

Monthly Brief

- **Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs)**
- **Home First**
- **Community Activation**
- **In other news...**

Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

North INT - Ageing Well: Frailty Plus

Older people living with frailty often experience fragmented support, increasing the risk of deterioration, crisis and avoidable hospital admissions. Many residents also face wider challenges such as social isolation, housing issues and carer strain that can impact their health and wellbeing. Partners in the North have agreed to pilot an Ageing Well: Frailty Plus model, using risk stratification alongside professional judgement to identify people who would benefit most from coordinated multidisciplinary support. Health, housing, pharmacy, VCSE and care partners are working together to develop a neighbourhood-based model built around one assessment, one plan and one coordinator. The aim is to help residents receive more coordinated support earlier, reducing the need for repeated assessments and ensuring services work together around what matters most to the individual. Ultimately, this is about helping people live independently for longer, reducing health inequalities and providing more proactive, joined-up care within neighbourhoods.

South INT - Childhood Asthma and Housing

Poor housing conditions, including damp and mould, can have a significant impact on children's respiratory health, contributing to poor asthma control and avoidable use of healthcare services. The South INT is developing a Childhood Asthma and Housing Pilot bringing together housing, public health, children's services, healthcare providers and community partners. Dedicated pathway groups have been established, funding for a programme coordinator has been secured and preparations are underway for MDT delivery later this year. By bringing these services together, children and families can receive earlier support to address both health and housing issues, improving asthma outcomes and helping children stay well at home, in school and within their communities. The work also provides an opportunity to tackle health inequalities, address the wider determinants of health and improve outcomes for children and young people.

East INT - Childhood Obesity

Childhood obesity has a significant impact on future health outcomes and opportunities for early identification and intervention can be missed due to fragmented data and inconsistent approaches across services. Partners across health, public health, the local authority and voluntary sector are developing a neighbourhood approach to childhood obesity. A phased programme is underway focusing on strengthening data quality, improving identification through digital solutions and designing coordinated intervention pathways. This will help identify children who may benefit from support earlier and enable families to access more coordinated prevention and intervention services, improving long-term health and wellbeing outcomes. It is part of the wider ambition to give every child the best start in life, reduce inequalities and develop preventative neighbourhood services that can be scaled across Wolverhampton.

West INT - Cancer Prehabilitation

People affected by cancer often require support with physical, emotional, social and practical needs before, during and after treatment, yet services can be difficult to navigate and access in a coordinated way. Work is underway to bring together health, social care, pharmacy, voluntary sector and specialist cancer services into a coordinated support offer with interventions tailored to individual need. The intention is to help people affected by cancer access the right support at the right time, improving their wellbeing, resilience and readiness for treatment while reducing inequalities in outcomes and experience. Together, this supports personalised, preventative and holistic care that improves outcomes and experiences for people living with cancer.

Home First

We know that hospital demand continues to put pressure on services, and there is an opportunity to support more people to remain independent at home and reduce avoidable hospital admissions. Partners are working together through Home First to review and improve pathways, with a particular focus on discharge and Discharge to Assess. We're also looking at intermediate care provision, gaps and blockages such as housing, and opportunities to redesign and integrate services. This will help people leave hospital safely and in a timely way, return home or to a community setting where appropriate, and access the right support to remain independent for longer. This supports the wider ambition to shift care from acute to community settings and make 'home where possible, hospital when necessary' part of how services work across Wolverhampton.

Frailty

Work is continuing to make sure older people get the right care in the right place, and that hospital is only used when it's really needed.

The Frailty Group is strengthening support at the front door of the hospital. This includes developing a Multidisciplinary team in reaching into the Emergency Department to look at what support someone needs and whether they can be safely cared for without being admitted. Frailty Same Day Emergency Care is also seeing more activity, now averaging around six to eight patients a day. Clinical Frailty Scoring at triage is helping to identify people earlier and support conversations about the right care and discharge.

There's also work underway to develop Frailty Hubs the design and model going forward and strengthen same-day social care access, reablement and therapy support in the community. The next step is to build on this through using the Home First approach, making it easier for people to move between hospital and community services and return home within the first few days of their stay where it's safe to do so.

Community Activation

VCSE organisations play a vital role in improving health and wellbeing, building trust, and driving positive change within our communities. The partnership is looking to recruit Health Champions from across Wolverhampton for a 12-month pilot running from January to December 2027, with work to build the team and recruit the Champions taking place from October to December 2026. Health Champions will support health campaigns, encourage healthier lifestyle choices, and capture the experiences and insights of local people across the city's ten priority areas. These insights will help shape the delivery of INTs and inform Public Health priorities.

Through the pilot, funding will be provided to organisations already making a difference in their communities. They will identify and support Health Champions to lead community conversations, gather local feedback and strengthen connections between residents and health services, helping to make sure community voices are heard and can influence future planning and service delivery.

In other news...

The Big Conversation on Care: The Independent Commission on Adult Social Care is considering how adult social care should change to meet the needs of current and future generations, and to make recommendations for reform. As part of this, it has launched its Big Conversation on Care, giving people across the country the opportunity to be involved from the start and share their views on what a 'National Care Service' in England could look like. To get involved, people are encouraged to visit <http://caseycommission.co.uk/bigconversation/>

Protect your child's smile with free toothbrushes and paste: Families in Wolverhampton are being invited to pick up free children's toothbrushes and toothpaste from locations around the city over the next few months. They are being provided as part of a drive by the City of Wolverhampton Council and The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust to improve oral hygiene, particularly among youngsters. Free child-specific toothbrushes and toothpaste are available from Central Library, the Best Start Family Hub in Graiseley, WV Active Bilston-Bert Williams, WV Active Central and WV Active Aldersley. Find out more about where to pick up free toothbrushes and toothpaste and access the oral health toolkit: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/oralhealthtoolkit

Sickle Cell Awareness Month: This month is Sickle Cell Awareness Month. Knowing the signs and acting quickly can save lives. Find out more <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/sickle-cell-disease>



Get in touch

If you would like to get in touch with the partnership or contribute to the briefing, please [email **rwh-tr.onewolverhampton-pto@nhs.net**](mailto:rwh-tr.onewolverhampton-pto@nhs.net)

You can find out more about the partnership by following us on [X](#).