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## **Integrated Care Strategy briefing**

November 2022 update

### **What is the Integrated Care Strategy and what does it mean for the ICS, stakeholders and local people?**

In July 2022, all Integrated Care Systems (ICS) were placed on a statutory footing following the passing of the Health and Care Act 2022. Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) guidance requires each ICS to develop an Integrated Care Strategy, to set the direction of the system.

Integration is at the heart of the new landscape for health and care systems, and the strategy will outline how the NHS, local authorities, voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) with wider partners, will deliver a more joined up approach driven by preventative and person-centred care for the whole population of north east London.

This strategy is being developed by the Integrated Care Partnership, which is a new formal 'committee' bringing together the NHS and local authorities, the wider public sector, VCSE and Healthwatch leaders. It builds on our extensive partnership working arrangements established over several years.

The development of the strategy will be an on-going engagement process. It has been acknowledged by the Government that the development of the initial strategy has short deadlines, and will be a basis for future engagement, feed into our five-year forward plan due in April 2023, and will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

### **Our vision and priorities – what will be in our strategy?**

The strategy will centre on our [ambition and priorities](#), which were developed last year with partners across our Integrated Care Partnership as mentioned above and will be produced with residents and stakeholders from across north east London.

Our agreed ambition is that **“We will work with and for all the people of north east London to create meaningful improvements in health, wellbeing and equity”**.

To help guide our work, our strategy will focus on our **four priorities, or joint action areas**, where we want to create measurable change, to lead to improved outcomes for local people. These are:

1. **Employment and workforce** – to work together to create meaningful work opportunities and employment for people in north east London now and in the future.

2. **Long term conditions** – to support everyone living with a long-term condition in north east London to live a longer, healthier life and to work to prevent conditions occurring for other members of our community.
3. **Children and young people** – to make north east London the best place to grow up, through early support when it is needed and the delivery of accessible and responsive services.
4. **Mental health** – to transform accessibility to, experience of and outcomes from mental health services and well-being support for the people of north east London.

How we work as a system will feature strongly in the strategy to ensure we have the essentials in place for a well-functioning system. We will develop a strengths-based approach to working with communities, put innovation and research at its heart, and accelerate our work to improve our population's health. We will be bold and determined as we work together to reduce health inequalities, deepen collaboration and ultimately improve the lives of people living in north east London.

## **Ways we are working with local stakeholders**

This strategy is an opportunity for us to build on the commitments outlined in our [Working with People and Communities Strategy](#), and on the positive work that has been done across the system to progress meaningful participation. Co-production is at the heart of the strategy.

The ICP steering group which 'steers' the work of the ICP and strategy includes a wide membership representing a range of stakeholders, including councillors, voluntary sector representatives and Healthwatch.

To ensure wider participation we have held four workshops on each of our priority areas listed above, along with one on the cost of living crisis and impact this is having on local people. These workshops brought together a variety of stakeholders, including service users, patients and residents from across the integrated care system to develop those core elements of the strategy, including how we will take the work forward together.

As we continue our engagement and work as an Integrated Care System, stakeholder networks will be key in helping us reach more people and we will keep you up to date with this work and welcome all input and views.

## **Timeframe and next steps**

Our strategy is due to be completed and agreed by our Integrated Care Partnership on 11 January 2023. It will underpin our five-year forward plan due in April 2023. The strategy provides the opportunity to reflect on the work we have achieved, build on what has worked, and improve and continually innovate on behalf of and in co-production with people across north east London.

**For more information, or to arrange a meeting to discuss this work, please contact Ashleigh Milson, Senior Public Affairs Manager at NHS North East London via [Ashleigh.milson@nhs.net](mailto:Ashleigh.milson@nhs.net)**