

Partnerships Team (Isle of Wight)

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Dear Joanna,

Firstly, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Healthwatch Isle of Wight and, in particular, to yourself and Alison Geddes, Non-Executive Director, for their efforts in organising and facilitating the Trauma-Informed Learning Event held on 20 June 2025.

The event provided a valuable opportunity for reflection and dialogue around shared system learning, with the aim of enhancing the health and care experiences of Isle of Wight residents.

We would like to acknowledge that the session was conducted in a constructive and compassionate manner, with all parties showing a clear commitment to keeping the individual at the heart of the case study. It stands as a strong example of how trauma-informed approaches can be embedded in future learning events.

Following the recommendations outlined in the report compiled by Healthwatch Isle of Wight after the learning event, we have summarised below some of the actions currently being undertaken by NHS Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to enhance the experience of Isle of Wight residents:

1. Increasing awareness of a trauma informed approach

Because of the widespread and complex nature of adversities and experience of trauma, and in recognition of the benefit of prevention, intervention and mitigation, NHS Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have become co-signatories to a Trauma Informed Concordat that spans Hampshire and the Isle of Wight geography. We have made a formal commitment to develop our services, workforce and strategies according to the principles set out in the concordat.

The underlining vision of this will to enable safe and enriching environments where children and adults, families and communities are protected from harm and have the opportunity to lead fulfilling, happy and healthy lives and to prosper, regardless of childhood adversity.

The mission is to embed trauma-informed and restorative practice that promotes early intervention and prevention across all public services, ensuring all agencies work together, alongside vulnerable people, families and communities, with the common aim of preventing adverse childhood experiences and where they have already occurred, to reduce the impact of those experiences.

To support this approach, we have updated the Quality Schedules within our new contracts to include a requirement for providers to have a dedicated policy on Trauma-Informed Practice.

In addition, we now offer online training on the subject via our Learning Hub to internal staff, aimed at raising awareness and deepening understanding when commissioning and overseeing services.

We have also begun implementing our self-assessment framework, with the first workshop held on 2 June and a follow-up session currently in development.

2. *Strengthening joint working*

We continue to view partnership working—both at the Place level (i.e., across the Isle of Wight as a whole) and at the neighbourhood level—as essential to delivering services that are shaped around the needs of our population. This collaborative approach has been further reinforced by the government’s vision set out in the *10-Year Health Plan for England: Fit for the Future*, published on 3 July 2025.

While the specific recommendation from the report relates to a change in protocols between police, ambulance, and mental health services services—rather than the re-commissioning of a pathway—we would welcome the opportunity to remain engaged in these discussions. Continued involvement would support shared learning that could benefit other Places within the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight footprint, while also providing a valuable opportunity to explore and identify any elements that may warrant consideration from a commissioning perspective.

3. *Capturing and sharing learning*

The central Integrated Care System Neighbourhood Health Team, in collaboration with Place Teams, is updating Hampshire and Isle of Wight’s Neighbourhood Health Delivery Plan in response to *Fit for the Future*, with a dedicated workstream to share learning and maximise system-wide skills and resources. Key to this will be aligning communities of practice and creating a local knowledge hub, embedding learning into local mobilisation. Although still in the early stages of development, this initiative will complement existing communication strategies and shared learning opportunities—such as the upcoming Quality Improvement Week scheduled for 9–13 September.

Alongside this, a new approach to safeguarding analysis is currently being piloted in Hampshire which may help prevent future incidents within a broader context as the initiative is envisioned as a scalable model that could inform and shape

safeguarding practices across all Places and neighbourhoods within the Hampshire and Isle of Wight footprint.

In the pilot, a Safeguarding Health Needs Profile has been drafted, utilising a quality improvement methodology and drawing on clinical, public health and population health data with analytic support provided by the population health and quality teams to identify common objectives and shape recommendations.

The work provides a comprehensive overview of the current health and safeguarding needs across the Hampshire population, contextualised within the evolving national and regional health policy landscape (including NHS 10 Year Plan and model ICB 'Blueprint'). A cornerstone of the work is leveraging clinical data to achieve safeguarding insights, enabling the development of a 'Health Needs Profile'. The intention is that the Health Needs Profile serves as a resource for the NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board and Safeguarding Adults Board, bringing together relevant data, identifying key risk factors, and outlining current and future strategic actions.

We will review the outcomes of this pilot to assess its potential for broader application—not only geographically, but also in terms of its innovative use of population health analytics to help prevent safeguarding incidents before they occur.

Locally, we would also suggest that a summary of this learning exercise and its outcomes be presented by Healthwatch Isle of Wight at the Isle of Wight Health and Care Partnership Board, under the 'Addressing Health Inequalities' standing agenda item. This would enable valuable cross-sector learning at a senior level.

Over the past six months, the ICB Partnership team has been supporting Health and Care Partnership in refreshing its Terms of Reference and Isle of Wight Health and Plan, with the aim of fostering a collaborative forum to improve health and care services across the Isle of Wight. We continue to value and support this platform as a space to raise and address areas of concern, as well as to recognise and share successes.

4. Commissioning of dementia training

There is no current intention to commission a dementia training offer. However, we are aware that our NHS Trusts do commission dementia awareness training for their staff.

5. Separation of dementia commissioning from wider mental health pathways

There are no current plans to separate the commissioning of dementia services from the wider mental health portfolio. Whilst commissioning accountability will continue to sit with the mental health commissioning team, dementia leads within the ICB work closely with leads for work around frailty as we recognise that people with dementia require physical health support as well as specific support for their diagnosis of dementia.

6. *Developing integrated care pathways for dementia*

Development is currently underway for integrated care pathways for dementia services across all geographies of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. However, progress varies across different areas and will continue to be shaped by Place-specific nuances to ensure the needs of local residents are meaningfully incorporated.

While we continue to acknowledge and collaborate closely with our partners, we would also like to recognise the significant progress made across the Isle of Wight system—highlighted by national recognition as Finalists for the HSJ 2024 Place-Based Partnership and Integrated Care Award. This achievement reflects the collective efforts of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (formerly as Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust), Isle of Wight NHS Trust, Isle of Wight Council, NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Alzheimer Café Isle of Wight, Age UK Isle of Wight, Carers Isle of Wight, and Healthwatch Isle of Wight in developing the Isle of Wight Dementia Strategy. We are committed to continuing to support the implementation of this strategy for the benefit of our Island residents.

Once again, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Healthwatch Isle of Wight for coordinating this valuable learning event and compiling the outcomes into an informative report that we can share and build upon.

We hope this marks the beginning of a series of future events that will support continuous improvement and drive meaningful, positive change for our local residents.

Yours sincerely



Scott Redpath
Partnerships Director for the Isle of Wight
NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight