



## **Board Assurance Framework 2025/26**

## **Strategic Risk Summary**

Within the Integrated Care System (ICS) there are many organisational risks that are managed through appropriate people, organisations, and governance. For our Integrated Care Board (ICB), we need to have a series of strategic risks that will impact on the objectives for all ICBs. It is essential that our approach makes a real impact on the residents of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough by delivering on our ambitions and our ICS strategy, the four key priorities which are:

- Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.
- Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.
- Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.
- Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.

The table below outlines the core strategic risks impacting on our ability to operate as an ICB and the actions we need to hold ourselves to account against everything that we do.

When we speak to the public and look at the data there are three things that are clear:

- 1) Access to care and health is the difference between a service working well and not meeting the needs of people.
- 2) We are in the people business. How we operate and communicate impacts on the outcomes for people, both service users and workforce.
- 3) Hard to reach groups don't exist, they are not well enough understood and are often most under served.

The table will be updated bi-monthly to fit into the ICB business cycle, and a summary page for each risk demonstrates progress as set out in Appendix A.

NoRi	isk Area	There is a risk that	Impact	Board requirements	Current status	Risk Score
SF Di Cc 3C SF Di PI	ealth Inequalities and Outcomes  RO: Managing irector of Strategic ommissioning to 0.09.2025  RO: Executive irector of Strategy, lanning & valuation from 10.2025	Health inequalities will widen. As a result, population health outcomes will worsen for our 'Core20PLUS' population.	<ul> <li>The impact of the Covid pandemic and the disproportionate effect this had on our population has yet to be fully realised, e.g.:</li> <li>Education and lost learning amongst children</li> <li>Impact on risk factors for ill health (such as alcohol and tobacco) are not fully known</li> <li>Increased rates of childhood and adult obesity where obesity rates are already higher in more deprived areas</li> <li>The wider mental health impact on the population, particularly in children and young people</li> <li>The wider determinants of health (such as housing, employment, income, education, and the environment) influence our population's health unequally, which negatively impact health outcomes, and to a greater extent than healthcare access alone.</li> <li>The ICB is unable to address inadequate</li> <li>Population Health management (PHM) digital and data infrastructure, which inhibits the development of system-wide PHM as an effective enabler to target initiatives and actions to reduce health inequalities.</li> </ul>	Acknowledge the actions required to manage this risk are long-term, have influences at all levels of government, across multi-facetted areas of service beyond healthcare, and will require continued commitment over a significant period to show improvement.  Acknowledge that the Health Inequalities agenda is complex and sits across all ICB directorates and ICS partners. Although the SCU has a responsibility to oversee the healthcare inequalities agenda, the delivery of commitments made in the joint Health and Wellbeing Integrated Care Strategy and Joint Forward Plan with regards to health inequalities sits with respective stakeholders. Provide ongoing support of the Population Health Improvement Board with strong collaborative system leadership. The PHI board will oversee implementation of the Healthcare Inequalities. This		

Increased cost of living and the disproportionate effect this has had on the population, particularly our Core20PLUS population groups.

 Inequalities in clinical practice driven by actions of primary care contractors to sustain practice income (for example; noncompliance with local and national prescribing guidance in order to maximise dispensing income).

Lack of appropriate co-ordination and strategic direction of the broader inequalities agenda at a national level across government departments.

- feeds into the Commissioning and Investment Committee
- Ringfence the recurrent health inequalities funding allocation as a targeted financial resource to address health inequalities across the system, with allocation of resources to be agreed through a system level assurance process with review of funding proposals/ business cases.
- Support and fund placed-based approaches which strengthen community action and innovation to tackle not only the immediate health needs of our population but also support action to address the wider determinants of health.
- Ensure all decisions are supported by evidence as to how due consideration has been given to the impacts of proposed actions on population health groups, i.e., through the completion of Equality and Health Inequality Impact Assessments (EHIAs)
- Promote integration and partnership-working to improve health and wellbeing through early intervention and prevention.
- Support the collection, analysis and publication of data, associated

					•	analysis and information on healthcare inequalities in line with the ICB's duty to have regard to reducing health inequalities in the exercise of its function including by reference to access, experience, and outcomes, including via the ICS Outcomes Framework.  Ensure that there is sufficient clinical expertise to provide clinical challenge to address variation in clinical practice leading to inequalities.	
2	residents  SRO: Chief Officer for Partnerships and Integration to 30.09.2025	Future models of care are not built through listening and understanding what people need to maximise their health and wellbeing.	•	Future models of care are not built through listening and understanding what people need to maximise their health and wellbeing. Inequity and lack of access to services because they are not designed with the local people. Historical approach to engage with service users are models designed for feedback only. We make assumptions about what we think people need and look for evidence to support these assumptions.  We do not invest sufficient time, energy, resource and commitment to truly listen and understand about what will make a difference.  We do not align data and feedback to inform decision-making Fragmentation of the user voice as highlighted in the Dash review 2025.	•	Every service or investment to demonstrate how people have designed it to meet their needs. For every service, access is addressed so that it is simple for people to navigate.  Board consideration of alternative service models that are codesigned with our residents.  Review of BCF and MHIS services to ensure it is fit for purpose, and has an impact on C&P patients and offers value for money  An agreed, systematic and transparent approach to this work across our system	

3 Valuing our Workforce SRO: Chief People Officer to 30.09.2025 SRO: Executive Director of Corporate Services & ICB Development from 1.10.2025  We don't for our culture challenges currently farence that valued and to respond increasing possible from 1.10.2025	<ul> <li>is important to them.</li> <li>Cost of living means for many groups of staff working in local retail pays more with less pressure than working in care and health.</li> <li>Historical reliance on 'going above and beyond' to efficiently deliver services.</li> <li>Transformation done to staff not with</li> </ul>	cultural intelligence that enables inclusive and compassionate leadership  Every service or investment to demonstrate how staff been listened to.  Ensure every service and investment has a workforce delivery strategy that is realistic.  Reinvigorate our antiracism efforts and provide safe spaces for people who feel unsafe to be reassured  Implement CPICS' Strategy for Inclusion which seeks to drive out racism. Data reflects racism as the largest by type of discrimination experienced by our staff.  Trusts are deploying different	
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	Office and Chief Medical Officer to 30.09.2025 SRO: Executive Clinical Directors from 1.10.2025	With services under increasing demand, clinical workforce gaps and access delays, service quality can be impacted.	<ul> <li>System has developed a transition hub for increasing visibility and access to any available roles, for people who become displaced by the cost reduction moves</li> <li>Increasing operational pressures have resulted in delay in Emergency Departments and additional Boarding of patients on wards, as well as corridor care in Emergency Departments.</li> <li>Waiting lists for services are longer meaning people are taking longer to be seen.</li> <li>Access to services and communication for people on next steps is variable.</li> <li>Despite overall growth in workforce, actual clinical workforce data identifies some clinical areas remain challenged with shortage of permanent clinical and medical workforce.</li> <li>Identified gap in proactive identification and management of quality risks in Primary Care and the NHS commissioned Independent Sector.</li> <li>Learning Disability research data show the impact of poor care on outcomes.</li> </ul>		
5	Getting the basics right	That we don't deliver the basic NHS statutory standards that have been put in	<ul> <li>Population demand for healthcare services is higher than ever, with residual post COVID backlog recovery still impacting on overall available capacity.</li> <li>This demand, in the context of the workforce pressures and need to deliver a</li> <li>Ensure that the right balance of time and discussion is given to the 'here and now' of our services and the future transformation, with effective oversight through system</li> </ul>	<b></b>	

SRO: Chief Operating Officer to 30.09.2025  SRO: Executive Director of Finance, Resources & Contracting/Directo of Contracts & Performance from 1.10.2025	our residents.	<ul> <li>balanced financial plan, is contributing to performance below national and local delivery standards.</li> <li>Shifting expectation on performance delivery at political and national level, with increased focus on contractual delivery of NHS constitutional standards.</li> <li>Historically performance improvement has been achieved through layering in services and as such, has not always been sustainable.</li> <li>Reputational risk for C&amp;P not meeting NHS constitutional standards for its local population and the impact of not doing so on health inequalities and outcomes for residents.</li> <li>Risk increases when we do not respond effectively to mitigate emerging risks and issues.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Support the effective delivery of performance and contract management processes, including appropriate escalation and intervention, with individual providers and at a collective system level to ensure that we are delivering value in line with commissioned services.</li> <li>Ensure local, regional, and national benchmarking is used to monitor performance to ensure understanding of relative performance and</li> </ul>		
Respecting the public pound  SRO: Chief Finance Officer to 30.09.2025  SRO from 1.10.2025	We do not take effective decisions through the lens of best use of the public money and financial sustainability which will impact on the organisation's ability to achieve its	The ICB and ICS has a statutory responsibility to deliver a break-even financial plan. It has a responsibility to ensure most effective use of capital and revenue budgets.  To deliver the break-even financial plan and enable the ICB and the organisations within the system to deliver its statutory financial duties we will need to take a number of actions /make assumptions that could emerge as in year risks	performance improvement.  Through ICS board governance processes, CFO and regional review meetings ensure regular monitoring of the 25/26 financial plan to include;  In year performance Run rates across pay, non-pay and overall reported position Performance against workforce plan and temporary staffing Elective performance – costs and	<b>-</b>	

7 <b>Bui</b>	ding for the We do not get ah	head	delivering savings recurrently to ensure financial sustainability through 25/26 and into 26/27  Provider organisations have been asked to remove 50% of their corporate services cost growth since 18/19 by Q3 of 25/26 during.  Plans to deliver these savings are being worked up with MARS and VR/CR schemes likely to be implemented, the cost of which is expected to be met from within existing funding provided ICBs have been asked to reduce the costs of running ICBs to live within £19.00 per head of weighted population. This represents approximately 44% reduction across total programme pay and running costs.  Prescribing budgets may not align with the demand driven by national policies and NICE TAs.  The NHS inflation factor does not match levels agreed with local authorities and/ or increases service delivery risk  The funding available for additional elective activity will be capped in 25/26 meaning allocations are fixed for the ICB however providers and the system will still be expected to meet the RTT targets and continue to address long waits.  • We have large amounts of capital coming into	•	the additional unplanned cost. Appropriate modelling and forecasting for the future cost of the ICB to live within £19.00 per weighted head of population. Nationally available benchmarking opportunities to be reviewed and implemented particularly for CHC and prescribing. Further work to identify prescribing efficiencies will be required in order to limit cost growth, accommodate new NICE TAs and provide funding to support new patient delivery outcomes (e.g. for weight management) ICB carefully scrutinise new funding requests to appropriately prioritise and ensure affordability. Ensure that commissioners have skills to challenge expenditure associated with unnecessary/inappropriate prescribing and clinical interventions.	9
futi	=	es	<ul> <li>the C&amp;P economy for new buildings.</li> <li>Digital integration and innovation are key enablers of the delivery.</li> </ul>		issues are explicit in describing long-term future-proof options.	

SRO: Chief Clinical Improvement Officer to 30.09.2025 SRO: to be confirmed from 1.10.2025	what we have rather than considering new care models.	<ul> <li>Research and innovation are high in our ICS, and we need to ensure our population gets an advantage in outcomes from this.</li> <li>When attempting to stabilise current service provision we do not fully explore the 'art of the possible' for future models of care. This includes the embedding of AI and new technologies to support the increasing demand for services</li> <li>A potential lack of ambition/capacity for scale and pace of change means we will need to actively manage the appetite for change across all system providers</li> </ul>	
Recruitment and retention  SRO: Chief People Officer to 30.09.2025  SRO: Executive Director of Corporate Services & ICB Development from 1.10.2025	We are unable to recruit and retain staff across the system	<ul> <li>Workforce shortages are being experienced across particular professions within the system</li> <li>C&amp;P, like all of E of E has become dependent on international nursing recruits to fill vacancies and ensure adequate staffing levels</li> <li>Socio-political environment places additional pressure on international recruitment practices</li> <li>Expanding our domestic supply has become significantly more competitive with hospitality, food suppliers and on-line retailers proving preferable destinations for many potential recruits</li> <li>Retention continues to be challenging into some professions or units</li> <li>Providers are reducing WTE in clerical and admin functions, lowering numbers by ~ 15% overall</li> <li>Trusts will embed the work done via the Retention Exemplar Programme and will maintain a range of initiatives that improve employee experience and drive up retention</li> <li>2025/26 Agenda for Change above inflation pay increase should provide some mitigation to increased cost of living.</li> <li>All our Trusts have had growth in their staff in post from 2022/3 to 2024/5. Trusts are currently challenged to limit growth in WTE and are reducing non patient facing WTE (admin and clerical) in many cases</li> <li>Strengthening relationship and information sharing with our HEI</li> </ul>	8

			partners, developing an engagement programme for student nurses to increase level of joining post qualification.  Bank and agency reductions in 2024/25 have been significant and vacancies in substantive roles have been limited.	
9	Industrial Action  SRO: ICB Executive Team  Reinstated by the ICB Board on the recommendation of the ICB Executive Team 19.09.2025	Sustained industrial action will impact on the ability of the ICB and wider ICS to deliver services to patients, compromising patient experience and potentially leading to the deterioration of patient's health and wellbeing.  The ability of the ICB to deliver its Operational Plan for 2025/2026 and its Joint Forward Plan, alongside meeting the statutory duties set out in the ICB's Constitution including quality, patient safety,	<ul> <li>Patient experience is compromised due to extended waiting lists, potential poor quality of services, leading to deterioration of a patient's health and wellbeing.</li> <li>The impact of the Industrial Action and the effect this has on our population has yet to be fully realised.</li> <li>Extended periods of Industrial Action risk with people feeling that their extra effort may not be appreciated and that they are not able to deliver their core roles due to IA priorities, leading to poor staff morale. Poor morale may impact on relationships between staff groups and the availability of staff.</li> <li>Industrial action is having a significant financial impact through cost to maintain safe services and a risk to productivity and Elective Recovery Fund (ERF) achievement including any over performance assumed in our 23/24 operational plan.</li> <li>Continuing Industrial Action from August onwards removes the system's ability to recover the operational planned activity levels.</li> <li>Clarity is needed on the revised expectations on activity and finance at ICB and regional levels to</li> </ul>	12

	finance, health inequalities and delivery may also be impacted.	•	manage expectations, reputation and provide ongoing assurance.  Interpretation of Regulation 7 could lead to potential legal action. [Currently Regulation 7 of the Conduct Regulations prohibits employment businesses from providing agency workers to cover the duties normally performed by an employee of an organisation who is taking part in a strike or other industrial action, or to cover the work of an employee covering the duties of an employee]			
Organisational Change SRO: Chief Executive	the proposed national changes to ICB structures and functions, as outlined in the ICB Model Blueprint, will affect the ICB's ability to deliver its statutory duties, operational and financial plans, and wider system	2. 3. 4. 5.	The scale and speed of change may disrupt operational, financial, and quality performance. There is a risk of losing key staff and skills, which could affect delivery of the 2025/26 plan.  Staff morale may decline, and organisational memory may be lost.  Current capacity may be insufficient to manage the transition effectively.  There is uncertainty around the timeline for transferring ICB functions to NHSE.  Lack of clarity on redundancy processes may delay progress and increase staff concerns.  The complexity of the change could result in legal challenges.  Local ICB collaboration may be weakened.	•	Acknowledge the scale and pace of change required.  Ensure full engagement across the Integrated Care System.  Maintain strong strategic oversight of performance, finance, and quality.  Oversee and assure that staff consultation complies with policy and legal obligations.  Enable timely decision-making to meet national deadlines	

## Board Assurance Framework 2025/26 – Detailed Risk Summary

There is a risk that:	Health inequalities will widen. As a result, population health outcomes will worsen for			
	our Core20PLUS population			
BAF Ref:	BAF01			
Date of Risk:	1 July 2022			
Senior Risk Owner:	Managing Director of Strategic Commissioning			
Responsible Committee:	Commissioning and Investment/ Improvement and Reform			
Last Review Date:	September 2025			
Inherent Risk Score:	5 x 4 = <b>20</b>			
Current Risk Score:	4 x 4 = 16			
Target Risk Score:	4 x 3 = <b>12</b>			

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	Yes
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	Yes
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	Yes
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	Yes

Progress 2022/23	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Progress 2023/24	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2024/25	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2025/26	July	September				

**Disclaimer:** The existing controls, mitigations and planned actions do not serve to definitively measure progress due to the complexities of tackling health inequalities at both a system level and locally. The Core20PLUS5 directive is an evolving approach which will take time to embed throughout the system to fully realise its effects and provide definitive measures of progress.

Cause	Effect	Existing Controls / Mitigations
<ul> <li>The impact of the Covid pandemic and the disproportionate effect this had on our population has yet to be fully realised, e.g.:         <ul> <li>Education and lost learning amongst children</li> <li>Impact on risk factors for ill health (such as alcohol and tobacco) are not fully known</li> <li>Increased rates of childhood and adult obesity where obesity rates are already higher in more deprived areas</li> <li>The wider mental health impact on the population, particularly in children and young people</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Widening of health inequalities across the population and between groups in society will disproportionately affect our Core20PLUS population. This will lead to poorer health outcomes for those living in our more deprived areas ('Core20') and for those population groups who are already socially disadvantaged or belonging to an inclusion health group ('PLUS').</li> <li>Increased financial costs to the NHS to address the health needs of our Core20PLUS population</li> <li>Increased demand and financial burden to the</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>We have re-focused and established a collaborative systems-led population health Improvement board governance and associated programmes including health inequalities, population health management, prevention and outcomes. We are working with our system partners to create a positive vision of what an equitable health care system will look like and have embedded the five strategic priorities for tackling health inequalities and the 'Core20PLUS' approach, within the ICS Outcomes Framework to help track future progress.</li> <li>We have embedded metrics around monitoring and</li> </ul>
The wider determinants of health (such as housing, employment, income, education, and the environment) influence our population's health unequally, which negatively impact health outcomes	<ul> <li>The ICS is unable to meet its commitment to reduce smoking rates across the system and contributing to the Government's target for the UK to become 'smokefree' by 2030. This equates</li> </ul>	addressing health inequalities within NHS provider contracts (Schedule 2N) in 2025/26. 6-monthly reporting on progress against these contractual obligations in place.  • Assurance on delivery against NHSE's strategic
The ICB is unable to address inadequate     Population Health management (PHM) digital and     data infrastructure, which inhibits the     development of system-wide PHM as an effective     enabler to target initiatives and actions to reduce     health inequalities.	<ul> <li>to reducing rates of tobacco smoking in the general population to less than 5%.</li> <li>Won't have good data driven understanding of healthcare inequalities.</li> </ul>	priorities for addressing healthcare inequalities and Core20PLUS5 approaches being gathered through system-wider quarterly stocktakes.  • Primary Care data entering the DSCRO
<ul> <li>Increasing cost of living and the disproportionate effect this will have on the population</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lack of data maturity and data integration are limiting our ability to access data required to complete comprehensive evaluations.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Establishment of FDP</li> <li>Regular contact with BI team on data availability and requests</li> </ul>

Lack of appropriate system co-ordination,		We have produced a data pack in response to
direction and leadership of the broad health		NHSE's health inequalities information statement
inequalities agenda across the ICS.		and published this on the ICB's website in July 2025
<ul> <li>Inability to ensure all NHS inpatient providers</li> </ul>		We have secured additional opportunities to invest
(acute, mental health and maternity) integrate an		into preventative services such as the Treating
"opt-out" smoking cessation service as part of the		Tobacco Dependency Programme and will ensure
Treating Tobacco Dependency Programme due to		greater alignment with community-based smoking
gaps in service provision because of funding		cessation offers to increase the numbers of people
limitations. Smoking remains the leading		successfully setting quit dates. A local Tobacco
modifiable cause of health inequalities.		Control Summit was held in June 2025 to continue
		to strengthen the alignment of the TTD Programme
		with wider system stop smoking initiatives,
		including targeted preventative approaches for
		Core20PLUS population groups.
First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (Independent)
Management oversight of following programme	Population Health Improvement Board	NHS England
delivery	System Quality Group	Care Quality Commission
PHM steering group	ICB Board and committees of the Board	Healthwatch
<ul> <li>Health Inequalities Strategic Oversight Group</li> </ul>		Health and Wellbeing Board, C&P
Outcomes steering group		Maternity Incentive Scheme
Joint Prescribing Group		
ICB Research Management Group		
LMNS Programme Board		

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale for	RAG
			Completion	Status
Lack of a system level overview and data driven understanding of health inequalities within the ICS	Secure support from the Commissioning and Investment committee and the ICB Board to develop the ICB's response to NHSE' health inequalities	C&I Committee supported development of health inequalities data pack. Pack approved by ICB Board for publication as part of end of year reporting process.	Complete	
	statement.		Complete	

	<ul> <li>Publication of data in response to NHSE's statement on information on health inequalities, released November 2023</li> </ul>	The ICB has published its annual report for 2025/26 alongside health inequalities data pack, which was produced in response to the publication of NHS England's statement on information on health inequalities	Oct-25	
	<ul> <li>Refresh metrics in accordance with NHSE's revised statement</li> <li>Work with system and Place</li> </ul>	NHSE is due to refresh its Statement on Health Inequalities. This will inform the next iteration of the ICB's health inequalities data pack.	Dec-25	
	partners, in alignment with our existing outcomes framework, to set priorities and inform strategic direction to tackle existing inequalities.	<ul> <li>Continued alignment to NHSE strategic priorities and Core20PLUS5 approach. Assurance from providers as part of core contracts.</li> </ul>		
Not all decisions / projects / programmes of work are impact assessed, including from an equality and health inequalities perspective	Consolidated and simplified equality and health inequality impact assessment process, which incorporates wider	Comms and training plan developed to support embedding of the combined impact assessment process	Complete	
	<ul> <li>impacts assessments, including quality, sustainability and health outcomes.</li> <li>Standardisation of the Impact Assessment process across the ICB.</li> </ul>	Re-commence the Impact Assessment T&F     Group to look at potential opportunities to     widen combined IA process across system     partners – possible opportunities to align     with new system-wide PMO function	Oct-25	
	Implementation and embedding of the new Combined Impact Assessment process	Resource from SCU Directorate identified to support the IA process.	Complete	
	<ul> <li>Establishment of a new IA function as part of the Strategic Commissioning Unit (SCU)</li> <li>Monitoring of utilisation of the two-stage IA process</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monitoring of IAs has commenced with a paper due to be presented to C&amp;I committee in Sept-25: 92 Screening Impact Assessments have been submitted and reviewed, 31 of which have been approved</li> </ul>	Sept-25	

	Uptake of the IA process widened and shared across system partners.	with 58 requiring Combined Impact assessments, 3 submissions were not required The Impact Assessment panel has reviewed 22 Combined Impact Assessments.		
Readily available data to support good decision making	<ul> <li>Broader and more robust evaluation and analysis to help determine major drivers of health inequalities and identify targeted solutions for our Core20PLUS population</li> <li>Establishment of a joint analytical and intelligence function within the ICS.</li> <li>PHM platform development</li> <li>Development of approaches for the effective use of data and population health management to better identify need and emerging risk and to target resources more effective.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PHM platform development is ongoing. We are an early adopter of the FDP PHM tool, which will be available during the summer of 2025.</li> <li>Increase number of GP practices signed up to support data flows into the DSCRO (currently at 27% by practice numbers; 29% by population coverage)</li> <li>Re-establish the data analytics network across ICB and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Public Health teams to help assess priority areas of inequality data analytics</li> </ul>	Roll out of NHSE FDP due Summer 2025 Dec-25	
Disjointed approach to legacy decision-making leading to disconnected delivery of services for vulnerable groups	<ul> <li>Systematic solution to identifying and resolving disjointed areas of improvement to be developed.</li> <li>Increasing use of research and innovation to address inequalities in access, experience, and outcomes, particularly amongst our Core20PLUS population groups.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Alignment of non-recurrent funding to support inclusion health into Place-based commissioning</li> <li>Ongoing funding of the two-tiered high intensity user service, targeting those attending A&amp;E and other services more frequently and those at risk of doing so in the future to support and strengthen shifts from hospital to community and from treatment to prevention.</li> <li>Proposal to update CVD prevention strategy and develop an outcome-focussed implementation plan</li> </ul>	March-26  March-26  CVD prevention	

			strategy: next update due 2026	
Alignment of programmes across the ICB and ICS partners designed to tackle health inequalities.	<ul> <li>Mapping of healthcare inequalities work programmes across directorates and providers aligned to</li> </ul>	Development of Schedule 2N within provider contracts for 2025/26 and ongoing assurance of delivery against contracts.	Complete	
	Core20PLUS5 approach  • Greater assurance and	<ul> <li>2025/26 Q1 stocktake in collaboration with the Health Inequalities Strategic Oversight Group and sub-groups</li> </ul>	Complete	
	transparency of Health Inequalities spending	Completion of an impact assessment	Complete	
	Greater assurance from NHS partners	regarding decision to not ring-fence HI funding in 2025/26.		
	Take a system-wide focus on the social and economic determinants of health to	Greater collaboration with local authority to identify areas for accelerated focus to tackle wider determinants of health and inequalities (e.g., completion of Housing and	March-26	
	address wider determinants of health through the established Population Health	<ul><li>Health JSNA)</li><li>Support delivery of actions identified</li></ul>	Manah 26	
	Improvement Board and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board.	through Cambridgeshire's Poverty Strategy Commission and Peterborough's Poverty work	March-26	

There is a risk that:	Future models of care are not built through listening and understanding what local people and communities need to maximise their health and wellbeing.
BAF Ref:	BAF02
Date of Risk:	1 July 2022
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief Officer for Partnerships and Integration
Responsible Committee:	Commissioning and Investment
Last Review Date:	September 2025
Inherent Risk Score:	4 x 4 = 16
Current Risk Score:	4 x 2 = 8
Target Risk Score:	4 x 2 = 8

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links
	to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	X
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	X
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	X
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	X

Progress 2022/23	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Progress 2023/24	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2024/25	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2025/26	July	September	November	Jan	Mar	

Cause	Effect	Existing Controls / Mitigations	
<ul> <li>Future models of care are not built through listening and understanding what people need to maximise their health and wellbeing.</li> <li>We use historical approaches to engagement designed for feedback only, lacking the breadth and diversity of views.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>People do not receive or have access to what would be most helpful in meeting their health and wellbeing needs.</li> <li>Services designed by experts that can feel more efficient but add in more layers for people using the services.</li> <li>Local people lose confidence in the ICB and disengage.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>People and Communities Strategy in place that sets out what good looks like for our work.</li> <li>ICS VCSE Strategy in place that sets how we aspire to collaborate with VCSE partners as key conduits to engaging communities and local people.</li> <li>Public and patient engagement internal audit conducted in December 2023 and System Partnership Audit conducted in 2024.</li> </ul>	

- We make assumptions about what we think people need and look for evidence to support these assumptions
- We do not invest sufficient time, energy, resources and commitment to truly listen and understand about what will make a difference
- We do not align data and feedback to inform decision-making
- We do not work collaboratively with communities and ICS partners to engage local people.

- Health and health care inequalities are further exacerbated by not ensuring breadth and depth of engagement.
- Communities are over sampled resulting in 'consultation fatigue' due to lack of collaboration with ICS partners.
- Application for judicial review if we do not involve and listen to local people and communities appropriately.
- System-wide Participation and Involvement Network established to encourage wider collaboration, sharing of best practice and reduce duplication.
- Close working relationship established with Healthwatch and opportunities for engagement via Healthwatch partnership boards and forums identified.
- Healthwatch funded to establish an ICB engagement forum that is flexible in nature to allow diversity of voice, providing opportunities for greater listening and feedback from the public embedded within our governance.
- A mapping of existing PPG groups and established toolkits and forums completed to support local PPG improvement developed by Healthwatch following ICB investment.
- Opportunities for regular development sessions on ICB strategic priorities with Healthwatch Board and separately with PPG Chair forums.
- Advice, templates and resources available to ICB teams to support engagement activity within projects and directorates.
- Voluntary Sector Network funding to co-ordinate engagement with communities via local organisations and trusted community leaders, and input into ICB strategic projects. Outputs and progress are reported via the CIIR Committee and then up to Board.
- Close working relationship with VCSE infrastructure organisations including nonrecurrent funding to support ICB VCSE Strategy delivery.

		<ul> <li>Established Comms Cell group including communications professionals across ICS partners to increase reach.</li> <li>New Combined Impact Assessment process in place, to ensure adequate engagement as part of projects and initiatives to inform next steps.</li> <li>Aligning Support VCSE Steering Group held to discuss greater future alignment and collaboration, with a revised approach for 25/26</li> </ul>
First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (Independent)
ICB Programme Executive	QPF monthly reporting	NHS England
Reporting and monitoring mechanisms via delivery	ICB Board and committees of the Board	Care Quality Commission
plans		Healthwatch
Internal audit on public and patient engagement and		Community feedback
system partnership		
Action Learning Reviews		

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale for Completion	RAG Status
<ul> <li>A plan required to address the findings of the Dash review 2025 and the user voice being fragmented particularly during a period of change.</li> <li>Working through the implications of the Dash review being implemented particularly around Healthwatch impact.</li> <li>An inconsistent approach to involvement and collaboration with our communities and embedding local people's voices throughout ICB decision-making.</li> <li>An agreed, systematic and transparent approach to this work across our system.</li> </ul>	A refreshed action plan for the People and Communities strategy and the ICS VCSE Strategy, that sets out clear deliverables to create a communities-led culture of involvement and consideration of Dash review implications.  Development of an ICS insight bank to share insights from involvement activity across ICS partners and collaboration workspace to enable greater	<ul> <li>Work has begun with Healthwatch to review progress against the People and Communities Strategy to date and develop an updated action plan that will be informed through engagement and consultation with local people and patients. This will be developed within the context and constraints of ICB reform.</li> <li>Work with Healthwatch to develop a proactive forward plan of work that links to the ICB strategic objectives to ensure there is capacity to deliver. This includes establishment of an ICB engagement</li> </ul>	August 2025 July 2025	

- Tangible action plan to support next phase of implementation of the People and Communities Strategy, that is owned throughout the ICS.
- Insufficient measures to monitor progress.
- The ability to bring all of the insights gathered through each individual project together to maximise the insights shared with all partners.
- Longer-term funding rather than annual or nonrecurrent funds resulting in short-term decisions and investments made.
- The absence of a single engagement platform.
- Governance and reporting arrangements surrounding implementation of the People and Communities Engagement Strategy and ICS VCSE Strategy.

- collaboration across engagement activities.
  Development of a refreshed Compact agreement between statutory bodies and the VCSE sector, including clear accountability model.
- Work with CQC to learn from involvement best practice as part of the development of the ICS Inequalities Framework
- Establish a People and Communities Engagement Committee to ensure effective oversight and monitoring of engagement activity and strategy delivery.

- forum led by Healthwatch. First meeting scheduled for July 2025.
- ICS VCSE Strategy action plan agreed by Board in January 2025 and funding agreed for 2025/26 to support implementation. Development of a clear workplan with associated monitoring to deliver the action plan supported through a grant agreement.
- Wider promotion of the three digital collaboration platforms to support this work programme including the:
  - Online engagement insights library to showcase existing research/feedback and insights from partner engagement activities.
  - Online workspace for the system-wide Participation and Involvement Network including a live project-tracker, and engagement forum/opportunity database.
  - Online workspace for the VSN to coordinate the data catalogue project and provide a space for wider collaboration among members.
- Compact working group established including proposed accountability model which has been presented at the Aligning Support Steering Group. Funding identified from NHSE to support this work and ensure wide consultation on draft principles that are being developed.
- Development of scope and work plans for the three working groups established within the Participation and Involvement Network to further progress ambitions.

July 2025

September 2025

September 2025

	Draft Terms of Reference and governance chart developed for the People and Communities Engagement Committee following recommendation from the Public and People Engagement Audit. This work has been paused due to ICB changes but will be worked through in the new governance considerations	September 2025 (paused) October 2025	
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There is a risk that:	We don't focus on our culture and the challenges that staff currently face to ensure that they feel valued and activated to respond to the increasing pressure of working in
	health and care.
BAF Ref:	BAF03
Date of Risk:	1 July 2022
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief People Officer
Responsible Committee:	People Board
Last Review Date:	July 2025
Inherent Risk Score:	4 X 4 = 16
Current Risk Score:	4x 4 = 12
Target Risk Score:	4 X 2 = 8

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links
	to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	X
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	

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Progress 2023/24	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2024/25	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2025/26	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar

Cause:	Effect:	Existing Controls / Mitigations:
<ul> <li>Covid has caused staff to re-evaluate what is important to them.</li> <li>Cost of living means for many groups of staff working in local retail pays more with less pressure than working in care and health.</li> <li>Historical reliance on 'going above and beyond' to efficiently deliver services.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lack of focus on our culture and the challenges that staff currently face to ensure that they feel valued and activated to respond to the increasing pressure of working in health and care.</li> <li>Increased turnover of staff and challenges in recruiting to roles particularly in certain professions</li> <li>Disruption to the provision of services.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Consistent application of the Leadership Compact.</li> <li>Positive culture programmes such as a restorative approach are embedded in all we do.</li> <li>Every service or investment to demonstrate how staff been listened to "You Said We Did".</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Transformation done to staff not with staff.</li> <li>Expiration of unfunded staff support hub by end Mar 2024</li> <li>Increasing service users and staff are reporting increasing incidence of disrespect.</li> <li>Staff feel intimidated and harassed by national acts of racist vandalism</li> <li>Headcount reductions due to cost pressures across the system are unsettling and potentially demotivating</li> </ul>	People consider alternative careers	<ul> <li>Ensure every service and investment has a workforce delivery strategy that is realistic.</li> <li>Seeking assurance on the progress of the agreed OD Framework for the ICS.</li> <li>Reinvigorate our antiracism efforts and provide safe spaces for people who feel unsafe to be reassured</li> <li>Increase acknowledgement and recognition, closer to the incident. Reduce the chance of people being 'taken for granted'</li> <li>Establish and maximise communication for transition hub, to support displaced staff across the system, as far as possible</li> </ul>
First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (Independent)
ICB Programme Executive	QPF monthly reporting	NHS England
	ICB Board and People Board	Care Quality Commission
		Trade Unions and Professional Bodies
		HealthWatch

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale for Completion	RAG Status
Partner organisations at various stages of OD     Plans and employee engagement initiatives	OD Programme Board reconstituted as Leadership and Culture Enabler Group to	Plans for Leadership agenda continue in development, with focus on strengthening the adoption of the Leadership compact,	Jun 2025	
<ul> <li>Partner organisations at various levels of cultural intelligence with varying maturity of plans</li> </ul>	engender faster, more effective rollout of OD programme including the	along with a system-wide approach to developing a compassionate and inclusive culture		
System level Strategy for inclusion implemented to drive improvements in representation, belonging and discrimination	<ul> <li>Partnerships</li> <li>System-wide cultural intelligence champions trained to enable further rollout and embed the cultural intelligence learning begun in 2024/25</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>System Leadership and OD Lead effectively integrated with System partners' OD Teams</li> <li>Cohort of cultural intelligence champions to be trained in Autumn 2025 to continue establishment common language and deepening of cultural intelligence and how to lead people inclusively and provide</li> </ul>	Sep 2025	

consistent support and input to inclusion focused initiatives	Aug 2025	
<ul> <li>Ongoing project to establish measurement consistency and system for monitoring improvement in inclusion across the system. Compilation of evidence-based solutions built into an online repository for</li> </ul>		
use by system partners in selecting		
interventions		

There is a risk that:	With services under increasing demand pressure, workforce shortages and backlogs, service quality and outcomes can be impacted
BAF Ref:	BAF04
Date of Risk:	1 June 2022
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief Nursing Officer and Chief Medical Officer
Responsible Committee:	Quality, Performance and Finance Committee
Last Review Date:	October 2025
Inherent Risk Score:	4 x 4 = 16
Current Risk Score:	4 x 4 = 16
Target Risk Score:	4 x 2 = 8

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links
	to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	yes
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	yes
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	yes

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Cause:	Effect:	Existing Controls / Mitigations:
Mismatch between demand for health services	Risk of poorer experience and sometimes	Controls in place
and capacity	outcome	CVD Prevention Programme to decrease medium
Increased demand and access to primary care	Worsening of health outcome inequality as those	term demand (monitored through Population
<ul> <li>Waiting lists for services, including mental health,</li> </ul>	who are more deprived are disproportionately	Health Board Improvement Board)
elective care and diagnostics, are longer meaning	affected by NHS access and quality issues.	Monitor provider activity plan and delivery via
people are taking longer to be seen.	Reputation adversely impacted.	contractual process
<ul> <li>Access to services and communication for people</li> </ul>	Potential harm may not be identified in a timely	Daily risk assessment through System Operations
on next steps is variable.	manner	Centre of balance of community and inpatient risk

- Availability of NHS dental services
- Causes of this demand: capacity mismatch include system productivity, sub- optimal patient flow, physical capacity constraints in some parts of our estate and not maximising preventative interventions
- Increasing operational pressures in Acute Hospitals have resulted in additional boarding of patients on wards, as well as corridor care in Emergency Departments
- Resident doctor industrial action planned for November 2025 could lead to decreased elective activity

- on Urgent Care pathways (monitored through Urgent Care Board)
- Primary Care Access Recovery Plan (monitored through Primary Care Commissioning Committee)
- Clinical Quality Review Meetings and System Assurance Framework process for major providers.
- Established process for managing industrial action to minimise elective cancellations

## Mitigations in place

- Providers are embedding a new national safety reporting framework (ongoing)
- Additional roles in primary care funded through the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (implemented)
- Ongoing programme of work to increase NHS dental availability (monitored through Primary Care Commissioning Committee)
   Implementation of System Estates Strategyto mitigate physical capacity constraints
- Data analysis including Patient Safety Incident Response Framework data, patient and staff feedback to establish the overall quality and safety of services (developing through the Provider System Assurance Process)
- National productivity analysis undertaken and changes included in 2025/26 operational planning for acute providers (implementing)

Because of the organisational changes in Health and Local Government there is a risk of disjointed understanding of the roles of the statutory partner.	Fragmented delivery of the safeguarding system	Controls in place Safeguarding partnership Board Mitigations Meeting of delegated safeguarding partners Safeguarding priorities clearly agreed at partnership level
<ul> <li>Quality of care and outcomes for people with Learning Disabilities</li> <li>Successive Learning Disability ( LeDeR) and Public Health Needs Assessment 2023 data show the impact of poor care on outcomes.</li> </ul>	Increased count of deaths in those with Learning     Disabilities and number classified as possibly     preventable	<ul> <li>Controls in place</li> <li>LeDeR process ongoing (monitored through Quality Performance and Finance Committee)</li> <li>LD Health Checks (ongoing process) monitored through Primary Care Commissioning Committee Mitigations</li> <li>LD redesign work has been commissioned and has recommenced after a pause. This aims to have specification for sustainable service by December 2025.</li> <li>Specific action plan in place following LeDeR report.</li> </ul>
Prescribing issues including antimicrobial stewardship are both a cause and effect of impacts on service quality.	Prescribing issues including antimicrobial stewardship are both a cause and a consequence of these pressures.	<ul> <li>Controls in place</li> <li>Integrated Medicines Optimisation Committee established across the system to assure delivery of major medicine safety and financial programmes.</li> <li>Prescribing issues are managed down to the level of individual medicines by the system Joint Prescribing Group and for antimicrobials the System Antimicrobial Stewardship Group Mitigation</li> <li>Specialist Pharmacist for antimicrobial stewardship in the ICB delivering programme of work (reports to Quality, Performance and Finance Committee, work ongoing).</li> </ul>

Implementation of ICB blueprint will change focus of ICB increasingly towards commissioning processes and delivery.  • Poor relationships across different system organisations can lead to suboptimal overall pathways for patients, lower staff morale and decreased clinical effectiveness and efficiency.	Increased demand on all sectors of the health and care system	<ul> <li>Controls in place</li> <li>Use of System Assurance Framework processes and key metrics from contracts</li> <li>Improved proactive identification of quality risks in Primary Care reports to Primary Care Commissioning Committee</li> <li>Mitigations</li> <li>Providers working with a new national safety reporting framework</li> </ul>
First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (Independent)
Metric surveillance via contracting process	QPF monthly reporting	NHS England
Local Maternity and Neonatal System Board	Integrated Medicines Oversight Committee.	Regional Perinatal Quality & Oversight Group
System Joint Prescribing Group	Clinical Quality Review Meetings as part of System	Regional Maternity & Neonatal Programme Board
Antimicrobial Stewardship Group	Assurance Framework process.	Regional quality group.
Joint Clinical and Professional Executive Group P	ICB Board and committees of the Board	Care Quality Commission
	Chief Nurse and Medical Direct Meetings	Other regulators
	Safeguarding Partnership Board	
	Primary Care Commissioning Committee	
	System Mortality Committee	
	Professional Standards Group	

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale	RAG
			for	Status
			Completion	
Focus on the ICB processes on the quality	Work with teams in Nursing	Ongoing	Dec 2025	Amber
commissioning and improvement elements of	and medical directorate to			
current contracts and change way of working	refocus and reestablish quality			
with providers to enable this to be the main	contractual monitoring.			
method of quality improvement delivery and	Alignemtn of staff to CQRM			
monitoring.	process and contracts.			

Understanding in partners of the forthcoming	Exec- top Exec conversations	Ongoing	Mar 2026	Amber
rapid changes to ICB focus				
Definition of ICB role compared to regional /	Discussions with NHS E	Ongoing	Mar 2026	Amber
NHS E role for quality monitoring and				
improvement				

There is a risk that:	That we don't deliver the basic NHS statutory standards that have been put in place to maximise the outcomes for our residents	
BAF Ref:	BAF05	
Date of Risk:	1 July 2022	
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief Operating Officer	
Responsible Committee:	Quality, Performance and Finance Committee	
Last Review Date:	September 2025	
Inherent Risk Score:	5 x 4 = 20	
Current Risk Score:	4 x 4 = 16	
Target Risk Score:	2 x 4 = 8	

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links	
	to	
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	у	
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	у	
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.		
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	у	

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Progress 2025/26	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar

Cause:	Effect:	Existing Controls / Mitigations:
<ul> <li>Demand is greater than ever with a growing and ageing population, creating pressure on all services.</li> <li>This demand, in the context of the workforce pressures and need to deliver a balanced financial plan, is contributing to performance below national and local delivery standards.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The basic NHS statutory standards are not delivered, that have been put in place to maximise the outcomes for our residents</li> <li>Operational delivery and improvement efforts are stretched too thinly, with a raft of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ensure that the right balance of time and discussion is given to the 'here and now' of our services and the future transformation.</li> <li>Use the data on performance and actively challenge and loop back to previous commitments.</li> <li>Support the effective delivery of performance and</li> </ul>

- Patient satisfaction with the NHS has deteriorated and is at its lowest level, with public expectations on what it should receive from the NHS exceeding reality of current service provision.
- Significant growth in funding allocations over recent years to support demand however services have not been sufficiently transformed to maximise productivity and efficiency.
- Funding allocations and operational performance standards are skewed heavily to acute hospital provision which is adverse to the areas where investment is required to prevent risk deterioration and improve outcomes for our population.
- Contract and performance management arrangements have been limited, with some functions sitting with ICBs and some with NHSE regionally over recent years. Use of block contract arrangements and limited activity plans has made it difficult to manage providers effectively to ensure value.
- Shifting expectation on performance delivery at political and national level, with increased focus on contractual delivery of NHS constitutional standards.

First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)

- priorities all equally important but without the bandwidth to effect sustainable change.
- Changes to priorities impacts on workforce engagement and pace of improvement required.
- Changes in national context driving short term behaviours and actions without adequate understanding or mitigation of unintended consequences
- Risk increases when we do not respond effectively to mitigate emerging risks and issues. consequences.
- Reputational risk for C&P not meeting NHS constitutional standards for its local population and the impact of not doing so on health inequalities and outcomes for residents.

Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight) | Third Line Assurance (Independent)

- contract management processes, including appropriate escalation and intervention, with individual providers to ensure that we are delivering maximum value and outcomes within commissioned services.
- Strategically plan for future service commissioning, ensuring use of technology to increase productivity, and deliver more with less resources.
- Ensure local, regional, and national benchmarking is used to monitor performance to ensure understanding of relative performance and performance improvement.

riist Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (independent)
UEC, Elective, cancer and diagnostic tiering oversight	ICB wide System Assurance Framework	NHS England
arrangements	triangulation review meeting	Care Quality Commission
Unplanned Care Board	Contract assurance meetings with ICB and	
Planned Care Board	Providers	
System Diagnostics Board	Quality, Performance and Finance committee	
Cancer Board	Commissioning and Investment and Improvement	
Mental Health, Learning disabilities and Autism Delivery	and Reform committee	
and performance group(internal)	ICB Board	
ICB Operational Executive		
Performance, Assurance and contract management teams		

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale for Completion	RAG Status
A&E performance at acute hospitals remains below expected levels and not in line with operational performance trajectories, resulting in C&P population waiting longer than they should for treatment.	Operational performance trajectories embedded within contracts for robust provider contract management in 25/26.	<ul> <li>Contracts currently being finalised for signature, expected to be complete by early July in line with national timelines.</li> <li>New SAF process launched in April 2025 with revised contractual oversight arrangements in place between ICB and Providers. Monthly reporting on risks and contractual issues in place and reported to QPF. Review of SAF and lessons learnt due to take place end of Q1.</li> </ul>	4 July 2025 4 July 2025	
	ICB focus on demand management to bring demand below planned levels, through maximising out of hospital interventions and improving discharge performance via:     Productivity and efficiency	<ul> <li>UEC hub additional capacity evaluation underway for completion in Q1. Determination thereafter of whether resources remains in current locations (CUH and PCH) and options for HH site.</li> <li>Pathway one redesign work concluding with formal governance review through June and July, for</li> </ul>	July 2025  December 2025	
	improvements in the UEC hub including evaluation of additional capacity  - Pathway one redesign  - Introduction of single digital discharge platform  - Improved performance and	<ul> <li>planned implementation from December 2025, if agreed.</li> <li>Optica implementation underway, with NWAFT technical go live planned for mid-June. Further work required before CUHFT date can be confirmed and national testing of community and mental health elements of this platform underway.</li> </ul>	September 2025	
	contractual management arrangements with primary care	New contract and performance oversight arrangements with primary care being developed for submission in June 2025.	July 2025	
	Escalation of performance oversight and intervention from NHS England through national tiering process	<ul> <li>Leadership for tiering arrangements handed over from ICB to NHS E regional team in June.</li> <li>Consideration being given to removing the system and CUFHT from tiering given performance improvement.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	

Referral to treatment time standards are not met, with primary care referral demand exceeding planned levels	Implementation of advice and guidance approach across C&P to maximise opportunities for specialist advice. Payment mechanism and activity levels set for GPs for delivery in 2025/26.	Primary care commissioning committee agreed strategy for A&G delivery and associated payment mechanism in May 25. Discussions ongoing with general practice around uptake and data analysis to ensure timely and accurate reporting of performance. Aim to maximise to national average levels of utilisation.	September 2025	
	Development of Referral     Management Centre across C&P to     manage demand and ensure     appropriate onward triage and     treatment.	RMC work behind plan due to multiple asks on resource, complexity of work programme design and changing external context. RMC work will not be delivered in 25/26 and will need to be reconsidered in the context of new Central East ICB priorities	December 2025	
	<ol> <li>Review of clinical policies and mechanisms for checking adherence, including reintroducing clinical audits.</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Action not completed due to resource constraints, will be factored into planning for 26/27.</li> </ul>	August 2025	
Current commissioned services do not represent latest best practice pathways nor maximise productivity and efficiency	Develop rolling schedule for specification reviews, aligned to high priority areas (clinical risk, demand, performance) and approach to adopting best practice specifications	<ul> <li>Action commenced but behind plan due to resource constraints, will be a key feature of planning for 26/27 and will be considered in the context of CE ICB.</li> </ul>	September 2025	
	Commission Community and mental health service review.	<ul> <li>Work delayed and being reviewed in the context of ICB clustering and creation of CE ICB, as HWE and BLMK ICBs have completed similar exercises so there is a need to ensure learning and assess strategic approach across the new footprint. Will be considered in context of planning for 26/27.</li> </ul>	September 2025	
	Fully utilise the contract, including indicative activity plans to enable specialty level activity management of delivery and improvement requirements.	<ul> <li>IAPs in place with ISPs and Activity query notices and Activity Management Plans in place as appropriate.</li> <li>Outstanding agreement with CUH on the contract due to high cost drugs.</li> </ul>	4 July 2025	

There is a risk that:	We do not take effective decisions through the lens of best use of the public money and financial sustainability which will impact on the organisation's ability to achieve its statutory financial duty.
BAF Ref:	BAF 06
Date of Risk:	01 July 2022
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief Finance Officer
Responsible Committee:	QPF
Last Review Date:	October 2025
Inherent Risk Score:	5 x 4 = 20
Current Risk Score:	3 x 4 = 12
Target Risk Score:	3 x 3 = 9

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links	
	to	
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	X	
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	X	
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	X	
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	X	

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Cause:	Effect:	Existing Controls / Mitigations:
The ICB and ICS has a statutory responsibility to deliver a break-even financial plan. It has a responsibility to ensure most effective use of capital and revenue budgets.	<ul> <li>Credibility of ICB - reputational risk.</li> <li>Loss of local and organisational control of decision making with enforcement of double/triple lock or other escalation and intervention from NHSE.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Regular monthly ICB reporting of financial position, forecast and risk.</li> <li>Fortnightly CFOs meeting to discuss financial position, recovery plans, efficiencies and capital. This meeting also sets out mitigations and</li> </ul>
The ICB and all system organisations submitted a break-even plan for 25/26. This required the use of	<ul><li>Deterioration in relationship with Regulators.</li><li>Deterioration in relationship with providers.</li></ul>	focussing on run rates and actions to deliver the break-even plan.

some non-recurrent resources in the form of additional ICB support and / or share of system revenue incentive for 25/26 available on a non-recurrent basis. To deliver the break-even financial plan and enable the ICB and the organisations within the system to deliver its statutory financial duties we will need to take a number of actions /make assumptions that could emerge as in year risks that without mitigation will drive an in-year deficit:

#### SPECIALISED COMMISSIONING

- As specialised commissioning is delegated to ICBs there is a risk to our provider income if ICBs change flows into their own providers or utilise specialist funding to support other cost pressures..
- Risk that the funding delegated does not cover the cost of services

#### PRESCRIBING VOLUME AND PRICE

- 24/25 saw large budget pressures as a result of both price and volume increases.. The plan for 25/26 acknowledges a higher level of run rate expenditure but also assumes there are interventions made to manage further cost growth and maximise the medicine optimisation opportunities
- NICE are implementing a number of recommended prescribing changes to significantly improve patient outcomes. Some NHSE funding has been provided but this will not fully cover the expected cost. Further efficiencies and savings will need to be made from within the overall prescribing budget and ICB to cover the additional costs.

- Increased NHSE oversight, introduction of special measures and a loss of control over the system delivery.
- Failure to meet strategic objective to ensure funding flows matches patient need.
- Failing to meet statutory duty.
- Failure to attract additional capital and revenue incentive funding and other consequences arising from business rules.
- Patient services impacted if we have to repay deficit in future years
- Difficult de-commissioning or workforce cuts required to mitigate deficits

- Monthly medicines optimisation group to discuss prescribing budget and opportunities
- Monthly oversight meetings with Regional Team
- HFMA ICB CFOs group sharing data, best practice and benchmarking.
- Scrutiny and assurance through the ICB Quality Performance and Finance Committee.
- Internal audit of financial process and controls
- Clinical Priorities Forum reviews and agree system approach to treatments of low clinical value.
- ICS Productivity & Use of resources steering groups established to drive up productivity and drive down costs.
- Integrated Medicines Optimisation Committee being established across the system to assure delivery of major medicine safety and financial programmes
- Weekly Prescribing Finance Turnaround meeting is monitoring progress of efficiencies and maximising actions to increase GP engagement in cost-efficiency programmes both for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.
- CICB has implemented additional scrutiny to any new spending requests through exceptional spend process.
- Operational Exec established where ICB financial performance is scrutinised and efficiency plans are monitored

## **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PRESSURES**

 The NHS has a cost uplift factor at 4.15% which includes the additional liability arising from higher employer National Insurance Contributions. There is a further 2.0% efficiency factor. This may not allow us to increase contracts or meet levels of pay inflation that match other partners/ providers expectations. This may then have an impact on either service delivery or finances.

## **EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY CHALLENGE**

- The plans for 25/26 are reliant on significant productivity and efficiency savings in excess of those delivered in previous years. In particular the system plans to deliver £172m of efficiency schemes plus a further £53m of productivity opportunities. This is alongside meeting all key performance metrics.
- There is still a proportion of efficiencies that are still to be identified and / or are high risk.
- Delays to implementing efficiency and productivity schemes will only deliver a part year effect in 25/26 meaning further schemes will be required or use of non-recurrent means to bridge the gap. The focus needs to remain on delivery of recurrent cost saving schemes.

## **COMPLEXITY OF C&P**

- The ICBs running cost is aligned to its allocation not the £4.4bn of system spend that it has to manage and provide assurance on.
- Incentives reflect allocations not the scale of the C&P system so mitigations are potentially smaller than they should be.

First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (Independent)
CFO group	QPF - monthly reporting	NHSE monthly review meeting.
ICB Execs/ SLT	Provider Finance Committees	External Audit - Annual Accounts process
Finance Team, Business Intelligence, Contracting and	ICB Board	
Programme Management Office Teams	Internal Audit	
Joint Clinical and Professional Executive Group		

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale for Completion	RAG Status
ICB efficiency shortfall	Efficiency plans to be discussed and agreed at Operational Exec taking into account opportunities from disinvestment, decommissioning, estates and further CHC, prescribing	Decommissioning and disinvestment policy being drafted for review at Strategic exec  Work underway to assess estates / void efficiency opportunities	Ongoing	
	opportunities above those in the plan. New uncommitted investment requests to be held until all efficiencies identified. Operational Exec to monitor delivery.			
	CFO to set out actions required to ensure the plan is delivered at Execs and up through QPF.  Operational exec to oversee the drivers for any budget variances and run rates to determine assurance on delivery of plan.			

There is a risk that:	We do not get ahead and build services for the future meaning we adapt what we have rather than considering new care models.
BAF Ref:	BAF07
Date of Risk:	1 July 2022
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief Clinical Improvement Officer
Responsible Committee:	Improvement & Reform Committee
Last Review Date:	June 2025
Inherent Risk Score:	3 x 3 = 9
Current Risk Score:	3 x 3 = 9
Target Risk Score:	2 x 2 = 4

Progress 2022/23	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Progress 2023/24	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2024/25	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2025/26	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links to and how this will impact
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	Yes, directly impacts
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	Yes, directly impacts

Cause:	Effect:	Existing Controls / Mitigations:
<ul> <li>Failure to imagine and co-design new service models for the future, resulting in adaptation of existing models (which may not even be meeting current needs and compromising future opportunities)</li> </ul>	Existing services are adapted rather than development of new care models, compromising opportunities for quality, cost, outcome, and experience improvement.	<ul> <li>Ensuring the solutions to issues are explicit in describing long-term future proof options.</li> <li>Ensuring where digital literacy and access is required to utilise and benefit from new services, part of the new service co-design process is to</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Digital integration and innovation         (including embedding A&amp;I and technology to support the growing demand for health services)     </li> </ul>	Removal of 'analogue' service options leaving some groups underserved or completely excluded.	<ul> <li>consider and mitigate the risk of digital exclusion.</li> <li>Assuring, re-educating, and resetting expectations of the public when care and health services work</li> </ul>

First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)  Quality Improvement and Transformation Committee	<ul> <li>Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)</li> <li>ICB Board</li> <li>Internal Audit (4.23/24 - Transformation Plans)</li> <li>Commissioning and Investment: Reform and Innovation Committee</li> </ul>	Third Line Assurance (Independent)  NHS England
<ul> <li>are key enablers for design and delivery of new services, risking digital exclusion of some population groups.</li> <li>Risk of misalignment of providers priorities for improvement to system vision, and ineffective system working to achieve the new vision.</li> <li>Failure of the CCIO directorate to create the conditions * for system level improvement of services impacting the ability to deliver large-scale change. (* collective vision and leadership, aligned operating model for improvement, capabilities, connections, and culture change)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Public and clinicians/carers may not support care and health interventions provided outside of traditional provider models, and that utilise emergent AI / technologies, failing to see the overall benefits to managing increasing demands.</li> <li>Siloed improvement schemes operating only at organisational level fail to maximise service enhancement through system wide, end to end pathway redesign- compromising benefits in terms of safety, efficiency, and cost reduction.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>outside of traditional provider models. Ensuring this has been well considered and integral to change management programmes.</li> <li>System innovation and research adoption processes embedded into governance.</li> <li>ICS Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Strategy adopted and applied.</li> <li>Promotion of NHS IMPACT as business-as-usual approach to creating the conditions for effective change</li> </ul>

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale	RAG
			for	Status
			Completion	
There are limited forums/opportunities to get key	Regular combined meetings of all	Finances to support backfill secured. Dates for	March 2026	
stakeholders together to co-design and plan	primary care sectors to build	'combined cross sector primary care meetings'		In
implementation of new models of care, across	working relationships and to	are being set.		progress
neighbourhoods and primary care sector 'at	understand how collaboration can	Refreshed attempt to convene a 'General		
scale'. There will need to be the ability for ICB to	impact positively on all providers	Practice Leadership Forum/ Primary care		
create the environment, and ambition for scale and	whilst achieving the changes	Collaborative'- bringing together key general		
pace of change, potentially with less resources and	envisioned. Encourage the	practice leaders to have strategic discussions		
capacity within the ICB team	emergent Primary care	guided by the principles and values of the		
	collaboratives to take on the	Leadership Compact, to capture views		
	delivery of change and	'reflective of the voice of General Practice', to		

	improvement activities as one of their core functions	shape and direct strategic moves to ensure sustainability of General Practice		
ICB teams, primary care teams and integrated	We will continue to work through		March 2026	
neighbourhood teams have not all embraced a culture	the system 'Quality Improvement	Integrated Neighbourhood Leads have started		In
of 'continuous improvement' as the BAU approach to	and Transformation Group' to	joining the training days and will spread that		progress
enacting change and managing the status quo	adapt and then spread the acute	out through their own teams		
	sector designed 'continuous			
	improvement culture and learning'			
	training across these teams using a			
	train the trainers/champions			
	model. This will ensure maximum			
	spread of knowledge and help			
	engender a new culture			

There is a risk that:	Our ability to deploy our workforce to deliver services that ensure patient safety and quality of care are compromised through low levels of recruitment and retention or the onset of industrial action
BAF Ref:	BAF08
Date of Risk:	October 2022
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief People Officer
Responsible Committee:	People Board
Last Review Date:	June 2025
Inherent Risk Score:	4 X 4 = 16
Current Risk Score:	4 X 3 = 12
Target Risk Score:	4 X 2 = 8

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links
	to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	

Progress 2022/23	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Progress 2023/24	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2024/25	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2025/26	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar

Cause:		Effect:		Existing Actions and Mitigations	
	• Workforce shortages have become commonplace across the system in several professions		Dilution of skill mix as newly trained staff are not retained long enough to develop deep	•	International Recruitment programme being maintained
		• R	experience Risk to service delivery, patient safety and care	•	Programme of five High Impact interventions as prescribed by NHSE embedded by providers to improve nurses' retention

- C&P, like all of E of E has become dependent on international nursing and care worker recruits to fill vacancies and ensure adequate staffing levels
- Socio-political environment places additional pressure on international recruitment practices, with recent announcements restricting international social workers from having accompanying dependents
- Domestic intake is highly competitive with retailers, food suppliers and on-line retailers proving preferable destinations for many potential recruits
- 2025/26 nursing entry expected to fall below previous years, as graduating students not guaranteed an offer on completion of courses
- ICB's Change Management process of transition to new, merged ICB has begun, but timing and process steps are unclear, creating confusion and loss of confidence with staff

- However, health providers recorded lower turnover rates and vacancy levels in 2024/25 but sickness absence remains high
- Providers have recorded lower usage (volume) of agency staffing in many trusts, with actual below plan for most of 2024/25.
   Providers continue to drive down temporary staffing costs with agency use down by 30% and Bank down by 10% in 2025/26.
- Concerned and anxious staff lacking clarity on their jobs and career opportunities, may lose focus with delivery of ICB objectives impacted

- Retention Exemplars programmes are embedded within provider processes
- National Long Term Workforce Plan with goal of increasing domestic recruitment, uses initiatives that train, retain and reform with increased apprenticeship levels and other education offerings that improve domestic workforce supply
- General Practice nursing workforce retention efforts to be redoubled. GP educators initiated at a favourable rate despite loss of some through retirement.
- System partners have adopted real living wage framework, with implementation on an individual basis, as affordable
- Community level project launched to drive recruitment into community based health and care roles, from non-traditional entry routes.
- Frequent, regular, transparent communications maintained within the ICB to minimise chance of confusion or misunderstanding
- Provision of support initiatives for staff learning (outplacement as well as general skills) has been rolled out with positive response

# First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)

ICB Executive
Joint Clinical and Professional Executive Group

Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)

People Directorate bi-monthly reporting

People Board ICB Board

ICB Board QFP for clinical interface work

# Third Line Assurance (Independent)

NHS England
Care Quality Commission
Trade Unions and Professional Bodies
HealthWatch

Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale	RAG
			for	Status
			Completion	
<ul> <li>Local recruitment initiatives limited in scope and approach</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Schools' Expo showcased full range of NHS careers to ~2000 Year 10 and 12 secondary school users in March 2025</li> </ul>	Learnings from initial exercise were identified and programme expanded to include voluntary sector and Yr 12 students as well.	Spring 2026	
Rate of conversion of nursing student placements can be increased	<ul> <li>Attraction programme with support of HEI providers to raise level of conversion from placements to actual hires</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Greater collaboration with HEIs receiving ongoing attention and opportunities for higher conversion are being explored</li> <li>ICB is implementing a Clinical Placement Management System to raise visibility and</li> </ul>	Jan 2026	
	•	better manage placements and deliver higher conversion rates	Completed	

There is a risk that:	Sustained industrial action will impact on the ability of the ICB and wider ICS to deliver its Operational Plan for 2023/24 and its Joint Forward Plan, alongside meeting the statutory duties set out in the ICB's Constitution.			
BAF Ref:	BAF09			
Date of Risk:	17 August 2023 (Previously referenced in several BAF risks) Reinstated 19.09.2025			
Senior Risk Owner:	ICB Executive Team			
Responsible Committee:	Quality Finance & Performance Committee, ICB People Board			
Last Review Date:	September 2025			
Inherent Risk Score:	5 x 4 = <b>20</b>			
Current Risk Score:	3 x 4 = 12			
Target Risk Score:	2 x 4 = 8			

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	Yes
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	Yes
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	Yes
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	Yes

Progress 2023/24	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2024/25	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
Progress 2025/26	n/a	n/a	September			

Cause:	Effect:	Existing Actions and Mitigations
Sustained Industrial Action from August 2023 across	Ability to deploy our workforce to deliver services that	Incident Command and Control structures at local,
multiple NHS professional groups, though as of July	ensure patient safety and quality of care are	regional and national levels. Tactical and Strategic
2024 all staff groups have settled on 23/24 pay award	compromised due to industrial action or collective	structures in place for collective action as alternative
with exception of Junior Doctors.	action, including lack of engagement in critical patient	as does not meet ICC guidance.
	safety systems (i.e. medications).	
Regulation 7 of the Conduct Regulations prohibits		Planning guidance and subsequent instructions from
employment businesses from providing agency	Significant financial impact through decreased delivery	NHS England national Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to
workers to cover the duties normally performed by an	of primary care prescribing efficiencies, cost to	plan on the basis that Industrial Action has no impact.

employee of an organisation who is taking part in a strike or other industrial action, or to cover the work of an employee covering the duties of an employee.

GP collective action supported from 1 August 24 following non-statutory ballot by BMA GP. 10 potential actions outlined to support general practice to maintain patient safety. Choice regarding engagement with actions, how many and extent to which they are applied is down to individual practices and as such, unclear picture on the potential scale or timing of any potential action.

maintain safe services and a risk to productivity and ERF achievement including any over performance assumed.

Significant potential **patient experience** and access impact for those not able to access general practice due to collective action, with patients self-presenting at other settings.

Potential for deterioration in interface **relationships** between providers through collective action linked to processes and pathways in place for elective activity, advice and guidance and pathway norms around referrals between settings.

Applications for 23/24 nursing entry has fallen, research ongoing to establish reasons, with Industrial action effect seen as a significant influence.

Extended periods of industrial action can give rise to staff feeling that it is assumed and taken for granted that additional effort is required.

Inability to delivery all business-as-usual activities as staff are re-prioritised to deliver IA related activities.

Inability to deliver on the national and local workforce plans.

Lack of compliance with Clause 7, leading to potential legal action and risk to agreeing derogations

Now it is having impact we are assuming additional funding will materialise or business rules are adapted to reflect change from planning assumptions.

Implementation of Harm Reviews and associated learning.

After Action Reviews and Debriefs, alongside developing clear learning and implementation of innovation to address impacts.

Mutual aid across the system and wider cross boundary working across the Region.

Recognition of the impact on business-as-usual activity and reprioritisation of tasks to ensure minimum core service delivery.

Regular monitoring of compliance against Regulation 7.

System-wide clinical and professional oversight of the impacts and learning outcomes.

Regular review of impacts via ICB Executive Team and ICB Committees.

First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)

Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)

**Third Line Assurance (Independent)** 

Management and oversight of the incident response to Industrial Action through ICB Command and Control Structures, including those for collective action.

ICB Audit & Risk Committee
ICB Board
ICB Board
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ICB Audit & Risk Committee
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Weelple Board
ICB Audit & Risk Committee
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Board
ICB Weelple Board
ICB Health and Wellbeing Board, C&P
Trade Union and Professional Bodies

	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale	RAG
Gaps Identified			for Completion	Status
Clarity on the potential scale of impact of GP collective action from 1 August for an undefined period. Assumption of a new business as usual requiring different plans which are sustainable to manage both immediate and longer-term impact.	<ol> <li>Initial phase</li> <li>Establish incident arrangements to ensure timely tactical and strategic response to collective action.</li> <li>Detailed mapping of potential risks vs. the 10 defined actions for GPs to understand potential areas for risk and mitigation covering patient safety, quality, access and financial impact.</li> <li>Continued engagement and close working with practices and the LMC to understand potential impact of collective action and opportunities for managing relationships.</li> <li>Assessment of opportunities for different pathways to support redirection or management of patient access in alternative ways particularly during surge winter months.</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Tactical and strategic structure set up focused specifically on collective action.</li> <li>Initial risk assessment completed across all areas though further detail required on potential wider system financial impact and changes to patient flow as a result.</li> <li>Draft KPI dashboards developed to track potential for patient flow changes across C&amp;P.</li> </ul>	Medium term – Mar 25	
	Medium term 5. Assessment of need for longer term			
	review and management of patient			

planned reduction in daily patient		
contacts to maximum of 25 (national		
•		
average position 37 per day) and		
potential for non-engagement with		
other system pathways i.e. advice and		
guidance for referrals.		

There is a risk that	There is a risk that the pace and scale of the proposed National changes to ICB structures and functions set out in the ICB Model Blueprint could impact on the ability of the ICB to deliver its core statutory function, delivery of our ICB Operational / Financial Plan, quality and assurance and loss of focus on delivery of the wider system's strategic objectives, alongside risk of legal challenges around workforce.  There is a further risk that the tight timescales will impact on true engagement across the Integrated Care System, impacting on limited time to discuss new ways of working			
BAF Ref: 10	BAF 10			
Date of Risk:	May 2025			
Senior Risk Owner:	Chief Executive			
Responsible Committee:	ICB Board / Remuneration Committee (Workforce), Quality, Performance and Finance Committee			
Last Review Date:	14 October 2025			
Inherent Risk Score:	4 X 4 = 16			
Current Risk Score:	4 X 3 = 12			
Target Risk Score:	4 X 2 = 8			

Integrated Care System Key Priorities	Indicate which priority / priorities this risk links
	to
Priority 1: Ensure our children are ready to enter and exit education, prepared for the next phase of their lives.	
Priority 2: Create an environment which gives people the opportunities to be as healthy as they can be.	
Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing.	
Priority 4: Promote early intervention and prevention measures to improve mental health and wellbeing.	

Progress 2025/2026	May	July	September	November	Jan	Mar
	of change required over or support delivery of orga		Potential impacts on opera delivery, alongside quality a monitoring.	and contract St	laintain Executive Focus of crategic Executive Team noting ide Programme Executive Committee of the ICB Boa	neetings and system- e Committee

Lack of uncertainty around future organisational change.	A lack of capacity to support delivery due to organisational change management and focus on securing a future role.	Regular monitoring and assurance through ICB Committee / Governance Framework.  Establishment of an Internal Transition Group.
Lack of clarity around future ICB functions which will transfer to NHSE in line with the proposals set out in the NHSE ICB Model Blueprint	Unclear about where accountability lies.	Oversight and assurance of current ICB functions by relevant Board Committees
Lack of clarity and funding of potential redundancy schemes	Staff leaving the organisation to secure new roles, leading to gaps in capacity to deliver, and loss of talent	Regular communication and engagement with staff.  Extranet FAQs  Drop In Sessions with Staff
Short timescales hampering engagement with our Integrated Care System partners	True engagement across the Integrated Care     System, impacting on limited time to discuss     new ways of working	Regular briefings with key stakeholders.
First Line Assurance (Departmental Level)	Second Line Assurance (Organisational oversight)	Third Line Assurance (Independent)
ICB Executive	Internal Transition Group to C&P ICB Board	NHS England
Transition Task and Finish Group	Joint Transition Group (Cluster ICBs)	Trade Unions and Professional Bodies Healthwatch

	Gaps Identified	Planned Actions	Progress	Timescale	RAG
				for	Status
				Completion	
- 1				•	

Governance and assurance of the Transition process.	<ul> <li>Establishment of an Internal Transition Group, led by the ICB Chair</li> <li>Transition Programme Group now established with detailed Work Programme and Governance. Workstream leads identified</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Terms of Reference agreed by the ICB Board. First meeting to be held on 26 June 2025.</li> <li>Joint Transition Committee revised Terms of Reference to reflect clustering arrangements and new Board Membership</li> </ul>	30 June 2025 Ongoing
Governance and assurance of the Transition – Clusterwide	<ul> <li>Establishment of a Joint         Transition Committee (in line         with the ICB Model Blueprint)</li> <li>Agree approach to escalation.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Terms of Reference endorsed by the ICB Board. First meeting to be held on 9 June 2025</li> <li>Governance Leads meeting on a weekly basis to identify issues / trouble shoot.</li> <li>Proposed changes to the ICB Constitution to reflect Transitional arrangements being presented to the ICB Board on 19 September 2025 – will then be subject to NHSE approval</li> <li>Appoint C&amp;P NHS Trust Partner Member via ICB Constitution process</li> <li>Appoint C&amp;P PMS Partner Member.</li> </ul>	30 June 2025  - Completed Changes approved by the ICB Boards in Common 14.10.2025 - Completed NHSE approved changes. Completed In progress. Closing date for nominations 10.11.2025

Consultation timescales for Organisational Change and consultation are different across the ICBs.	•	Negotiation with ICB Staff Side Amendment of Policy to reflect 45 day consultation	•	Agreement with Staff side to move to 45 day consultation that aligns with other ICBs Remuneration Committee to approve the proposed amendments to the Organisational Change Policy Combined Staff side meetings Remuneration Committee meeting in common across three ICBs	20 June 2025  – Completed Completed In progress In progress	
Clarity on the future function and form of the ICB	•	Cross ICB Organisational Design Groups ICB Spokespersons identified and local Organisational Design Groups to inform wider group.	•	Form and function of the new ICB and six Directorates established. Executive Director appointments. Internal Spokesperson's identified Work to achieve Vision and Values for each Directorate alongside leadership model.	Ongoing Completed	
Review of governance processes to ensure continuity through change	•	Review of current processes and procedures	•	Risk leads meeting to review current processes and procedures. Agreed approach to management and oversight of Business Cycle.	Ongoing	