

Integrated Care Board Briefing

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
ICB Meeting

20 April 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](#).

General

- David Pearson, Integrated Care Board (ICB) Chair, thanked Sally Young, Director of Corporate Governance, for her service to the NHS, as she is soon to retire. David wanted to especially thank Sally for all her efforts over the last year, being instrumental in the establishment of our ICB. Sally has worked for an incredible 19 years, giving, in David's words "loyal and dedicated service to the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent system".

ICB Chair and Executive update

- David Pearson, Integrated Care Board (ICB) Chair, wanted to recognise the publication of the [Hewitt review](#) and acknowledge receipt of it. We await the Government's response to that review.
- Both David and Peter Axon, interim Chief Executive (CEO), wanted to draw people's attention to the [Integrated Care Partnership \(ICP\) strategy](#) and wanted to thank all partners who were involved in this work.

The Board valued the report and asked if there was a way to understand how each item discussed at the Board Meeting contributes to supporting the ICP strategy. Peter Axon appreciated this suggestion and will look to find a way to achieve this.

Living my best life with Autism: Stoke-on-Trent Strategy for Autistic Children, Young People and Adults 2023-2026

- Chris Bird, Interim Chief Transformation Officer, presented this strategy alongside Jon Rouse, City Director at Stoke-on-Trent Council. This strategy is the high-level strategic document that sets out the vision and intentions for improving life in Stoke-on-Trent from 2023 to 2026 for autistic children, young people, and adults.
- Jon Rouse noted that as this is an 'all-age' strategy it will support people during their transition to adulthood which is a vital time in people's lives.
- The ambition is to launch the strategy in May 2023.

The Board congratulated the team on this strategy. The Board asked how we are going to support adults who may have not had the care they needed previously due to a lack of service provision or diagnosis. Jon Rouse confirmed this element would be more clearly covered in the delivery plan. The Board approved the strategy.

General Practice Five Year Forward Strategy

- Chris Brown, Interim Chief Transformation Officer, presented this strategy. The strategy brings a renewed focus to the model of care which builds upon the insights into population health management and integrated teams highlighted in the Fuller Stocktake Report, whilst continuing to develop and deliver on the ongoing work programmes that already exist. The strategy focuses less on organisations and boundaries, and more on people (patients and workforce) and places.

The Board commented that GPs would encourage collaboration on the implementation of this strategy and that to support the workforce needs of General Practice in the medium and long-term, there could be some consideration for partnership working with local higher education establishments. The Board further commented that when changes to General Practice are considered, the range of access needs of the local population needs to be considered so no one is unintentionally excluded. The Board approved the strategy.

Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) Equality Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report 2022/23

- Alex Brett, Chief People Officer, introduced this report. The PSED is designed to support ICBs and other public bodies to think about equality across all its work and to identify the major challenges and to take action to tackle them.
- In reference to the autism strategy presented earlier, Alex confirmed there is work happening across the region to support people with neurodiversity, at work.

The Board thanked Alex for this report. They suggested that they would like to see some clear objectives for the direction of travel. The Board approved the report.

Board Assurance Framework (BAF)

- Sally Young, Director of Corporate Governance, presented the BAF 2022/23 close down report. This is a review of the strengths and weakness of the BAF used in the first year of the ICB.
- Claire Cotton, Associate Director of Corporate Governance at University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, presented the eight strategic risks for the 2023/24 BAF.

The Board thanked Sally and Claire. The Board confirmed that due to the partnership working across the system, the BAF is in a very strong place and has received national recognition. Sally also confirmed that this is a dynamic document, and the risks can be changed as need be. The Board approved the eight strategic risks and the BAF for 2023/24.

Quality and Safety Report

- Heather Johnstone, Chief Nursing and Therapies Officer, introduced the report. Heather shared that University Hospitals of Derby and Burton (UHDB) were fined due to a patient safety incident with a Staffordshire patient. There is a learning exercise taking place to address this incident.
- In good news, Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) were made aware that they had been awarded University Trust status by Keele University. They are just one of 50 trusts in the country to achieve this.
- In addition, this week, University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) have been awarded an NHS Pastoral Care Quality Award for their recruitment work.

The Board thanked Heather for the update.

System Finance and Performance Report

- Paul Brown, Chief Finance Officer, introduced the finance report stating the system remains committed and on track to delivering a year end breakeven position for 2022/23.
- Paul confirmed the financial plan for 2023/24 is developing. Work by the four system partners resulted in improvements to the individual plans and the plan was submitted with a deficit of £39.4m. This remains not a compliant plan so there are further escalation meetings planned by the Regulators.
- Phil Smith, Chief Delivery Officer, presented the performance report. Phil was pleased to share that ambulance handover delays of over 60 minutes reduced by 41%, despite flu, RSV and COVID causing pressure in Urgent and Emergency Care. There is a strong Urgent and Emergency Care plan in place for the year ahead, informed by the lessons learnt over the winter period.
- In reference to planned care, Phil shared that we have moved into tier one oversight for planned care due to long wait times. An external review is underway to inform the plan going forward. Phil confirmed the industrial action last week had a significant impact in elective care, and any further actions, will have a similar impact.

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The Board thanked Paul and Phil for this comprehensive report.

Freedom to Speak Up Report

- Sally Young, Director of Corporate Governance, presented this report. Sally shared that the ICB is committed to providing support to anyone who wishes to raise any concerns and to assure them that anything they raise is treated in the strictest confidence and with their consent, and that they will not be treated any differently in any way.
- Sally has shared the new NHSE Freedom to Speak Up Policy that all Trusts are asked to adopt by January 2024 and the recommendation for training on Freedom to Speak up for staff.

The Board thanked Sally for the update. The Board ratified the policy, confirmed a Non-Executive Director (NED) will be assigned to the role of lead NED for Freedom to Speak Up and they agreed that a further Freedom to Speak Up Guardian, who is not in an Executive role, will be nominated.

Date and time of next meeting in public: 18 May 2023 at 1.00pm in public.

More information about the upcoming Board meetings can be found on the [ICB website](#).