

# SUMMARY REPORT

CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE HEALTH  
AND CARE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

JANUARY 17 2023



**Cheshire and  
Merseyside**

Health and Care Partnership

The second Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership Board meeting was held on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Initially due to take place at Ellesmere Port Library, a decision was taken to switch to a virtual meeting – held on Microsoft Teams – due to adverse weather conditions and the related impact on both Board members and members of the public.

The meeting papers are available [here](#).

Opening the meeting, Chair Louise Gittins – the Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council – welcomed those in attendance, including representatives from the NHS, local authorities, voluntary sector, housing, police and fire and rescue.

Together, Cllr Gittins and Vice Chair Raj Jain provided an update about the selection of a further Vice Chair. They explained that the appointment is likely to come from the voluntary sector and that related interviews are set to be arranged shortly.

Neil Evans, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside’s Associate Director for Strategy and Collaboration, provided an update on the development of our Health and Care Partnership strategy.

He explained that the Department of Health and Social Care had initially directed all Health and Care Partnerships to publish strategies by the end of 2022, however this deadline was subsequently softened, enabling Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership to use the extra time to further enhance the report in collaboration with a wide range of contributors.

Members welcomed the draft report and provided feedback, with Neil committing to bring a further iteration of the report back to the next meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> 2023. Once ready, the draft interim report will be published on the websites of all Health and Care Partnership member organisations.

Neil explained that – to achieve this – the intention is to work collaboratively with members of the Health and Care Partnership and engage with communities. Board Members highlighted the importance of maintaining focus on local needs, priorities and ambitions.

The need for NHS Cheshire and Merseyside (the local Integrated Care Board) funding to be delegated to Place was also agreed by members, with those on the call highlighting the importance of this being done at pace in order to progress the Partnership’s ambitions. Graham Urwin, Chief Executive of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, committed to working with colleagues to detail how the delegated finances will work at a future meeting.

Neil Evans then highlighted the recently-released NHS planning guidance - informing members that NHS Cheshire and Merseyside is currently developing its response. The guidance encourages systems to prioritise recovery of core services and

productivity, returning to delivering the NHS Long Term Plan key ambitions and continuing to transform the NHS for the future.

Lindsey Dawson from Skills for Care - the strategic workforce development and planning body for adult social care in England - then presented on the challenges, and opportunities, around recruiting and retaining the adult social care workforce in Cheshire and Merseyside.

She explained how Skills for Care works with employers to ensure the social care workforce has the right people with the right skills and support to deliver high-quality care.

Lindsey emphasised the importance of incorporating in-depth workforce research into local planning to ensure residents' needs are being met both now and in the future. Members committed to working together to address health and social care workforce challenges, with the item being brought back to the next meeting for further discussion.

Closing the meeting, Cllr Gittins re-emphasised the group's commitment to making the meetings as accessible as possible, encouraging all in attendance to share ideas for making it easier for people to be involved.

Meetings of the Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership are held in public. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 at the Lewis's Building in Liverpool.

More information about the Health and Care Partnership is available [here](#).