

Update for Wiltshire Area Boards

November 2020

Increasing the numbers of Social Prescribing Link workers

Primary Care Networks (PCNs) in Wiltshire are working to increase the number of Social Prescribing Link Workers with support from NHS England and Improvement funding for additional roles in primary care.

Eight of the PCNs are working with Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living (Wiltshire CIL) who are recruiting the link workers on their behalf. Wiltshire CIL call them 'Community Connectors' and they are providing vital, non-medical support for people in their local areas. The Community Connectors work closely with other similar roles such as Local Area Coordinators and Community Engagement Managers to provide a network of community support and guidance for those people that need it.

Increasing care home capacity across Wiltshire for winter

We completed work to provide an additional 40 care home beds for rehabilitation and discharge across Wiltshire ahead of the expected increase in demand this winter.

This is a joint initiative with Wiltshire Council and the CCG with funding coming from the Hospital Discharge Programme in 2020/21.

Our Health Our Future citizens panel – latest survey results

We have completed our third survey with members of our citizens panel – Our Health Future – made up of almost 900 people from B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire.

Survey Three was carried out in July and August and asked questions about the impact of COVID-19 on current and future use of health and care services.

You can see the results of this and previous surveys on [our website](#).

Professional Leadership Network

Wiltshire held its first Professional Leadership Network (PLN) event on 6 October 2020, led by Dr. Edd Rendell the Wiltshire Locality Clinical Chair and Elizabeth Disney the Locality's Chief Operating Officer.

The aim of the event was to pull together people who would not normally meet from all around the county virtually to join in conversations about how we can all work more closely together. More than 100 people joined on the day from all areas of health, Wiltshire Council, charitable and voluntary sector organisations, police and many other local and community organisations.

The event was a huge success and we are planning another event in early in the new year.