

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire

Integrated Care Board

Report for Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel – Monday 17 November 2025

Commissioning an all-age neuro-developmental pathway

The ICB has commissioned an all-age neuro-developmental pathway to provide a needs-based approach to support children, young people and adults with autistic and/or ADHD traits.

This new pathway forms part of the integrated community-based care procurement, with the implementation of the new pathway at the end of March 2025.

This needs-based model was co-created with people with lived and living experience from across BSW, as part of workshop events who co-developed the pillar principles of:

- Understanding need
- · Identifying need
- Meeting need
- Maintaining need
- Escalating need

As a pre-curser to this model, as noted above, HCRG Care Group has been working with the ICB and partners as part of a longer-term test and learn programme to transform the children and young people neuro-developmental pathway to move from a diagnostic approach to a needs-based model to improve outcomes and access as documented above.

This has included the introduction of school and parent/carer referral, which has been welcomed by GPs, schools and parent and carers.

An outcome report was presented to the BSW LDAN Delivery Group to close the test and learn project and move the revised model to business as usual.

This report included feedback from parents, carers and system partners, which has been used to refine the incumbent model and fed into the transformation work for the newly commissioned all age pathway.

Within the pathway, adult patients awaiting an autism assessment were transferred from AWP to HCRG as part of the ICBC mobilisation.

The ICB has now concluded a review of the adult ADHD waiting list previously held by AWP.

This exercise was designed to ensure there was a clear understanding of the needs of people waiting.

All patients on a medication pathway have now been transferred to HCRG to ensure no gap in medication provision along with around 50 military patients, who are unable to access the NHS Right to Choose pathway.

The ICB also identified around 10 patients who needed an assessment expedited due to risk, and these individuals have also been transferred to HCRG.

This review included engagement with people awaiting an assessment to help understand people's ongoing needs.

Key feedback included people stating they needed a diagnosis to get support in higher education or at work and young adults feeding back that they now regret a diagnosis made in childhood and the impact it can have on their next steps in life.

The rich feedback received will form part of the transformation work to create the new needs-based all age approach.

The remaining patients awaiting an ADHD assessment have all been contacted and offered the NHS Right to Choose pathway in the interim, as well as support to wait well while transformation work continues to complete the previously mentioned all age pathway by the end of March 2026.

People have told us that they would like support to help them better understand how to live with neurodivergent traits without the need for a diagnosis, and as such the ICB is in the process of strengthening the VCSFE support offer for this cohort using £120,000 of SDF funding.

This increased offer will go live in quarter four across BSW, and will provide waiting well support for those still requiring a diagnosis and an alternative offer for those who do not.

The ICB is one of six systems selected to participate in the national ADHD Service Improvement Programme, which includes improved data collection and the influencing of national policy and legislation to address the national challenge of increased demand.

This work includes moving from a diagnostic model to a needs-based model, which the ICB has already commissioned through ICBC.

The ICB has reviewed the initial findings from the national ADHD taskforce and can confirm the collaborative approach is in line with recommendations.

Feedback sought on local weight management services

Across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire, a number of different services are available to support people living with obesity.

These services were designed at a time when rates of obesity were lower and before the introduction of new weight loss treatments, which have since grown in popularity.

In recent years, increasing numbers of patients have been referred to the specialist weight management services, which are provided by the region's hospitals, including the Royal United Hospital in Bath.

In light of the growing waiting lists, a review is needed to ensure services continue to meet the needs of patients and reflect developments in treatments.

As such, local people are being encouraged to share their thoughts on local weight management services in an online survey, which is now live on the ICB website.

Feedback from this survey will be used to develop a proposal on what services should look like in the future, and will be submitted as part of a wider application for funding to support local obesity initiatives.

The survey – which can be accessed at www.bsw.icb.nhs.uk/weightmanagementsurvey - is open until Sunday 7 November, and should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

Update on winter vaccinations

The ICB has agreed ambitions with NHS England for each of the key winter vaccinations and specific cohorts within that for flu, Covid-19 and respiratory syncytial virus.

These ambitions are set taking into account World Health Organisation guidance on herd-level immunity requirements, as well as national requirements for each individual programme.

These targets, and our local progress towards these, alongside any operational details are shared with the local authority health protection leads regularly on a weekly basis for operational purposes.

The ICB continues to encourage those people who are eligible for one or more winter vaccinations to come forward without delay.

Since the beginning of autumn, vaccines which offer protection against Covid-19, flu and RSV have been available to those who are eligible, such as older people, pregnant women and any person living with a weakened immune system.

As it stands, the three localities which make up the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire are all performing better than the national average in terms of uptake for the three main winter vaccinations.

New opening hours at Trowbridge MIU come info effect ahead of schedule

Extended opening hours at Trowbridge's Minor Injuries Unit have been introduced ahead of schedule, meaning residents now have access to a walk-in service that is open until 8pm every night of the week.

Since Monday 3 November, Trowbridge MIU, which is based within the town's current community hospital, has seen its opening hours extended to cover the almost-12-hour period between 8.30am and 8pm.

Plans had previously been in place for the longer opening hours to come into effect after the service had completed its move across the road to the new Trowbridge Integrated Care Centre, which is due to open in early 2026.

However, following discussions with the local council, and after listening to feedback from members of the public, HCRG Care Group, which runs the MIU, offered to introduce the extended hours early, which will bring the service's opening times back in line with what was in place prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Trowbridge Community Hospital's MIU is one of the town's most widely-used healthcare services, and can provide help and support to people when their condition, while in need of attention, is not serious enough to be classed as an emergency, such as sprains and strains, infected wounds and minor head injuries.

The service is one of many that will soon be moving to the new Trowbridge Integrated Care Centre, which is currently under construction on land adjacent to the existing community hospital building.

Public reminded of services on offer at region's community pharmacies

The ICB is reminding people that community pharmacies can offer advice on a range of illnesses and treatment options, as well as prescribe prescription medicine for a number of common health conditions.

People who are feeling under the weather from one of the seven conditions covered by the Pharmacy First scheme can get the help they need without having to make an appointment with their GP.

Conditions that pharmacists can offer prescription medicine for are:

- Impetigo (aged 1 year and over)
- Infected insect bites (aged 1 year and over)
- Earache (aged 1 to 17 years)
- Sore throat (aged 5 years and over)
- Sinusitis (aged 12 years and over)
- Urinary tract infections (women aged 16 to 64 years)
- Shingles (aged 18 years and over)

Helen Wilkinson, Community Pharmacy Integration Lead, Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board, said: "Each of our 130 or so sites are headed up by a skilled team of trained health and care professionals, each of whom can offer advice on medicines, share information on how to manage illness at home and carry out private consultations for minor illnesses.

"Speeding up the time it takes to provide patients with the care and treatment they need helps people to start their recovery sooner, while also freeing up valuable GP time, which can then be used for seeing patients with more urgent symptoms."

People can find details of their nearest pharmacy, such as opening times and the services being provided, though the NHS website at www.nhs.uk/service-search/pharmacy/find-a-pharmacy.