

# Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust & Mid- Yorkshire Teaching NHS Trust

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**Update on Collaboration and Partnership Working**

**August 2024**

# History of a Developing Partnership

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- The 2 Trusts have a long track record of working together, either directly, or through membership of the West Yorkshire Association of Acute Trusts (WYAAT)
- Historic areas of collaboration have included bariatric services, fertility services, bowel cancer screening and vascular services
- The Trusts decided to form a joint partnership board in 2022 to formalise the arrangements, and to have a more strategic outlook on what could be achieved together
- In 2023, the 2 executive teams came together to reflect on the successes and strength of joint working and developed a high-level three year forward plan
- In June 2024, senior clinical and operational teams met to consider further detail on the forward plan, and to ensure there is wider involvement and socialisation of our joint plans
- Current joint work areas include Non-surgical oncology (NSO), community diagnostic centres (CDCs), a strategic maternity partnership, shared leadership on digital services and a joint pharmacy model as part of a wider WYAAT programme

# Reflections

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- Relationships are strong; we are 'joined up' and providing coherent leadership of issues that matter, such as maternity and non-surgical oncology (NSO)
- We are working on innovative models in partnership and collaborating regularly across a full range of disciplines
- We are supporting each other and delivering improved service resilience as a result
- Future improvements have been identified as the spread of this way of working to deputies and clinical colleagues, the evaluation of our work, and being more proactive at spotting future opportunities for collaboration by developing a more detailed forward plan. We are also working on sharing of best practice, and collaborative working with our joint partners

# Current Areas of Focus

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- Non-Surgical Oncology is our key joint programme
- Our joint strategic maternity partnership is progressing well. The Director of Midwifery from MYTT is providing strategic leadership to the CHFT team, and we are collaborating across the services to improve the offer across the Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield (CKW) patch. The Bronte Birth Centre at Dewsbury District Hospital (DDH) has re-opened and is providing a midwifery led centre for Kirklees residents, whilst work continues on plans to reopen the HRI birth centre
- MYTT and CHFT have collaborated to understand and develop plans to meet the rising demand for diagnostic services across Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield that will improve access and reduce delays for people who need an investigative test. As a result of this collaborative work, MYTT and CHFT secured NHSE capital investment to enable establishment of Community Diagnostic Centres in Halifax, Huddersfield and Wakefield.

# Current Areas of Focus cont.

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- We have an emerging partnership on Digital services. The Chief Digital Information Officer (CDIO) from CHFT has a joint role across the 2 organisations from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. This will enable MYTT to have additional expertise to procure and implement a new electronic patient record (EPR), and to learn from CHFT's experiences. Aligned digital infrastructure will also support our joint clinical and operational work programmes
- The 2 organisations will form part of a new pathology network with Leeds Teaching Hospitals, which is developing as part of WYAAT work. A new, joint laboratory information system (LIMS) is being deployed across the trusts, and we have recently completed joint procurement exercises to appoint new equipment suppliers. In due course, MYTT will provide a centralised blood sciences service for GP blood samples from across Calderdale and Huddersfield, whilst Leeds will provide microbiology for all 3 organisations. All hospitals will retain an acute hospital laboratory for inpatient and urgent requests.

# Benefits we are already delivering

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- Learning and supporting each other (e.g. development of Kirklees approach to CDCs)
- Delivering improved service resilience (e.g. NSO) where historically there have been workforce challenges
- Providing services closer to home (joint NSO service will see patients needing to travel to Leeds less frequently, and dedicated local oncology beds)
- Developing a more strategic approach to Kirklees Place (e.g. Maternity)
- Improved joint communication and aligned leadership on issues that matter to Kirklees
- These benefits will grow as more of our work reaches the implementation phase

# High Level Forward Plan

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- Workshop involving senior divisional/clinical teams was held in June 2024 to scope further opportunities to inform a workplan on joint clinical priorities where there are services which are fragile, or where there may be a development opportunity. ENT and Dermatology were identified as services that may benefit from joint working / models
- Exploration of closer links on procurement to provide economies of scale
- Joint data science work to improve joint use of data regarding the Kirklees population.
- Scoping and potential enactment of a workforce plan to focus on key opportunities in developing joint approaches on recruitment, wellbeing, apprentices, graduate training schemes, grants, local business support, scholarships, joint posts and succession planning –this will likely be linked to WYAAT developments in this areas
- Joint collaboration with Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) and Huddersfield University to optimise opportunities to support and progress Innovation and R&D in Kirklees, linked to the new Health Innovation Campus at Huddersfield University

# Discussion – Q&A