

One Halton Integrated Care Partnership

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Halton Borough Council

and

NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group

and

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust

and

St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

and

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

and

Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

and

Runcorn Primary Care Network

and

Widnes Primary Care Network

and

Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action

and

Halton Housing

and

Healthwatch Halton

Contents

0 Overarching Note.....	3
1 Introduction.....	4
2 Background.....	4
3 Vision, Aims and Objectives.....	4
4 Principles.....	5
5 Our Commitment.....	6
6 Values and Behaviours.....	7
7 Monitoring.....	7
8 Designated Leads.....	7
9 Partnership Governance and Oversight.....	8
10 Problem Resolution And Escalation.....	9
11 Conflicts of Interest.....	9
12 Duration.....	9
13 Disclaimer.....	10
14 Signatories.....	10

Overarching Note Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for One Halton Integrated Care Partnership (ICP)

This MOU provides an overarching framework for the place-based approach to integrated health and care in Halton, known as the One Halton ICP. The arrangements set out build on the previous collaboration agreement between NHS and local authority partner organisations in Halton. They are intended to broaden the partnership to include key partners such as Housing, primary care networks and voluntary sector partners and further develop the established place-based integrated working between the partners for the benefit of the Halton population.

This MOU sets out the Partners' approach to the One Halton ICP model. This MOU will cover the agreed Priority Areas which shall be the key focus of the One Halton ICP for 2021/22 and beyond, subject to changes agreed between the Partners.

This MOU is based on a partnership approach and provides an overarching arrangement. It is designed to work alongside existing contracts and arrangements for the delivery of care, support and community services via the provider organisations to the extent such services are within the scope of the MOU. As at the commencement date, the MOU is not intended to be a legally binding document as this accountability remains with the statutory bodies.

The intention is that the Partners will work together under the governance framework set out in this MOU to develop the One Halton ICP approach to ultimately, over time, include requirements in relation to outcomes, risk/gain share, financial and contract management, and regulatory requirements. The Partners intend to work towards documenting such arrangements as may be agreed following the second reading of the White paper.

The approach that the Partners are working towards through this MOU is illustrated in Figure 1 below.



The Partners will review progress made and the terms of this MOU at six monthly intervals from the commencement date and may agree to vary the MOU to reflect developments.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out the details of our commitment to work together in partnership, to realise our shared ambitions to improve the health and wellbeing of the people who live in Halton, reduce health inequalities and improve the quality of services.

2 Background

- 2.1 This MoU formalises our partnership arrangements. It is not a legal contract but rather a shared understanding between the partners of our collective objectives and purpose. It does not replace or override the legal and regulatory frameworks that apply to statutory NHS organisations and the Local Authority.
- 2.2 As part of the Government White Paper titled *“Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all”* there is a requirement for areas within the Integrated Care System to have place based partnerships, referred to as Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs).
- 2.3 One Halton ICP is the place based partnership in Halton. One Halton brings together the multiple organisations who work together in Halton address health inequalities, tackle the wider determinants of health, improve the experience and outcomes for the community, residents and patients.

3 Vision, Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The overarching vision for One Halton is:

“Working better together to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Halton so they live longer, healthier and happier lives.”

- 3.2 The overarching aim of One Halton is to work together to transform services across the health and social care system to deliver sustainable change with maximum benefits to communities, residents and patients. This includes joint accountability and decision making, improved commissioning and a move to integrated service delivery.

- 3.3 Specific objectives are:

- to develop an Outcomes Framework for the Priority Areas and an implementation plan in respect of these outcomes (the One Halton **ICP Plan**);

- to consider lessons learned by the partners during the Covid-19 pandemic and build upon the collaborative working arrangements developed during this period;
- to establish and operate collaborative governance arrangements in respect of the One Halton ICP;
- to ensure robust quality, performance and financial systems and frameworks are in place;
- to develop population health management systems and intelligence which use health, social and economic population measures to ensure high quality health, care, support and community services which improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities;
- to develop a strong research and development culture in the One Halton ICP, with Primary Care taking a leading role.

4 Principles

- 4.1 The Principles underpin the delivery of the Partners' obligations under this MOU and set out key factors for a successful relationship between the Partners.
- 5 The Partners acknowledge and confirm that the successful development and delivery of the objectives and, ultimately, the outcomes will depend on the providers' ability to effectively co-ordinate and combine their expertise and resources in order to deliver an integrated approach to the development of the Priority Areas (together with the Council as a provider) under this agreement in conjunction with NHS Halton CCG (or NHS ICS) and Halton Borough Council (as a commissioner).
- 6 The Principles are that the Partners will work together in good faith and, unless the provisions in this agreement state otherwise, the Partners will:
- take decisions solely in terms of the patient/resident's best interest and not that of self or organisation;
 - not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals/organisations;

- in carrying out public business, make choices on merit when awarding contracts and making appointments;
- be accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and submit themselves to appropriate scrutiny;
- be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take and give reasons for their decisions;
- have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties;
- promote and support these principles by leadership and example;
- work together to develop over time and adopt, where appropriate and reasonable, mechanisms for collective ownership of risk and reward, including identifying, managing and mitigating specific risks and the implementation of an outcomes framework in respect of their performance of the obligations under Service Contracts;
- achieve continuous, measurable and measured improvement in Outcomes. Agree improvements which are specific, challenging, add value and eliminate waste; and
- always demonstrate that the best interests of people resident within Halton are at the heart of the activities which they undertake under this Agreement and the Services Contracts and not organisational interests, and engage effectively with the Population,

(Together these are the “Principles”)

7 Our Commitment

- 7.1 We agree that the Halton Health & Wellbeing Strategy provides the focus for our work together and sets out our vision to work together to reform health and social care services to improve the health outcomes of our residents and reduce health inequalities.
- 7.2 We agree that One Halton ICP will provide a focal point for prevention and early intervention, proactively identifying potential future demand and shifting the focus from unplanned and reactive services to planned, targeted and evidence based interventions.
- 7.3 We agree to put patients and residents at the heart of what we do.

- 7.4 We agree to put Primary Care at the centre of our care model.
- 7.5 We agree to design services (or co-produce) for users and not our organisational needs.
- 7.6 We will be transparent in the decisions and actions that are taken.
- 7.7 We will work together to develop over time and adopt, where appropriate and reasonable, mechanisms for collective ownership of risk and reward.
- 7.8 We will adopt a learning approach building on effective practice.
- 7.9 We will strive for excellence and have a strategic regard for the future and not just the present.
- 7.10 We will ensure that we meet our collective safeguarding responsibilities.

8 Values and Behaviours

- 8.1 We support each other and work collaboratively.
- 8.2 We act with transparency, honesty and integrity and trust each other to do the same.
- 8.3 We challenge constructively when we need to.
- 8.4 We assume good intentions.
- 8.5 We will implement our shared priorities and decisions, holding each other mutually accountable for delivery.

9 Monitoring

- 9.1 Ensure we achieve continuous, measurable and measured improvement in outcomes by agreeing improvements which are specific, challenging, add value and eliminate waste.
- 9.2 All partners commit to ongoing monitoring, with the aim of ensuring accountability and performance against milestones.

10 Designated Leads

- 10.1 Each partner will appoint a senior member of staff to lead on the work the development of One Halton ICP.

10.2 The partnership will consist of:

- Halton Borough Council
- NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group
- Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust
- St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
- Runcorn Primary Care Network
- Widnes Primary Care Network
- Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action
- Halton Housing
- Healthwatch Halton

11 Partnership Governance and Oversight

11.1 Partners will work together under the governance framework set out in this MoU to develop the One Halton ICP.

11.2 The diagram below illustrates the governance arrangements for One Halton ICP.



11.3 We agree that the governance arrangements will be kept under regular review and be revised to reflect legislative requirements.

12 Problem Resolution And Escalation

12.1 Partners will attempt to resolve in good faith any dispute between them in respect of One Halton (or other related partnership) decisions in line with the value and behaviours set out in this memorandum.

12.2 Where necessary a dispute resolution process will be applied to resolve any issue which cannot otherwise be agreed.

12.3 The Partners will adopt a systematic approach to problem resolution in which they;

- seek solutions without apportioning blame;
- base on mutually beneficial outcomes;
- treats Providers and the Commissioners as equal Partners in the dispute resolution process; and
- contain a mutual acceptance that adversarial attitudes waste time and money.

12.4 If a problem, issue, concern or complaint comes to the attention of a Partner in relation to the Objectives, Principles or any matter in this MOU and is appropriate for resolution between the commissioners and the Providers such Partner shall notify the other Partners and the Partners each acknowledge and confirm that they shall then seek to resolve the issue by a process of discussion within 20 Operational Days of such matter being notified.

13 Conflicts of Interest

13.1 Conflicts of interest will be appropriately declared and managed.

13.2 Each partner is responsible to disclose any conflict of interest that may arise in connection with this agreement or in connection with One Halton ICP.

14 Duration

14.1 This agreement shall take effect from the date signed until 31st March 2022.

14.2 The partners can agree in writing to terminate early, extend or revise at any point. It is anticipated this would be through the One Halton ICP Board.

15 Disclaimer

15.1 It should be noted that by signing this document or by participating in the One Halton Memorandum of Understanding the partners are not committing to legally binding obligations. It is intended that the partners remain independent of each other and that their collaboration and use of the term 'partner' does not constitute the creation of a legal entity, nor authorise the entry into a commitment for or on behalf of each other.

16 Signatories

Organisation	Signature	Name	Position	Date
Halton Borough Council				
NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group				
Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust				
St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust				
Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust				
Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust				
Runcorn Primary Care Network				
Widnes Primary Care Network				
Halton Housing				
Healthwatch Halton				