

Slough Borough Council

Report To: Slough Health and Well-being Board

Date: Tuesday 16 September 2025

Subject: Update from NHS Frimley ICB

Contact Officer: Martha Earley, Associate Director of NHS Frimley ICB

Ward(s): All

Exempt: NO

Appendices: Appendix 1 - Joint Transition Stakeholder Information Pack (PDF Slide deck)

1. Summary and Recommendations

1.1 This report sets out sets out an update from NHS Frimley Integrated Care Board.

Please indicate which priority in the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy, [Slough Wellbeing Strategy 2020 – 2025](#), your report links to:

Priority 1 – Starting Well	Priority 2 - Integration	Priority 3 – Strong, Health and Attractive Neighbourhoods	Priority 4 – Workplace Health
	X		

1.2 Consideration:

X Information

☐ Discussion

☐ Decision

☐ Endorsement

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

(a) Note the update.

Reason: for information to update the Slough Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. Report

Introductory paragraph

2.1 Transition update from Frimley ICB

2.1.1 NHS Frimley ICB and NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & Berkshire West (BOB) ICB are actively responding to the national ambition to develop ICBs with the new model ICB Blueprint, to reduce the envelope of resources they are to operate with and improve population health outcomes and reduce inequalities for their populations. In line with the NHS 10-Year Plan and the Model ICB Blueprint, both ICBs are working collaboratively towards forming a new Thames Valley ICB; a single, strategic body that will serve the populations of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire.

2.1.2 Slough is part of East Berkshire, covering Bracknell Forest, Royal Borough Windsor and Maidenhead and Slough. Therefore, Slough will be part of the new Thames Valley ICB footprint.

2.1.3 Progress update

2.1.3.1 Work continues as we prepare for the changes being made to our ICB.

2.1.3.2 This includes the adjustment to boundaries in the South of our NHS Frimley ICB geography and the formation of the new Thames Valley ICB. While we await final ministerial approval of the Thames Valley ICB geography, our Boards are exploring governance options to form a joint committee from October 2025. This step will formalise our current clustering arrangements and enable us to work more effectively as two organisations transitioning into one.

2.1.3.3 We are also beginning reviews of our estate locations.

2.1.4 Organisational Design and Staff Engagement

2.1.4.1 On Tuesday, 5 August, colleagues from Frimley and BOB ICBs were invited to come together for the first joint workshop to help shape the Neighbourhood and Partnerships function of the new Thames Valley ICB.

2.1.4.2 Around 45 staff and partners attended the event, at Braywick Leisure Centre in Maidenhead, joined by both Chief Executives and members of the executive teams. The session aimed to explore what 'neighbourhood working' means and how it can help improve local health and care.

2.1.4.3 Participants worked through four themed discussions on: core purpose, enablers, opportunities and culture.

2.1.4.4 Some strong themes began to emerge around tackling health inequalities, building trust with communities, and working as 'one team' across organisations. It was great to see and hear that Frimley and BOB colleagues had very similar priorities.

2.1.4.5 A follow-up online session was held on Monday, 11 August, giving partners and staff who couldn't attend in person the chance to share their contribution.

2.1.4.6 More than 250 staff across BOB and Frimley have participated in workshops to give feedback on what they would like the new Thames Valley ICB to represent.

- 2.1.4.7 There is a strong desire to shift emphasis toward prevention, equity, and tackling the wider determinants of health. There is ambition to integrate partners more effectively to co-design seamless, joined-up care pathways, and use real-time data and insight to drive evidence-based decision.**

2.2 News from across the Slough System

- 2.2.1 One Slough Community Fund** - The Better Care Fund is a joint fund between the Council and the ICB. This year, £177,940 was allocated for communities to bid for funding for local projects that would improve their health and wellbeing.

- 2.2.1.1 Key priority themes for the funding were co-produced with Slough CVS, residents, the ICB and Council. These were to address health inequalities, support community cohesion and support children, young people and their carers.
- 2.2.1.2 A joint panel of evaluators included representatives from Slough CVS, Slough Borough Council, Slough Public Health, NHS Frimley ICB, Slough Children First and the Slough Co-Production Network. They received 49 applications to fund local projects.
- 2.2.1.3 30 applications were successful, benefitting local community projects and will receive award funding for the period between June 2025 and July 2026.
- 2.2.2 Videos on living well with dementia for Slough residents** - Two short videos about dementia have been co-created and produced by experts, carers, partners and professionals who are keen to share their experiences and to help the residents in Slough.
- 2.2.2.1 Currently, around 40% of people living with dementia in Slough are undiagnosed.
- 2.2.2.2 Video 1: Living well with dementia – diagnosis and support
<https://youtu.be/RiTDr9YY5NY>
- 2.2.2.3 Video 2: Living well with dementia – support services
https://youtu.be/VoN6A_8jhWA
- 2.2.2.4 For more information, please read the Dementia awareness fact sheet for Residents PP, developed by the Older People's Steering Group in partnership with the Public Health team.
- 2.2.3 Mental health service to open in Herschel Park** - Community Calm, a mental health support service, is preparing to launch a new location in Slough. Community Calm and Slough CVS have teamed up to open its new site at Herschel Park on Monday, 9 September, offering nature-based recovery support for adults transitioning out of formal care.
- 2.2.3.1 It offers a safe space for Slough residents, to recover, reconnect and build confidence through nature-based activities.
- 2.2.3.2 Read the full article Community Calm Expands to Herschel Park – Slough CVS

2.2.4 AskSara launch - Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Council and Slough Council have launched AskSara, a new self-assessment platform to help residents access Occupational Therapy advice and enable them to directly purchase technology and equipment for themselves.

- 2.2.4.1 AskSara covers over 90 topics, including those for children and adults. It is free to use, and users do not need to sign up or input any personal data.
 - 2.2.4.2 A key priority for the platform is to relieve pressure on Occupational Therapy services and allow users to triage their own issues and procure their own equipment and technology where needed. They are also directed to other useful community services as part of the assessment.
 - 2.2.4.3 Integrating AskSara within an NHS setting is vital so residents will become aware of the platform before approaching the Adult Social Care services. The aim is to embed AskSara within Primary and Secondary Care and Community Health services. Posters and leaflets will be used to promote this service to residents and patients.
 - 2.2.4.4 The platform is very easy to use, but we will be offering training sessions for interested parties as required, please email: jennifer.hardy@rbwm.gov.uk and/or zac.dean@slough.gov.uk .
 - 2.2.4.5 Residents and practitioners will be able to access the site through the council websites and via a QR code.
- 2.2.5 Care Quality Commission inspection of Frimley Health - Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust is celebrating recognition from the Care Quality Commission (CQC), which has upgraded Wexham Park Hospital to an Outstanding overall rating, while confirming the trust's overall rating remains Good.
- 2.2.5.1 The recent CQC inspections concentrated on emergency departments, urgent care and medical inpatient wards, all of which were found to be either good or outstanding.
 - 2.2.5.2 Inspectors praised the compassion and kindness shown by colleagues, the strong culture of learning and safety, and leadership that empowers colleagues to innovate and improve care. They also recognised the positive impact of the improvement work across the Trust, including the Care Quality Programme, and Frimley Excellence, supporting staff to create a culture of continuous improvement to develop high quality services and clinical pathways.

[Read the full story.](#)

3. Implications of the Recommendation

here are no recommendations to this report.

3.1 *Health and Well-being Board and Partners Implications*

None

3.2 *Equality implications*

None

3.3 *Environmental implications*

None

3.4 *Financial implications*

None

3.5 *Legal implications*

None

3.6 *Risk management implications*

None

3.7 *Procurement implications*

None

3.8 *Workforce implications*

None

3.9 *Property implications*

None

4. Background Papers

Not applicable.