



# Health and Wellbeing Together

7 December 2023

Report title: NHS Black Country Joint Forward Plan

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Portfolio: Public Health and Wellbeing

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## Recommendation for action:

Health and Wellbeing Together is recommended to:

1. Receive this report for information and assurance.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The NHS Black Country Joint Forward Plan is presented to the Health and Wellbeing Together Board to provide assurance that this strategic plan for the NHS is aligned with and will support delivery of the priorities set out for Wolverhampton in our Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 All ICBs and their partner NHS trusts were required to prepare a Joint Forward Plan covering the period 2023 to 2028. The plan must set out how the ICB will fulfil its statutory requirements and duties, address local needs, and the need to align with priorities and targets set out in the Operational Planning Guidance 2023/24 and the Long-Term Plan.
- 2.2 The NHS Black Country Joint Forward Plan (“JFP”) was published in June 2023. The full plan (190 page version) was constructed to meet national and local planning requirements and was fully assured by NHS England.
- 2.3 A ‘Shorter Read’ version was also developed, which is presented with this report. This document, in a range of formats, a video and the full document can be found on the ICB website at <https://blackcountry.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/our-priorities/our-5-year-joint-forward-plan>
- 2.4 The Joint Forward Plan was shared with members of the Health and Wellbeing Board in draft earlier in the year and the Chair wrote to the ICB, welcoming the principles set out in the Plan (para 3.2 above) and the alignment of the plan with Wolverhampton’s priorities.

## 3.0 Summary

- 3.1 The Joint Forward Plan sets five priority areas as follows:

Priority 1 – Improving access and quality of services.

Priority 2 – Community where possible – hospital where necessary.

Priority 3 – Preventing ill health and trackling health inequalities.

Priority 4 – Giving people the best start in life.

Priority 5 – Best place to work.

- 3.2 And the following principles which underpin the approach to delivering the plan:

**Collaboration** – we will work across organisational boundaries and in partnership with other system partners including people and communities in the best interest of delivering improved outcomes for the population we serve.

**Integration** – Integrated Care System partners will work together to take collective responsibility for the planning and delivery of joined up health and care services.

**Productivity** – we will ensure we improve productivity by making the best use of our collective resources by transforming the way we deliver services across the Black Country.

**Tackling inequalities** – we will ensure that we continue to focus on delivering exceptional healthcare for all through equitable access, excellent experience and optimal outcomes.

- 3.3 The next sections of the report set out our strategic approach to delivery, including the ICS operating model and our approaches to involving people and communities, population health, tackling inequalities and clinical leadership.
- 3.4 Recognising the important role that Place has in the Black Country ICS, the Joint Forward Plan include section on each of the Black Country's four 'Places'. Wolverhampton's Health and Wellbeing Board and One Wolverhampton priorities and outlines key work programmes are incorporated, including our Physical Inactivity programme and the work of the One Wolverhampton Strategic Working Groups (see pages 27, 28).
- 3.5 The remainder of the document sets out priorities and plans for strategic and enabling work streams:
- Elective Care and Diagnostics
  - Cancer Care
  - Urgent and Emergency Care
  - Out of Hospital/Community
  - Long Term Conditions
  - Social, Economic and Environmental Development
  - Prevention
  - Primary Care
  - Medicines Management
  - Maternity and Neonates
  - Children and Young People
  - Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism
  - Improving Quality
  - Research and Innovation
  - Personalised Care

- Workforce
- Use of Resources
- Greener NH Plan
- Digital

#### **4.0 Next Steps**

- 4.1 The Joint Forward Plan will be subject to annual review, aligned to the NHS planning cycle. The focus of the refresh will be the shorter read version, with adjustments to the full plan as required.
- 4.2 Known adjustments to be incorporated in refresh include:
- i. Any changes to Integrated Care Partnership priorities, including further clarity on delivery plans.
  - ii. Changes to Health and Wellbeing Board Strategies, Place plans or Collaborative plans, including relevant alignment.
  - iii. 2024/25 Operational Plans, incorporating financial recovery plans, performance improvement plans and workforce plans.
  - iv. Plans for devolved functions from NHSE, including Pharmacy, Optometry, Dentistry and Specialised Commissioning
  - v. Revised governance in line with ICS Operating Model, including potential devolution to collaboratives and place.
  - vi. Description of any known service changes.
- 4.3 The ICB Board will receive a report on progress against the Joint Forward Plan priorities in due course.

#### **5.0 Appendices**

- 5.1 Appendix 1: Joint Forward Plan (Shorter version)

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