

### System Financial Plan 2023/24

- Helen Dempsey, Director of Planning, introduced this plan and confirmed it has been developed with the system Chief Financial Officers.
- The actions fall into two time periods; those that will help us address the break-even requirement for 2023/24; and those that are longer term but are important to address the underlying deficit.

The Board thanked Helen for the comprehensive update and noted the actions proposed.

### Joint Forward Plan (JFP)

- Chris Bird, Chief Transformation Officer, introduced this paper and the final copy of the Joint Forward Plan (JFP). The JFP is the third of the three planning documents that the Integrated Care System's must present.
- Chris shared that extensive engagement around the plan has helped. Based on feedback case studies have been added to the plan to help illustrate some of the changes articulated in the plan.
- Chris confirmed that as the Stoke-on-Trent Health and Wellbeing Board did not meet as planned in June, the team is now working directly with the Director of Public Health at Stoke-on-Trent city council to align the plan to the Health and Wellbeing strategy and approve the plan. The JFP will then be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board in August. NHS England have agreed to this plan.

The Board asked if the ICP chairs will be asked to approve this document. Chris confirmed this will happen after the Health and Wellbeing Boards have approved the document. The Board thanked Chris and the team for conducting an inclusive engagement exercise to develop this

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plan. The Board approved the final document with the caveat that a fully designed document will be developed for the 30 June publication date.

### People Culture and Inclusion Programmes Annual Report

- Alex Brett, Chief People Officer, and Shokat Lal, Non-Executive Director, introduced the report, which explores the achievements, current work and future plans for ICS People, Culture and Inclusion programmes.
- Shokat commended all the teams involved across the system that have worked hard to share the challenges and address them collectively.
- Mish Irvine, ICS Director of People, highlighted some of the achievements including the work that is happening with the refugee community and the hard-to-reach communities, to support them into traineeships, and work.

The Board asked if the work is being publicised. Mish confirmed it was, via the newly created Health and Care People social media channels. The Board asked if work with the over 55s and Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) is going on across the system. Alex Brett confirmed that there is an extensive retention programme with specific pieces of work going on across the system to support people continuing to work. The Board noted and was assured of the progress in tackling our workforce issues.

**Date and time of next meeting in public:** 20 July 2023 at 12.30pm in public at Stafford Hub. More information about the upcoming Board meetings can be found on the [ICB website](#).