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To: West Yorkshire and Harrogate Members of Parliament

Dear Sir / Madam

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership MP update

I am writing to update all West Yorkshire and Harrogate Members of Parliament on the development of the Partnership's Five Year Plan, which is due to be published at the end of the year. I also wanted to update you on the work of innovation and improvement and the Government's capital funding programme, including the latest allocation for West Yorkshire and Harrogate.

This is a follow up letter to the one I sent to you on the 26 July 2019.

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership Five Year Plan

We continue to work together to develop our Five Year Plan in partnership with health and care leaders in each of the six places which make up our West Yorkshire and Harrogate Partnership (Bradford District and Craven; Calderdale, Harrogate, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield). We are also working with our [Partnership Board](#), Health and Wellbeing Boards, [priority programme leads](#), Healthwatch colleagues, third sector colleagues, communities and other important stakeholders, including the unions.

Our draft Plan builds on local plans that have been developed in each of the six local areas we cover. Each of these local plans will be of a particular interest to you and your constituents. This is where the majority of the work takes place. We have then supplemented the Plan with agreed work that can best take place at a West Yorkshire and Harrogate level. This keeps us focused on an important principle of our Partnership – we deal with issues as locally as possible.

All the 42 partnerships like ours, also known as integrated care systems (ICS) and sustainability transformation partnerships (STP), have been tasked with developing a Five Year Plan in response to the [NHS Long Term Plan](#).

I would like to highlight that first and foremost this is a West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership Plan developed together and which belongs to us all. We published the draft plan on the 27 August ahead of our Partnership Board meeting on the 3 September 2019 to give people the opportunity to share their views further. You can read this [here](#). Please note this has moved on considerably following comments received.



We are clear that our Plan should respond to the needs of all people living across the area. With this in mind, our Plan has been produced with partners and stakeholders and this is reflected in it including a stronger focus on supporting carers and preventing ill health.

It will also set out how we intend to support children and families, whilst tackling health inequalities and improving the lives of the poorest, the fastest. This will ensure our existing work aligns fully to the ambitions of the NHS Long Term Plan and the broader ambitions of our Partnership Board.

With this firmly in view, our Five Year Plan will describe how the health and social care workforce of over 100,000 in West Yorkshire and Harrogate is changing to meet the current and future needs of people living across the area. The approach we will take is in line with the recently published 'Interim NHS People Plan' and also our own workforce plan 'A healthy place to live, a great place to work'.

We eagerly await the Government's workforce, public health, and social care financial settlements for the next five years and know this will continue to be a point of debate nationally. Our full plan will not be delivered without public health, social care and workforce support.

It's important to note that our ambitions stretch far beyond health services. We have a strong relationship with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority that is working through the Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership to develop the Local Industrial Strategy. This is a long-term, evidence-based plan to strengthen local economic growth, reduce health inequalities and improve skills, productivity and the earning power of people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate. This firmly aligns to the Partnership's ambitions and these cannot be seen in isolation from each other.

Our Plan will also recognise the huge contribution community organisations and volunteers make; and the vital role of the 260,000 unpaid carers who care for family and friends day in, day out and whose numbers are more than that of our paid workforce.

The draft Plan will be discussed at the next Partnership Board meeting in public on the 3 December in Bradford. This will include seeking approval for a potential publication date soon after. The agenda and papers will be published the week before on Tuesday 26 November on our website [here](#).

You are of course very welcome to attend – or you may prefer to watch the meeting live from our [website](#). Please don't hesitate to get in touch for more information as needed.

Alongside the publication of our draft Five Year Plan, there will be a summary – this will further set out the uniqueness and strengths of our six places, and the richness and diversity of our communities which make up West Yorkshire and Harrogate, as well as identifying ten top priority ambitions that we will work on together. These include:

- Reducing the gap in healthy life expectancy for West Yorkshire and Harrogate versus England, and within that closing the gap between the poorest 10% and the rest.
- Halting the rise in childhood obesity for all children and significantly reducing the gap for children living in the households with the lowest incomes.
- A reduction in the gap in life expectancy for adults and children with mental health, learning disabilities and autism compared with the wider population ()
- Increasing our early diagnosis rates for cancer, offering an additional 1000 people the chance of curative treatment.
- Taking a zero suicide approach.
- Working together to tackle climate change.
- Supporting local labour markets and fair growth in employment and opportunities for all.



It will also summarise some of the other challenges our Partnership shares and the one important goal we all have in common - to improve people's health and wellbeing whilst delivering quality care and support when needed. We will produce information in alternative formats, including an easy read version and in BSL.

NHS England and NHS Improvement will be collating key aspects of all plans over autumn 2019 with the intention of having one overarching implementation plan. This overarching plan will set out how we will achieve the ambitions of the NHS Long Term Plan nationally.

It's important to note that the development of West Yorkshire and Harrogate's Five Year Plan includes both our response to the NHS Long Term Plan and also the priority areas for our Partnership. This includes our approach to tackling unjust difference and inequalities and how we will work on the wider determinants of health, such as housing, employment, and the economy. Only by considering all of these factors together can we make a real positive difference to the lives of the 2.7million people living across our area.

Innovation and improvement

Another important part of our Plan is how we innovate to transform health and care across our Partnership to the benefit of everyone living across the area. As a health and care system we have a track record for innovation and as a region we have a wealth of assets, including a thriving university sector, over 250 healthtech businesses, and a strong Academic Health Science Network (AHSN).

Capitalising on this means people will receive the benefits of innovation as it drives faster, more convenient, higher quality care which is delivered by services that are digitally connected and continually striving to make improvements.

We have been ambitious in our approach to innovation and improvement for the 2.7million people living across our area.

Back in October 2018 our partnership identified 21 innovations that we felt could improve the quality of care. These spanned health and care settings and ranged from innovations in housing to improvements in emergency surgery.

We set ourselves challenging aspirations for the adoption of these evidence-based innovations across the region by March 2020. We have already met, or even exceeded, our aspirations for 13 of these innovations. And with this achievement comes real benefits for people. The full list is extensive but in brief, our work has prevented over 1,000 readmissions into hospitals, one case of cerebral palsy, 125 strokes through the introduction of mobile ECGs (an electrocardiogram is a simple test that can be used to check your heart's rhythm and electrical activity), 10 heart attacks and 14 strokes through roll out of the Healthy Hearts programme.

These impacts make a huge difference to people's lives and make the best use of funding. For example preventing readmissions through our Connect with Pharmacy Innovation saved Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust £6m in 2018/19; each stroke avoided most importantly saves people's lives, but also saves the health and care system at least £12,225. Each case of cerebral palsy avoided saves the health and care system £5m.



One of our partners in adoption and innovation is Yorkshire & Humber Academic Health Science Network. Working in partnership speeds up improvements in care. It also drives inclusive economic growth and productivity across the region, bringing more jobs into the area.

We are advancing a mutually beneficial approach to innovation with our framework for working with the MedTech industries which is hosted by Leeds Academic Health Partnership. Together these activities will position the region as an area of expertise, growth and productivity that will deliver high quality outcomes and clear benefits for people.

Funding

Working together gives us a better chance of bringing additional money into the area to invest in our staff, buildings, community partners or digital technology. It also gives us greater buying power and the potential to make savings by buying things together, for example medical equipment. We also want to focus investment towards preventing ill health and providing support in community settings, to move clinically appropriate care and treatment for people from hospitals into the community. This will lead to better health and wellbeing, better quality of care as well as more sustainable communities and efficient services. This is sometimes referred to as the 'left shift'.

Through working together, since 2018 the Partnership has secured the largest share of national capital investment, totalling £883m for ten schemes. These include £197m to support the reconfiguration of the hospitals at Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust, £600m for Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust to build two new hospitals (one for children and one for adults) at Leeds General Infirmary (LGI) which will benefit the wider region. £27m has also been allocated to create a brand new specialist hub laboratory for the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Pathology Network. We have also secured investment for a new child and adolescent mental health unit in Leeds and to support rehabilitation across the area.

We know that hospitals and doctors are not alone in keeping people well. Where people live, their homes, the community environment, family support and the life choices they can make are vital. Working with people in communities is a crucial part of our Partnership.

The role of the third sector is vital, no matter what their size. From the very smallest volunteer-led community group, to the largest not-for-profit organisation, they enable people to take collective action on issues that matter to them. They tend to have a strong empathy with and knowledge of the people and communities they serve - because they are often rooted in that community or work in ways that empower people to bring about their own lasting change.

With this firmly in view, as well as receiving £29m to support the delivery of specific programmes over the last two years, for example cancer and mental health, we have also received over £17m to invest in the areas we decide as a Partnership are a priority. This has included boosting investment in voluntary and community organisations targeting loneliness, accelerating the pace of our primary and community care networks, in prevention services and developing localised approaches to improved mental health. These priorities are agreed by our Partnership Board. The Board is an important group as it puts elected members, non-executives and independent co-opted members at the heart of strategic decision making.

Finally, and most importantly, the Queen's Speech highlighted a commitment to reform adult social care in England, although no legislation is planned at this stage.



The delay in publishing the 'green paper' on the future of adult social care has led to a succession of short term funding announcements and a lack of clarity over long term planning and sustainability. We will continue to raise this important point at every possible level.

We will continue to work hard to make the case for national investment, and maximise funding coming into West Yorkshire and Harrogate to support all of our priority areas.

Conclusion

There is a significant amount of work going on across the Partnership. This reflects our ambition and the progress we can make when we work together. The case studies we showcase on our [website](#) demonstrate the genuine impact we are making for people. You can watch a series of films [here](#).

I trust this helps to keep you updated on the development of the Partnership's Five Year Plan, innovation, improvement and funding.

Arrangements are being made to meet with all West Yorkshire and Harrogate MPs in Westminster in January 2019. I hope you are able to join us. In the meantime please don't hesitate to contact me or your local health care leaders to discuss any of the items in this letter in more detail.

I will write to you again following the Partnership Board meeting on the 3 December.

Thank you

Yours faithfully



Rob Webster

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership CEO Lead
CEO South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Cc: West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership Leadership Team

