

**Report for Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel –
Monday 14 July 2025**

Update on future of integrated community-based care

An update from HCRG Care Group is included as an appendix to this report.

Also included is a set of slides, which will be presented to the committee at its meeting on Monday 14 July by Val Scrase, Regional Director, HCRG Care Group.

Update on the future of integrated care boards in England

At the last meeting, members were informed of the current plans to form a new cluster organisation with the ICBs in Dorset and Somerset, as part of the government's wider planned changes to the NHS in England.

These plans have now been formally approved by NHS England, and this new cluster group will be one of three in operation in the South West of England.

The other cluster groups have been confirmed as:

- Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly
- Gloucestershire and BNSSG (Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire)

At a national level, a total of 26 cluster organisations have recently been formed, and since given approval by NHS England. There were previously 42 integrated care boards in operation across England, which shows the radical level of change that is happening across the country.

The formation of these cluster groups marks the start of a fundamental change in the way ICBs operate, with each organisation now expected to take on the role of strategic commissioner within its respective health and care system.

Locally, the ICB continues to work closely with its colleagues in Dorset and Somerset on next steps, while also remaining focussed on the day-to-day business and providing support to staff.

Further updates will be shared with the committee as and when developments occur and plans are confirmed.

Topping-out event held at site of new integrated care centre

The countdown to the opening of the new Trowbridge Integrated Care Centre is officially on, with construction of the £16 million site having reached its highest point.

Representatives from the ICB marked the occasion on Friday 6 June, and were joined on the roof by the Mayor of Trowbridge, as well as a number of NHS colleagues who will soon call the new centre home.

Caroline Holmes, Interim Executive Lead for Cancer, Planned Care and Community, Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board, gave a rooftop speech to thank those who had come along for bringing the new centre to life.

She said: "This new centre is set to be a flagship location for local health and care, with teams from many different organisations, including HCRG Care Group, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership and the Royal United Hospital, working together under one roof to help give patients a smoother, more joined-up experience."

Construction work on the new integrated care centre, which when complete will be one of the country's first completely self-sufficient NHS buildings, is expected to finish before the end of the year, with the doors opening to patients in early 2026

Once fully open, the centre will become the new location for all of the health and care services, including the minor injury unit and X-ray department, that are currently based within the nearby Trowbridge Community Hospital.

This means that patients will be able to continue accessing the same range of services as before, but in an ultra-modern health and care environment that is truly reflective of a 21st century NHS.

Find details of the next drop-in session, along with further information, at www.bsw.icb.nhs.uk/news-and-events/integrated-care-centres/trowbridge-icc.

[Plea for men over 40 to have free NHS health check](#)

Males over the age of 40 are being urged to take up the offer of the free NHS Health Check.

Coming forward when invited is important as the check can help to identify and diagnose conditions that could be quietly developing but not yet producing any noticeable signs or symptoms.

The ICB encouraged local men to get checked as part of the annual Men's Health Week, which ran between Monday 9 and Sunday 15 June.

High blood pressure and high cholesterol, both of which are often described as silent killers due to neither having any distinct symptoms, are just two of the conditions that are looked for during the NHS Health Check.

Dr Barry Coakley, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board, said: "Many of the conditions that are more common in middle-aged men only produce symptoms once it's too late, and these can often take the form of something quite radical, such as a heart attack or mini stroke."

The health checks are commissioned by local authority public health teams.

Invitations to the free NHS Health Check are sent automatically to both men and women as soon as they reach their 40th birthday, with follow-up invites then arriving in five-year increments.

[Health passports for patients in BSW](#)

The Health and Care Passport is a nationally-recognised document that supports people with learning disabilities when receiving care and treatment in a healthcare setting.

Patients are able to use the passport to record important personal information, including likes, dislikes and preferred methods of communication, which can then be handed to clinicians, who will use the information provided to make any necessary adjustments so that the patient's visit can be as comfortable as possible.

Health and care passports are available to all who would benefit from their use, with templates able to be downloaded from the internet directly or requested from the health and care provider.

Julian House in Bath works with people from minority backgrounds, including those belonging to Boater, Gypsy and Traveller communities, to ensure they are supported when accessing various local health and care services.

Staff from the charity are able to signpost patients, as well as their family members and carers, to a variety of resources, such as the Health and Care Passport, which can be used in all health and care environments in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire, including hospitals and GP practices.

The Big A&E Survey

At the beginning of April, the ICB launched an engagement programme to understand what had driven a 5.6 per cent increase in patients visiting A&E departments across Bath, Swindon and Salisbury during 2024.

The Big A&E Survey went live in April and has, to date, been completed by 1,204 people.

Since its launch, the ICB has been working with Healthwatch to complete face-to-face surveys in each of the region's A&E departments, with the team having visited the Royal United Hospital on two separate occasions.

Results will be used to develop a better understanding of what has driven walk-in visits to A&Es, and why people are visiting hospital rather than using other NHS services, such as GP surgeries, minor injury units or NHS 111.

The survey will run until the end of July, and a further update will be offered once results have been analysed.

For comparison, the total A&E attendances for the region's three acute hospitals for the three-month period of April, May and June can be seen below:

- Royal United Hospital: 24,327
- Great Western Hospital: 30,762
- Salisbury District Hospital: 13,847