



**North Area ICP Evaluation Update  
Strategic ICP Meeting 7 December 2023**

**This evaluation update is to capture the highlights and key proposals in line with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and outcomes from the two Area ICP meetings.**

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- 1. Longer and healthier lives for all**
- 2. Fairer health outcomes for all**
- 3. Best start in life for our children and young people**
- 4. Improving health and care services**

**North Area ICP Chair**

Councillor Lynne Caffrey

**ICB Executive Area Director**

Levi Buckley

**Summary Update – Key Themes & Priorities highlighted (*Previous 2 area meetings*)**

**Introduction**

The North Area ICP has met on four occasions. The Area ICP is a key forum to develop and strengthen relationships between professional, clinical, political and community leaders and for partners to share intelligence, identify common challenges and objectives and share learning.

The North Area ICP has a large membership given the geographical footprint and number of local authorities and partner organisations operating within it.

**Meeting held on 6 September 2023 (Newcastle)**

The Chair reported on the Strategic ICP meeting held on 21 June 2023 and noted that the reports from the ICP area meetings showed that they were looking at similar areas of focus. Some issues around attendance of meetings due to capacity were raised.

The following issues were discussed:

**Primary Care Dental Services**

Members received a presentation on the current issues around dental services, noting the significant challenges for people accessing dentistry services in the North East and North Cumbria. The presentation highlighted that NHS England have delegated responsibility to NENC ICB for commissioning dental services from 1 April 2023. To tackle the challenges the ICB are taking immediate actions to stabilise services, taking a more strategic approach to workforce and service delivery, and developing an oral health strategy to improve oral health and reduce the pressure on dentistry.



Discussions took place on how the problems are being addressed, with prevention being a key area of focus. Concerns were raised regarding groups of people who find it difficult to access services, for example children and young people.

Members agreed it would be helpful to receive an update on the action plan, including the fluoridisation plan.

### **Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne, and Wear NHS FT (CNTW) Mental Health Strategy**

Representatives from Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne, and Wear NHS FT gave a presentation on the Trust's strategy, and discussions were held on recruitment and retention, mental health hubs and ongoing work with the homeless and ethnic groups.

It was agreed that, as some organisations would not be familiar with the strategy, it would be useful to invite the Trust's Chief Executive to a future meeting for a more in-depth discussion.

### **Prevention Workstream**

Dr Pilkington, Co-Chair of the Prevention Board, gave an update on the prevention workstream. Discussions took place on the main challenges, including funding. There was further discussion on the merits of the increased involvement of the voluntary sector going forward.

### **Meeting held on 15 November 2023 (North Tyneside)**

The following issues were discussed:

#### **Women's Health**

Siobhan Brown, Director of Service Transformation, presented on The North East and North Cumbria's Women's health programme. Discussions took place on the national, regional, and local context, hub developments, inequalities faced by women who have more needs, the women's health profile across the region, and how best to use resources.

#### **Winter**

Siobhan Brown presented on winter planning, and discussions took place on discharges, the number of beds available, funding for acute beds, navigation through the front door, risk of patient harm and the equality and safety of patients.

Top priorities are to assist with 'right place, right time'; support Trusts to manage handover delays; frailty and mental health.

#### **Prevention**

Alice Wisemen, Director of Public Health for Gateshead, delivered a presentation on the prevention workstream,

The group discussed issues around reducing alcohol harm, issues with tobacco, obesity, and gambling.

#### **Healthwatch**

Paul Jones, Healthwatch, identified some of the common issues in the North being dealt with currently are issues with carers and also dentistry.



### **Plans for Next Steps**

Work will continue to ensure a fair representation of organisations at future meetings, with thought being given to which representatives would be able to attend to give value to discussions going forward.

It was agreed that items for future discussions would include updates on:

- The North East Combined Authority
- Suicide Prevention Workstream
- Community Pharmacy
- St Oswald's Hospice Strategy

**Next meeting: 7 February 2024 – venue to be confirmed**