

Health & Wellbeing Board – 27th February 2025**Chair's Position Statement****Adult Social Care**

Adult Social Care services continue to face high demand across all the cohorts with increasing complex presentations for all elements of service delivery including formal mental health act assessments and services for young adults with a disability.

Recruitment and retention continue to remain a challenge for many adult social care providers but is mitigated in part by international workers carrying out social care work through the sponsorship scheme, supported by a regional team. The Council and care providers have maintained services to ensure flow through hospitals and provision for new community requests. The number of people awaiting a home care service remains very low due to good capacity in the market, and the in-house HART service continues to deliver reablement to people supporting both increasing numbers of people in the community and to facilitate hospital discharges.

Limited capacity of older adults nursing care placements persists, alongside low numbers of people assessed as being eligible for Fast Track Continuing Health Care and Funded Nursing Care.

The eligible cohorts for the COVID-19 autumn/winter vaccination programme have included people aged 65 and older, and those who live in a care home for older adults. Eligible cohorts for flu vaccination are similar. All care homes have now received visits from the winter vaccination programme team, and extra visits have been offered where required. Frontline health and social care workers and staff working in care homes for older adults have also been eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations, and NHS flu vaccines where their employer does not run their own vaccination scheme. A programme of one-off vaccinations for a major respiratory virus (RSV), is underway for those aged 75-79, which is a year-round offer delivered by GPs. As with previous campaigns, a health and social care team promotes and monitors uptake throughout the programme period. A free transport offer for people accessing vaccination sites has been offered locally, as well as a roving vaccination unit in operation in Leicestershire. The spring vaccination programme begins in LLR in early April and is expected to continue until June.

NHS

January has continued to be a busy month across health and care, with sustained pressure on all services. We continue to implement the LLR winter plan across health and care, supporting our citizens to access services in the best manner possible.

In readiness for 25-26, teams across health and care have been evaluating services put in place to date so that sustainable service change can be put in place for 25-26. Early findings from these joint reviews across health and care have noted:

- Pharmacy First

- From April 24 to December 24 - 77,574 Pharmacy First consultations have taken place, saving 12,929 hours of clinical time – this is equivalent to 13 full time clinicians.
- Ambulatory blood pressure monitoring
 - From April 24 to December 24, community pharmacy completed 56,759 opportunistic checks, confirming 2,166 citizens required optimisation of care. Assuming a 5-year compliance, this has reduced the risk of 17 deaths, 32 strokes and 22 MI's, saving £700,000 in health costs and £300k in care costs for our citizens

Our services supporting the urgent care pathway have also delivered notable transformation. From April 24 to December 24, our joint health and care services delivered the following:

- Our geriatrician / GP / crisis response service has supported 2,089 patients, with 1,420 ED attendances avoided
- Our Urgent Community Response teams have supported 12,250 patients. NHSE target is 80% of these referrals need to be supported within 2 hours. Our achievement is 92%
- 4,743 patients supported through our Community Therapy Team
- The falls response service has supported 2,293 patients. 85% of these patients have remained safely at home
- The Virtual Ward Programme has supported 3,732 patients and has met the 80% occupancy target since September 24.
- 3,804 patients supported through the Integrated Community Specialist Palliative Care Service
- The discharge medicines service provided by community pharmacy has completed 7,459 referrals from the acute trust, avoiding 746 hospital readmissions, saving £1,679,021 in costs

Whilst it remains pressured, the deliverables from this evidence-based transformation programme across health and care will form the basis of our 'neighbourhood health programme' for 25-26, supporting our citizens and those delivering our services within the place they know as their neighbourhood.

End of Life (EoL) Strategy Update

A draft strategy was presented to HWB at its meeting in May 2024 with a request from HWB on feedback following engagement and evidence of input at place level. A period of public engagement took place for 9 weeks commencing on 7th Aug 2024 with 388 responses from Leicestershire; 92.3% of respondents linked to Leicestershire agreed with the ambitions and priorities which is on par with agreement levels across LLR (93%). Through the workforce development

workstream training requirements for professionals across health and care services is being identified. With a review of the training matrix developed in 2023, taking the opportunity redesign a training programme that meets the needs of the LLR workforce. Metrics will also be developed to measure the impact of that training. Minor changes have been made to the strategy based on feedback linked to wording and interpretation. This work continues to be fed into the Integration Delivery Commissioning Group and the Integration Executive.

Health & Wellbeing Board Development Session

The HWB final development session of the current series was held on 30 January 2025 and themed on the 'Living & Supported Well' life course priority. An update report summarising key points and outcomes will be presented as an agenda item in May. This development session was a successful and engaging discussion, providing valuable feedback and strong participation, as has been the case with all our sessions. The insights shared will help shape our ongoing work, and we appreciate the contributions from everyone involved. As agreed, we hope to continue organising these sessions on a bi-annual basis to maintain momentum, foster collaboration, and ensure continued progress in our shared priorities.

A feedback survey for the development sessions will be circulated shortly to all attendees, and you are encouraged to complete it to share your thoughts and help shape future sessions.

Community Engagement Activities

Since December, I have actively participated in partnership meetings and community engagement events throughout Leicestershire, gaining a deeper understanding of the efforts taking place across the county to enhance the health and wellbeing of our residents. These opportunities have allowed me to see first-hand the impactful work being done, and I have been impressed by the dedication and collaboration of stakeholders to make a difference in our local communities.

I had the privilege of attending a topping out ceremony for the new local centre at New Lubbethorpe in Leicestershire. The ceremony marked a significant milestone in the construction of the Brook Centre, where the first floor will be home to Forest House Medical Centre. In addition, I had the opportunity to meet our sexual health provider in Loughborough, tour the building and meet staff and also visited Enderby Medical Centre regarding future their future plans.

Other meetings I attended are illustrated below:

- As part of my mental health advocacy role, I Chaired the MH sub-group, took part in the MH collaborative and attended a Mental Health Friendly Places event
- Attended both the ICB meeting and development session, which was on planning and neighbourhood models of care.

- Took part in a national Webinar/meeting regarding ICS joint commissioning.
- Participated in briefings on devolution following the the English Devolution White paper issued in December 2024
- Was present at Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)
- Attended NHS Confed ICB/ICP chairs forum
- Met with Iain Crosbie, LLR Mind. LLR to discuss funding issues for services in VCS
- I Attended a meeting of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) regarding developing a social prescribing fund for England, which if it comes about, may have a role for the ICP to take forward.
- Finally, I was interviewed by NHSConfed regarding how ICS/ICPs were working, anything I thought was challenging, what we are doing well, and what I would like to see from systems going forward.



Key Messages

Updates and key messages from the items presented at the Health & Wellbeing Board meeting on 4 December 2024 are highlighted below:

- Regular updates on the Community Health & Wellbeing Plans are being provided to Staying Healthy Partnership (SHP), with latest updated and highlight reports shared across all other subgroups
- Work Well programme was presented to SHP earlier this month and now being linked with VAL to enhance collaboration and support.

- Consultation analysis on the Suicide Prevention Strategy is now complete. The response was overwhelmingly positive and changes to the draft strategy were minimal. HWB comments provided were considered as part of the consultation.
- A trial of providing HWB meeting updates including actions, decisions and forward plans has been trialled at both Staying Healthy Partnership and Mental Health Subgroups. Member feedback has been positive, and it is recommended that HWB meeting updates become a standing agenda item for all subgroups moving forward.
- Ensure partners commit resources to the JLHWS review including attendance at relevant meetings and workshops organised by key stakeholders leading the review including HWB subgroup leads. Partners are kindly asked to share any relevant data to support the evidence base, which will assist with the analysis of the current strategy
- Contact Health & Wellbeing Board Manager regarding future agenda items for HWB Meeting on 29 May 2025

Reminders:

HWB Annual Report 2023-24

The HWB Annual Report 2023-24 has been published on the HWB website and both the Full Report and Executive Summary can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/leicestershire-health-and-wellbeingboard/about-the-health-and-wellbeing-board>

A video summarising the Annual Report to make it more accessible to all has been produced. The video can be viewed here: https://youtu.be/pWpr_LKpkyl

Healthy Conversations Skills (HCS) Training

The HCS training supports the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aim of taking a person-centred approach to improving the long-term health of residents and can be applied to each life course priority. Make Every Contact County (MECC) is also included as part of the ICBs 5-year Prevention strategy. If Board members feel they would benefit from the HCS Training, please let me or the Health & Wellbeing Board Manager know.

