

Improving lives Our strategy 2025-2030





Improving lives

Welcome



Sharon Mays Chair



Salma Yasmeen
Chief Executive

We are proud to share Improving Lives: Our Strategy 2025–2030. This strategy sets out how we will meet the needs of our communities today while building the foundations of a healthier, fairer and more sustainable future.

Improving lives is not just our mission, it is our purpose. It means enabling people to live well at home and in their communities, tackling the inequalities that limit opportunities, and ensuring every individual has the chance to thrive. It means making inclusion real, valuing diversity, listening to every voice, and removing barriers to care and opportunity.

This strategy has been shaped by over 3,000 voices, service users, carers, staff, governors, volunteers and partners. It reflects what matters most to our communities and commits us to building trust and strong partnerships. Trust with the people who use our services, trust with colleagues who deliver them, and trust with system and community partners who share our ambitions. Only by working side by side will we deliver the change people need and deserve.

At its heart is our Home First approach: care and support designed to help people live well in their homes and neighbourhoods, with hospital care only when it is truly needed. This is central to how we will strengthen independence, preserve dignity and improve outcomes.

We are ambitious for our communities, our colleagues and our city. We will embrace research and innovation, strengthen our role as a University Partnership Trust, and use digital tools and data to transform care. In doing so, we will make our services more accessible, more personalised, more inclusive and more effective.

The challenges ahead are real: growing demand, persistent inequalities, and a health and social care system under pressure. But with the compassion and expertise of our colleagues, the wisdom of lived experience, and the power of trusted partnerships, we are confident we can deliver.

Together, we will improve lives, not just in the care we provide, but in the trust we build, the partnerships we forge, and the lasting difference we make in every home and community we serve.

Who we are and who we serve

Sheffield Health Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (SHPU) is an NHS Trust that is primarily focused on mental health and wellbeing, learning disabilities, neurodiversity and dementia. Our vision is to improve the mental, physical and social wellbeing of the people in our communities.

Our services include some highly specialised regional services such as Gender Identity Services and Forensic Secure Mental Health; and a wide variety of local and neighbourhood-based services such as primary care mental health and Talking Therapies. This is in addition to being the major provider of secondary mental healthcare for the people of Sheffield.

We aim to take a holistic approach to everybody's care with a growing focus on physical health and wellbeing, and we have a long-standing emphasis on tackling inequalities and improving outcomes for the most marginalised, for example through the Health Inclusion Team and the Homeless Assessment and Support Team (HAST).

Over 2,600 colleagues work together at Sheffield Health Partnership University NHS FT guided by our Mission which is Improving Lives. Our workforce reflects the diversity of the communities we serve. In addition to our permanent colleagues, 800 bank workers and 91 volunteers choose to be part of team SHPU. We are proud of the diversity of our workforce including increasing numbers of people with lived experience of mental health, learning disabilities and neurodiversity.

Each year we deliver around 500,000 care contacts. We primarily serve the needs of adults, with 6% of our service users aged 19 or under, 71% aged between 20 and 64 years of age and 23% aged 65 or older. We are increasingly supporting young people, with a focus on smooth transitions of care for young people from age 16 upwards.

The people we work with are drawn from all parts of Sheffield, with some services serving communities across South Yorkshire and beyond. We intend to focus our care in ways that tackle inequalities and improve equity of outcomes. 41% of our service users live in neighbourhoods that are categorised as being amongst the most deprived (reference ONS IMD lower quintile). Our services try hard to reach all communities in Sheffield, with 29% of Talking Therapies service users identifying their ethnicity as non-White British, compared to 20% in the Sheffield population as a whole.

But there is more to do. Our data on quality of experience and outcomes tells us that people experience variation, so our initiatives such as Patient and Carer Race Equality Framework (PCREF) are critical to make sure that the views of service users and carers are at the heart of our drive for continuous improvement.

What has informed our strategy

This strategy has been shaped by the people we serve, those we work with as colleagues and partners, and by our understanding of the changing world around us.

Population needs

The Ten Year Health Plan For England: Fit For <u>The Future</u> frames the case for change with four factors shaping 21st Century healthcare. They are: 1) An ageing population living with multiple health conditions that will require more seamless services. 2) More than a quarter of the population have a long-term condition that needs a continuous and empowering service, not episodic. 3) Higher public expectations mean we must meet the public's appetite for knowledge and control to give patients greater voice and choice. 4) Increases in cost, which haven't delivered corresponding improvements in productivity and performance, putting sustainability of all public services at stake.

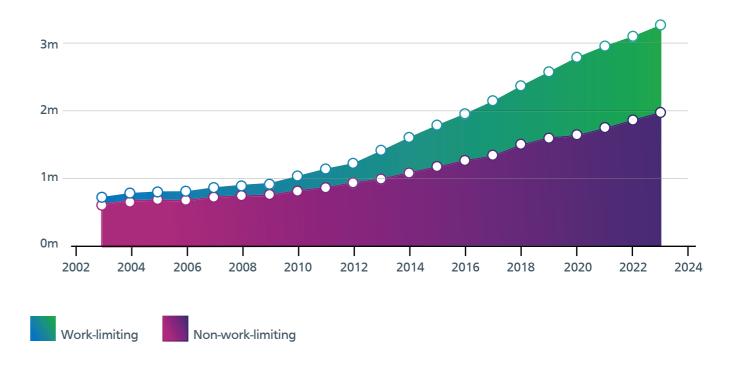
In relation to our services, data indicates that over the last 20 years there has been a significant growth in demand for diagnosis, support and treatment for many aspects of mental health, learning disability, neurodiversity and dementia. Population level projections estimate that both prevalence and demand will continue to grow over the lifetime of this strategy. This means that organisations that support people with these needs must innovate and must partner with communities so that people can live well with life-long health conditions and disabilities.

The Health Foundation reports that mental health need amongst adults grew significantly between 2003 and 2023, with the number of people with mental health needs that limit their ability to work increasing from 0.6m to 2.0m people, and those with 'non-work-limiting' illnesses increasing from 0.1m to 1.3m. The stark rise in the number of people experiencing 'non-work-limiting' mental health needs means that in addition to providing specialist intervention for those who are most affected by mental ill health, SHPU must find ways to support a greater proportion of the population through partnerships that address the determinants of health and wellbeing.

The impact of this will not only show in the demand for our services, but the diversification required of our offer. We need to be thinking and acting differently in our approach to specialist care provision. We must use technology and meet demand without over reliance on hospital admissions. Holistic care will be critical as more than 70% of workingage people with a mental health condition also report at least one other health condition.

Since 2003, the number of people with non-work-limiting conditions has grown 12-fold

Number of working-age people reporting work-limiting and non-work-limiting mental health conditions as main condition (millions), UK, 2003-2023



NHS England reports that between 2017 and 2023 rates of mental health disorders amongst 17 – 19 year olds increased from 10.1% to 23.3%. This is important not just because of the volume, but because of the changing expectations and preferences of younger generations, which will require SHPU to adapt.

Neurodiversity: the Nuffield Trust published an analysis in 2024 that highlighted significant growth in the number of people seeking diagnosis and support for Autism and for ADHD. Between 2019 and 2023 there was a five-fold increase in the number of open suspected autism referrals. NHS prescribing data shows that between 2019/20 and 2022/23, there was a 51% increase in the number of patients prescribed medication for ADHD.

Official estimates of the prevalence of Autism may underestimate the true position for a variety of reasons. However the JSNA suggests that applied to Sheffield this equates to between 5,500 and 6,000 autistic people living in Sheffield.

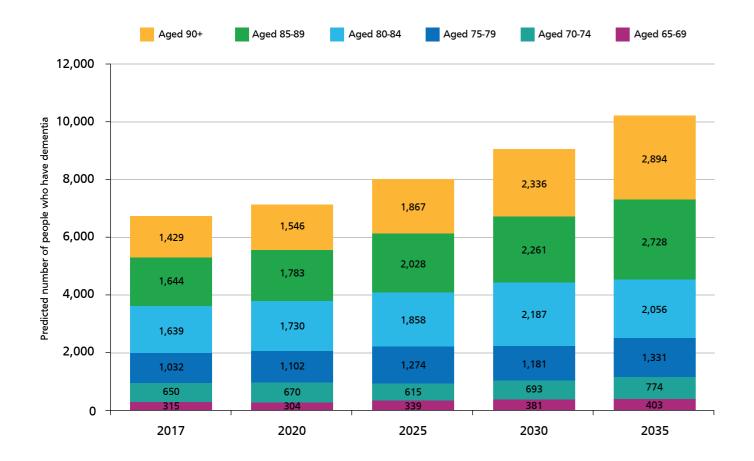
Not every autistic person will require support with associated needs impacting on their health and wellbeing, but it is the case that autistic people are more likely to experience mental ill health than the population as a whole. So it is critical that SHPU services become adept at meeting the needs of people who identify as neurodivergent, not just in relation to the provision of Autism or ADHD diagnoses, but also as a concurrent factor impacting other health needs.

Learning Disabilities: There are about 1.5 million people with a learning disability in the UK. This could mean about 12,000 people with a learning disability live in Sheffield which would represent 2.1% of our local population. People with a learning disability often have worse physical and mental health than people without a learning disability and on average die 20 years younger than the general population. Many of these early deaths could be prevented. People with learning disabilities can often face barriers to accessing quality healthcare which contributes to these avoidable health inequalities.

Dementia: The <u>Sheffield Dementia Strategy</u>

highlights that in 2020 there were estimated to be over 7,000 people aged over 65 living with dementia in Sheffield, equivalent to 7.7% of the 94,820 people aged 65 years and over in the city. Data in the JSNA suggests that the number of people with dementia in Sheffield could rise to over 10,000 by 2035.

People aged 65+ predicted to have dementia Sheffield, 2017 - 2035



Inequalities persist: People with mental health needs experience inequalities. The Health Foundation reports that people with worklimiting mental health conditions are half as likely to be in work compared with people with no health conditions. People with non-worklimiting mental health conditions have higher employment rates but they are more likely to have lower pay once in work. Analysis for Public Health England found that people with severe and enduring mental health needs live more of their lives in ill health and die younger than the general population. The 2022 LEDER reported that the median age at death for people with a Learning Disability in 2022 was 62.9 years old. Sheffield figures were similar at 63.5 years.

In 2024 the Royal College of Psychiatry reported that NHS data indicated that 130,400 adults with severe mental illness in England died prematurely (before the age of 75), between January 2020 and December 2022. The college estimated that 66% (around 86,934) were due to preventable physical health conditions such as respiratory disease, heart disease and liver disease. NHS data [Q3 24/25] showed that only 58.5% of eligible people received their physical health check meaning that 41.5% people misssed out on the opportunity for early diagnosis and treatment.

Evidence shows that people living in the most deprived areas generally have a shorter life expectancy and will spend more years in poor health. Health conditions, such as mental ill health, are four times more likely and may be acquired 10-15 years earlier for those in deprived areas than those living in affluent areas. People living in the most deprived areas may live in poor and unsuitable housing, have low income and have a higher likelihood of undertaking harmful health-related behaviours

such as poor diet, smoking or alcohol consumption.

People from marginalised groups, such as ethnic minorities or people experiencing homelessness, have a significantly increased risk of multiple conditions. There are marked differences between groups in access to and use of mental health services based on key protected characteristics such as sex, ethnicity and disability.

This leads to under or over representation relative to the level of need and poorer health outcomes. Groups who are less likely to get access to treatment at an early stage are also more likely to experience more coercive pathways through care. Marginalised groups are more likely to be sectioned and detained. Data on access to services at SHPU shows that these internationally-recognised trends are evident here. Tackling inequalities in access to care, the experience of receiving care and the outcomes achieved from care is a strategic priority for the Trust.

This means that under this strategy SHPU must strengthen its work with service users and partner organisations to improve equitable access to both mental health and physical healthcare and to preventative activities for people with learning disabilities and mental illness, in order to reduce inequalities and improve population health outcomes.

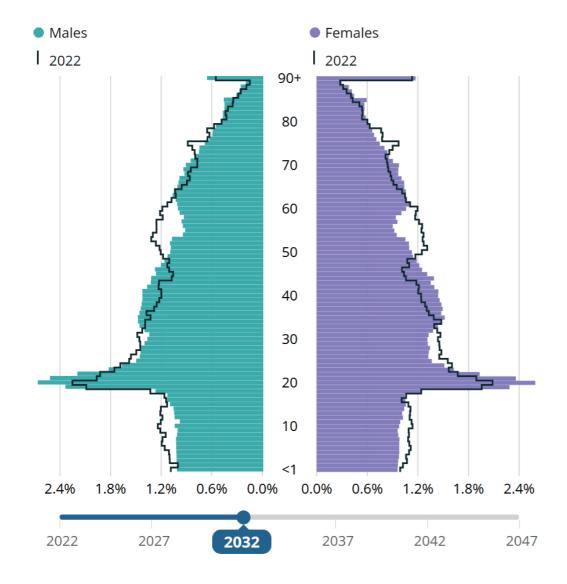
Sheffield: Between the 2011 and 2021 census the population of Sheffield increased by 0.7%, from around 552,700 to 556,500. This was lower than the overall increase for England (6.6%) and for Yorkshire and Humber (3.7%). In 2021, Sheffield had the fourth largest population out of 309 local authority areas in England, and Sheffield was the second most

densely populated local authority area in Yorkshire and Humber. Our population has continued to age. The number of over 65s grew (10.6%) meaning that by 2021 17% of Sheffielders were aged over 65. Working age adults remained the biggest age category accounting for 59.2% of the population in 2021.

The Office for National Statistics predicts that the population of Sheffield continues growing through the duration of this strategy so that by 2032 the population is estimated to be 617,015 having grown by 9.3% over ten years.

The biggest driver of growth is expected to be international migration underlining the increasing diversity of the population we serve. The age profile of the population is also expected to be subject to some change with a notable reduction in the proportion of 50-60 year olds and growth in the proportion of younger adults.

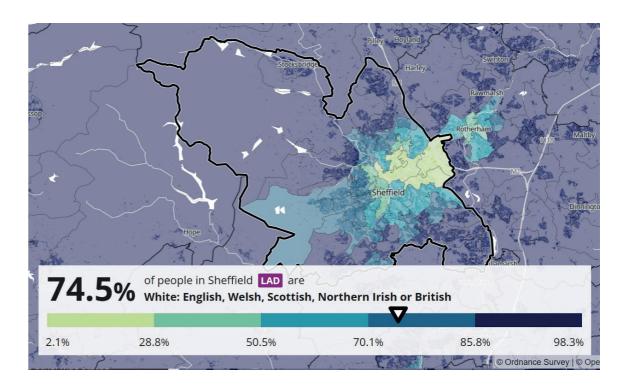
Projected population age structure by single year of age and sex for Sheffield, 2022 to 2046



The population of Sheffield is becoming more ethnically and culturally diverse. In the 2011 Census 80.8% of people in Sheffield identified their ethnicity as White British. By the 2021 Census 74.5% of people in Sheffield identified themselves this way. In absolute terms, the largest increases between 2011 and 2021 were in the "White: Other White", "Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African" and "Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Pakistani" ethnic groups.

Throughout the lifetime of this strategy, SHPU must continue to develop cultural competence and inclusion in all that we do and must continue the journey to recruit, retain and include a diverse workforce at all levels.

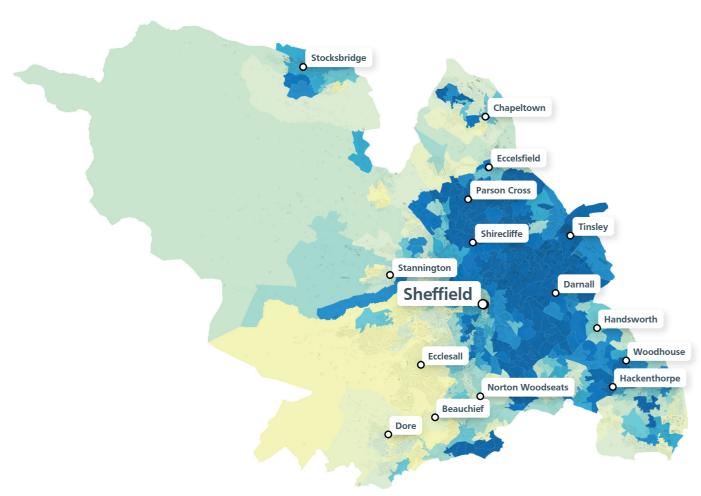
The chart below highlights that population diversity is not uniform across Sheffield's neighbourhoods, indicating a need for neighbourhood models of care to be responsive to their communities.



The need for support with mental health tends to be correlated with the social and economic determinants of health. The Sheffield Director of Public Health Report 2024 confirmed that 1 in 4 people in Sheffield live in poverty. The Index of Multiple Deprivation is a proxy for the prevalence of these factors. The image below indicates that we can expect to see significant demand arising from communities in the North and East of Sheffield, and that our neighbourhood service delivery model should reflect a proportional universalism approach.

Index of multiple deprivation 2019 Sheffield





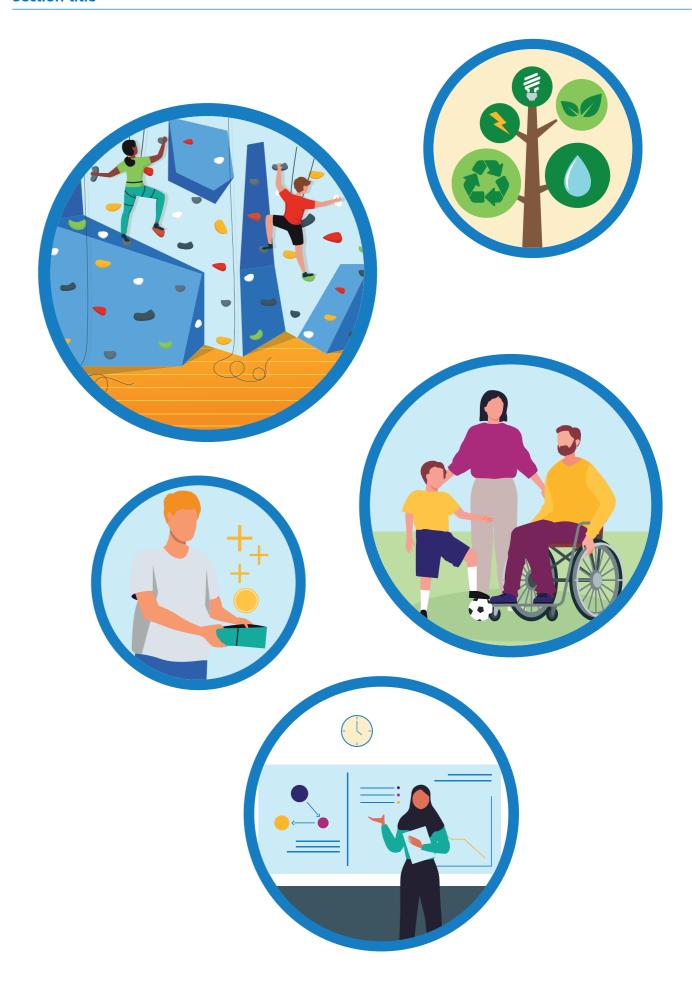
Local authority profile

% of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile



What this map shows

This is a map of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 data for Sheffield. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAS in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the data relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or wealthy, individual people are. LSOAS have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).



What people told us

The Trust strategy has been developed to ensure that everyone has a voice that counts. The Trust had already gained feedback from key stakeholders and hosted conversations on the 10-year plan in preparation for strategy development. This feedback helped to inform a baseline for Trust objectives aligned to national priorities.

In addition, existing insight from the past two years was reviewed and collated into a report to determine key themes. This insight used over 3,000 views which included:

- ► All existing engagement reports
- Complaints and compliments including patient opinion and NHS Choices
- Patient experience information including friends and family test
- Surveys such as staff and patient surveys
- ► Healthwatch reports and insight
- ► Sheffield partners involvement and insight
- Integrated Care System intelligence and insight

Using what we already know has provided an opportunity to reflect on key areas that may require focus, improvement or add value. The approach to developing the strategy using involvement and equality information will model our future approach of data and insight-driven improvement that will drive our strategic ambition and model future ways of working for programme delivery going forward.

The aim of the engagement was to ensure that the strategy adequately reflects the voice, views and experiences of our staff, service users, governors, members, carers, and families. These views are critical if we are to create collective ownership of our strategic approach. The involvement approach was to generate energy around a wider conversation so that people feel their voice and influence could help to shape an organisation that works for all of us and creates a lasting impact of ownership.

Using a communication approach, we promoted and developed readily accessible resources with links to surveys and information, delivered through digital, face-to-face and peer-led conversation, including a direct mail out to over 5,000 members of the Foundation Trust. In addition, workshops supported by Flourish, helped us to reach our voluntary and community sector organisations, while a dedicated session with governors was also held. The strategy refresh was also promoted through our existing communications approach, including the cascade, between February and April 2025.

The aim was to gain a reflective voice in the gathering of insight so we can reflect the diversity of our population and workforce.

The Trust received 400 individual responses and an estimated 200 views from meetings and workshops. The key themes are set out below:

General themes:

- Compassionate, personalised approach to care – to increase confidence in services. This means people feel listened to and heard, understanding the whole person, and not having to 'start from scratch' with each service encounter.
- Services that are accessible timely, responsive support when needed.
 Respondents want to see funding for community-based organisations, link workers and support workers in the community

- ▶ Coproduction in service design and delivery; more involvement of people with lived experience across pathways to care and in local communities. Ensuring lived experience stories inform service change.
- ► Education focus on wellness and preventative treatment, awareness sessions would be of great benefit including to communities and educational institutions and introduction of recovery colleges
- Carers more regular inclusion and communication with carers and need for improvement in information sharing, more involvement of carers in service design and delivery
- Use of digital more digital technology would be useful and viewed very positively; the main concerns were around digital exclusion and less 'human' face to face communication.

Equality themes:

- Cultural competency including staff representative of communities.
 Consideration of faith and ethnicity in care.
- ► Accessibility of services More services in the wider local area, consideration of if people can afford to get to their appointment, transport links to services from wider parts of city. Making sure buildings are accessible for people with disabilities. Access to interpreters at all points of care.
- Neurodiversity Ensuring our services and staff are understanding of neurodiversity and the impact that can have on accessing care. Impact of long waits in this service; more involvement of autism-specific voluntary sector services.

- ▶ SHPU as an inclusive employer supporting people with lived experience and disabilities including neurodiversity into roles across the organisation. More staff needed who are representative of communities.
- Equality and diversity training improvement in training for staff within SHPU on equality and diversity in collaboration with voluntary and community partners.

A full report and equality impact assessment support our approach, and both these reports can be found on our website.

Additionally, we have been able to draw upon a rich range of sources of insight from engagement exercises undertaken by partner organisations in Sheffield over recent years. Sheffield City Council analysed views from over 1,800 Sheffielders and used these to inform the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Within these views the following were highlighted as being people's priorities for health and care services:

- Availability of services
- Awareness of services
- Accessibility of services
- Services that support me to manage my own care
- Quality, safety and being treated with kindness and compassion
- Focusing on both prevention and treatment of disease and ill health

Our partnerships in Sheffield and South Yorkshire

Working in partnership for the benefit of our population is a core operating principle that informs our approach to everything we do. We are proud to be active participants in partnerships at the Sheffield place and South Yorkshire system levels and beyond. In all of these partnerships our shared goals are to improve population level outcomes and reduce inequalities, to drive value, and improve the experience of everyone who uses health and care services and of those who work within them. Some of our partnerships emphasise our role as health service provider and others reflect our role as an 'anchor' organisation contributing to the social and economic success of Sheffield and the region.

Specific headlines that have informed this strategy include:

The <u>South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board's</u> (five-year) <u>Joint Forward Plan</u> was published in 2024 and includes a focus on:

- Improving access and transforming mental health services, and
- Improving access and redesigning specialist services for those with learning disabilities and autism

Early in 2025 the ICB published its commissioning intentions which refine the plan aligned to national expectations. Notably it requires us to:

- Improve patient flow through mental health crisis and acute pathways, reducing average length of stay in adult acute beds
- Reduce demand through developing Neighbourhood Health Service models
- Make full use of digital tools to drive the shift from analogue to digital

- Address inequalities and shift towards secondary prevention
- Live within the budget allocated, reducing waste and improving productivity.

One of the main ways that the Integrated Care System delivers improvement is through its Provider Collaboratives. The South Yorkshire Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism Provider Collaborative iterates its priorities annually. For the year ahead our focus is on:

- Improving productivity, starting with inpatient length of stay, community team effectiveness, and developing digital, data and analytical capability
- Expanding Eating Disorder services, with a strengthened community offer, full medical emergencies in eating disorders (MEED) provision, an offer for avoidant restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID), and exploration of alternatives to inpatient care
- Reducing waits for ADHD and Autism diagnosis and support
- STOMP (stopping over medication) improving care for people who have learning disabilities
- ► Reducing the use of out of area placements

The <u>Sheffield Health and Care Partnership</u> vision is for our health and care services to be integrated, joined up, and seamless; to reduce and remove inequalities in health outcomes and access to support. In this partnership SHPU particularly contributes to priorities around;

- ▶ Discharge and the 'Home First' model
- ► Mental Health Crisis Care
- Neurodiversity Support
- Making the most of our collective estates

Within the Sheffield Health and Care Partnership there is a Mental Health Delivery Group. Its focus for 2025/26 is:

- Mental Health Crisis Care
- Implement the Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre pilot in Heeley+ PCN
- Support the Home First Programme to eliminate out of area placements and reduce delayed discharges
- Design and commission new mental health accommodation services in the community
- Improve the experience of neurodivergent adults, including the wait for assessment and diagnosis
- ► Improve the performance of waiting times for dementia diagnosis
- Deliver the Growth Accelerator Employment Programme

The Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board has agreed the Fair and Healthy Sheffield Plan which requires all local partner organisations to contribute to closing the unfair gaps in length and quality of life by improving the health and wellbeing of those worst off the fastest. We do this through eight 'building blocks'. The SHPU Board has agreed to focus on three of the eight:

- ► Tackle racism and discrimination
- ► Ensure fair access to quality NHS services
- ► Address the climate and environment crisis

Through Sheffield Stronger Together we work with leaders across all sectors in pursuit of The Sheffield City Goals which inform our role as a significant local organisation rooted in the City with a contribution to make to the long term success of our communities. This particularly informs our strategic intent to

- Support creativity as a route to inclusion and recovery
- ► Focus on environmental sustainability and the role of nature in wellbeing
- Nurture thriving neighbourhoods and bridge divides across generations and communities

Across South Yorkshire similar themes related to the determinants of health have informed our organisation's strategy. The <u>South Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership Strategy</u> sets out bold ambitions to:

- Strengthen our focus on prevention and early intervention, and
- Increase economic participation in a fair, inclusive and sustainable economy.

The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority in conjunction with the Integrated Care Board has secured government investment in Pathways To Work which is a response to the needs of the growing number of people who are unable to participate in work due to ill health. Pathways to work will align the NHSE Growth Accelerator and DwP Trailblazer to help 40,000 people by 2029. It will:

- Bring the economically inactive back into work through an individual-centric, strengths based, trauma informed Personalised Support service
- Deliver new preventative measures to stop people becoming economically inactive due to health issues
- Proactively manage pathways across health, work and employment support, including through supporting employers

National policy context

This strategy is being developed at a time of geo-political uncertainty and a challenging economic and policy context for national government. Key factors include:

- ► Health care system costs continue to grow at a faster rate than the economies of most countries, posing affordability challenges.
- ► In Britain dissatisfaction with the NHS is at an all-time high, yet the majority of people retain their faith in the founding principles of the NHS.
- The NHS achieves variable quality and outcomes at a time of growing inequalities.

In this context the Government has chosen to invest in the NHS while generally curbing public sector expenditure. This drives an expectation that the NHS delivers results with its relative investment. This in turn creates a twin focus on productivity and reform, themes that run through the 10-year plan for the NHS.

One of the reasons that Government has made this choice is because it considers the NHS critical to its over-arching <u>Missions</u>, most notably:

- ► Kickstart economic growth
- Build an NHS fit for the future
- ► The implications of these Missions for the SHPU strategy include:
- Helping people so that ill-health or disability doesn't limit their opportunities to enjoy fulfilling careers, or to contribute to their community through volunteering. For example through Pathways to Work
- Nurturing innovation and research so that people benefit from the best possible evidence-led care, and local academic health partnerships attract investment
- Reform how we work and what we do to deliver the three shifts described in the 10-year plan

The 10-year plan is built around three shifts in the way we think and act, which have been fundamental in the development of this strategy. The shifts and some of the specific policies announced in the 10-year plan that will be particularly important for SHPU to engage with as we deliver our strategy are:

Hospital

Community

- ► Transformation of mental health services into 24/7 neighbourhood care models, improved assertive outreach care, and a focus on reducing mental health inequalities
- Neighbourhood health service built around 'multi-neighbourhood providers' convening multidisciplinary teams into joined up neighbourhood teams
- Personalised patient-centred care supported by co-created care plans for people with complex needs, and greater use of personal health budgets
- ▶ Dedicated mental health emergency departments providing walk in access, and offering rapid assessment, short term support and safe discharge or referral

Analogue

Digital

- ▶ Single Patient Record that enables care to be seamless and personalised
- Making the NHS App central to putting people in control of their own care, able to exercise choice, book appointments, and manage medications
- ► Focus on a digitally-enabled workforce

Sickness

Prevention

- Ambition is to halve the gap in healthy life expectancy between the richest and poorest regions, while increasing it for everyone
- NHS providers to focus on secondary prevention enabled by a new genomics population health service, predictive analytics and Al. Incentives will also be used to encourage NHS providers to focus on population health outcomes
- ► Health and Growth Accelerators so NHS systems increase the impact they have on peoples work status. Including employment advisers in Talking Therapies and Individual Placement and Support to help people with mental ill health to find good work
- ► Changed approach to research funding so more is invested in the prevention, detection and treatment of long-term conditions

Also of significance for the Trust are the underpinning principles of the NHS England Mental Health Quality Transformation Programme. These describe the ethos of neighbourhood mental health care that is informing our local programme. Shifting to a personalised trauma informed strengths-based approach is at the heart of our strategy and community services will be at the forefront of how we deliver care and services with a Home First approach.

Citizenship and Belonging ... Support for a bold, reimagined future and models of care that promote and strengthen social inclusion and participation in society.

Do no harm

Trauma-informed

Continuity of care

The same people support you whether you are at home, in crisis or need to stay in a bed.

Coproduced with community and people with lived experience

People and families who use the services are part of designing and delivering them.

Trusting relationships

with staff who work hard to get to know you, what matters to you and earn your trust.

Neighbourhood-based

People can get the help and support they need close to where they live.

Close to primary care and system partners, collaborating with VCSE

Promote belonging and citizenship for all

People who use services are seen as a whole person and are valued for who they are.

Open access

People can get help when they need it, where they need it

Promote freedom autonomy and choice

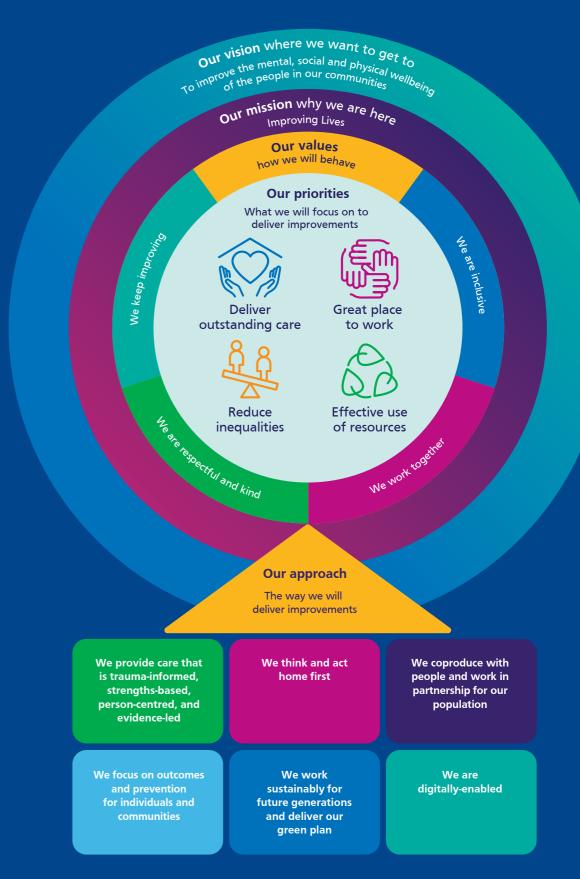
People are in control of their own care and make choices about what they do and do not want.

All means all

These services are for everyone. Nobody is excluded. We will work hard to respect and respond to the reasonable adjustments people need.

It is vital that we play our part in creating a thriving city with vibrant communities in which people support each other to live well. We do this by supporting community organisations, enabling volunteering, and by contributing to local place-shaping activities as one of the local organisations whose roots and purpose are all about Sheffield and its people.

Our strategic framework



Our values

During 2024 over 1,000 colleagues at SHPU contributed over 3,000 insights to shape our shared values and to describe the behaviours that we expect of each other to demonstrate that we are putting our Values in action. In 2025 we established 'We Are Our Values' – a delivery group drawn from colleagues across the organisation who will support us all to make these values a daily lived reality at SHPU. The behaviours that demonstrate our values in action are set out in our Behaviours Framework.

OUR VALUES	OUR BEHAVIOURS	WE SAY
We Work Together	 Patient-centred - being aware that everything we do affects the quality of care we provide Collaborating with others in our team, other teams and partner organisations Ensuring others are involved at the right time Giving people opportunity to speak and be heard Participating in team discussions and MDTs Sharing ideas and information Asking the advice of others and involving them in decisions 	 What will this make this better for service users? I'd like to hear your thoughts It's great to work with you Who else might we need to consult with at this stage? I have an idea I have information that will help here What do you think is the best way forward?
We Are Respectful And Kind	 Being polite and considerate Listening to understand others Supporting and helping others Greeting people warmly, with a smile and saying "hello" Saying please and thank you Checking in with colleagues and asking how they are Following through on commitments Being self-aware of how our own words and actions impact others 	 Hello What do you think? Please Thank you I appreciate what you did How can I help? How are you? I'm sorry I'm aware of how my words and actions impact others
We Are Inclusive	 Creating friendly environments where people feel safe Providing support so that everyone can be their true self and realise their potential Championing equity Challenging unconscious bias and being an ally for others Speaking up when things aren't right Collecting data to measure if we are being inclusive Developing tools and approaches to embed inclusion on all levels of trust activity 	 I value and support you How can we make this better for you? Share with us what you need so we can support you How can we be sure we are equitable and inclusive? I speak up when things aren't right How can we create more awareness? Who else's voice do we need to hear on this?
We Keep Improving	 Participating in training and development Looking for opportunities for improvement Giving and receiving feedback Being creative in our problem-solving Measuring and evaluating our impact. Offering positive challenge and holding people to account Ensuring change is data-driven Delivering evidence-based practice Building our future through innovation and research 	 What is the standard we need to follow? How do you think that went? How can we do this better? Can I make a suggestion? What could I have done better? What approach haven't we thought of yet? How can we record this so we know if it works? What does the data tell us?

Our approach

Our approach describes the golden threads that run through our ways of working. It informs how we deliver our strategy and is applicable to every strategic aim.

We provide care that is trauma-informed, strengths-based, person-centred and evidence-led	Our Clinical and Social Care Strategy 2021 – 2026 defined the type of care we aspire to provide. So far we have focused on growing our capabilities to work this way, and now we want to embed these critical qualities in our approach to care through coproduction. Being strengths-based and person-centred requires us to take a pro-equity approach. That means to achieve good outcomes for everyone we need to do more for people who experience the most significant challenges in their lives, so that every individual receives fair and just access to the resources, opportunities, and support they need. The delivery of care will be grounded in the available evidence base and where we seek to innovate and break new ground we will work in partnership with academic institutions.
We think and act Home First	We focus on helping people in their own homes and as part of their communities to maintain their citizenship and agency. Where inpatient care is needed we support people to retain connections close to home and return home safely and quickly. We work in and with communities wherever possible, and we deliver care in hospital only where necessary.
We coproduce with people and work in partnership for our population	We value lived experience. The people who use services and those who work in them are key to improving them. We always involve people, and we aspire to truly co-produce wherever possible. Working in partnership with other organisations, especially voluntary and community groups that serve the same communities. Our pro-equity approach means this will look different in each neighbourhood in response to peoples needs.
We focus on outcomes and prevention for individuals and communities	We help each person achieve the best outcomes for them, placing emphasis on what is important to them. We strive for fairness and improved outcomes across the whole population. To achieve equity we will pay particular attention to meeting the needs of the most disadvantaged communities.
We work sustainably for future generations and deliver our Green Plan	We consider the environmental impact of our actions, and the long-term implications of the choices we make today and the potential impacts in the future.
We are digitally- enabled, innovative and research-driven	We use digital to enhance human interaction. We improve choice, access and efficiency, while taking care not to exclude anyone. We use digital to enhance communications, interventions and choice, supporting digital literacy where this is an issue. We improve access and efficiency of our services and ensure that no one is disadvantaged because of digital exclusion. We encourage participation in innovation and research, and we focus on the practical adoption and spread of proven improvements.

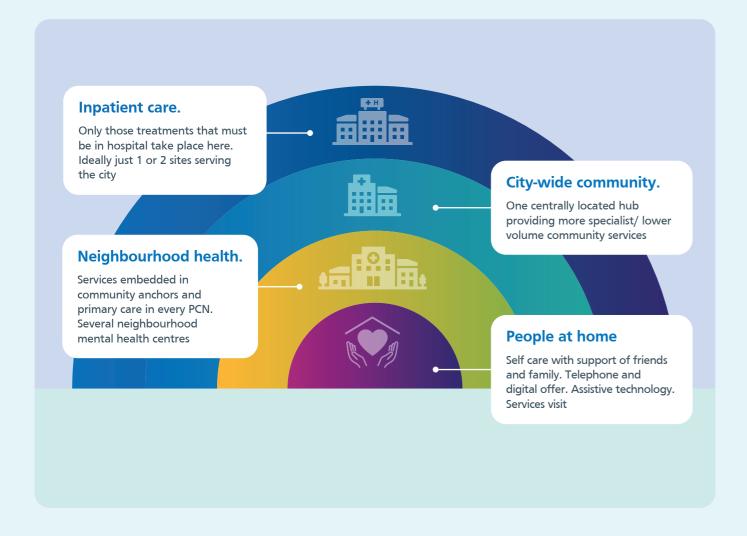
Our model of care

To deliver this strategy our Model of Care needs to reflect our 'Home First' approach.

We recognise that most people are able to live well in their own homes and are able to access the things that help them maintain their wellbeing. If people need support to live well we will ensure they have access to community activities and can access help through local voluntary and community sector organisations. If further support is required, people will have access to an integrated primary mental health care team that is readily available in their neighbourhood.

If more specialist help is needed, we'll provide that through joined up community mental health services, delivered locally wherever possible, and at scale for the whole city where necessary. All of this will be backed up by high quality locally delivered inpatient care and regional specialist services when they are needed.

Our Trust plays a larger role in directly supporting people at each layer of this model of care, but it has a role to play in creating a Fair and Healthy Sheffield for the whole population, and it supports prevention and recovery at every level.



The table below indicates the types of service that would typically be delivered at each level within our Model of Care. Note this is indicative and will continue to be refined.

People at home	Telephone and digital offer, assistive technology. Services visit for appointments
Every PCN (c 50k pop). In General Practice and community anchor organisations	Part of wider 'neighbourhood NHS'. Some embedded e.g. PCMH. Some services E.g. Talking Therapies deliver seasonally
Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre (e.g. Heeley). Maybe 5 or 6 in Sheffield (c 100k pop)	Integrated secondary care community MH offer (multiple teams). May be collocated with PCN based offer. In Partnership - social care, VCS etc.
1 city-wide Community Hub - Centrally located.	Lower volume/ more specialist teams - e.g. CERT, HAST, LD, Perinatal. Mix of team base and service delivery. Some delivery seasonally at neighbourhood level
Inpatient care 1 or 2 campuses for Sheffield	Only inpatient care. Could have older peoples campus, or all together. Note low secure, rehab, possible developments such as eating disorders etc.

Our Bold Ambitions

For each of our strategic aims we have set a small number of measurable objectives which we will use to demonstrate the delivery of our strategy. In addition, we have set ourselves one bold ambition for each strategic aim. These are major stretching goals that will signify a step-change in progress towards the achievement of our strategic aims.

Strategic Aims	Bold Ambitions
Deliver outstanding care	We will implement integrated neighbourhood models of care to achieve equitable outcomes and improve experience of care through a Home First approach
Effective use of resources	We will become a sustainable and digitally enabled organisation, achieving recurrent financial balance within the lifetime of this strategy
Reduce inequalities	We will become an exemplar in addressing health inequalities and working in partnership on the wider determinants of health
Great place to work	We will become a University Partnership Trust to help us bring innovative care, leading research and learning opportunities to everyone in Sheffield

Strategic aim 1: Deliver outstanding care

What this means

This means delivering safe, effective treatment and interventions in a way that provides a good experience for all service users. We have established quality criteria through our Clinical and Social Care Strategy which we are now embedding in practice. This means we provide care that is trauma-informed, strengths-based, person-centred, and evidence-led.

To deliver equity in access, experience and outcomes for all our diverse communities we must build trusted relationships and partnerships with communities and the voluntary and community sector. We must also invest in meaningful therapeutic activities on ward environments, and increase access to employment, volunteering and meaningful activities as part of recovery plans.

Why it's important

It is important that we do this because it is what our service users tell us is important to them. People have consistently told us that what matters to them is that care is accessible when and where it's needed, and that we work with them as partners in their care.

The quality of the care we provide is also one of the main ways that system partners and regulators judge our Trust. We aim to move our CQC rating from Requires Improvement to Outstanding during the lifetime of this strategy.

Bold Ambition 1

We will implement integrated neighbourhood models of care to achieve equitable outcomes and improve experience of care through a Home First approach

Objectives Deliverables Measures Deliver our quality and Implement Culture of Care and Inpatient · Culture of Care Patient experience safety objectives **Quality Improvement Programme** dashboard Audit of the quality of personalised Improve community risk management through Intensive and Assertive Review risk assessments • Continue to embed human rights into • 85% of clinical staff trained in day-to-day practice and introduce an human rights ethics panel • Every patient will have an up to date, personalised and strengths • Embed a person-centred approach to Care planning/restrictive practice based care plan that they have had the opportunity to coproduce Continue to embed least restrictive practice and ensure patients from racialised Zero seclusion use by 2028 communities are not overrepresented in Clearly defined, evidence based the use of restrictive practices such pathways of care across all services as restraint and seclusion by end of 2026/27 · Ensure the Patient and Carer Race Equality All patients have their ethnicity Framework is embedded in practice by the recorded in the electronic end of 2025/26 patient record Evidence of reduced inequalities in PCREF data · Achieve 3 star Triangle of Care accreditation by the end of 2026/27

Objectives	Deliverables	Measures
Home First – reduce out of area placements, improve productivity, flow and sustainable pathways	 Implement workstream 1 grip and control in acute and community services Implement workstream 2 sustainable pathways across community and in-patient care Implement work stream 3 longer term external pathway changes 	 To achieve fewer than 5 out of area placements by the end of 2025/26 To eliminate the use of inappropriate out of area placements by the end of 2026/27
Neighbourhood MH Centre Pilot and partnerships for prevention and inclusion	 Open Heeley+ site in 25/26 and confirm roll out subject to evaluation by 26/27 Define and implement our neighbourhood delivery model Increase the use of creative health approaches to support recovery Implement a community connector model through Trust voluntary and community sector partners including joint posts and roles including advocacy workers, peer support workers and community development workers focused on mental health and learning disability all age support 	Reduce admissions from Heeley + registered population in 25/26 Reduced Length of Stay for Heeley + registered population in 25/26 Increase in number of teams connecting service users to creative health approaches to recovery
Be an exemplar in QI and applied research and innovation	Innovation and Research Hub Innovative research driven University Partnership Trust - with joint MHLDA strategy Grow QI capabilities and embed Integrated change and improvement approach	 Increase commercial research income Increase research active staff Increase QI, PM, change management and OD trained staff
Therapeutic Environments	 Reduce out of area care through completion of Maple ward project in 25/26 Confirm plans for Older Adults and Forensic inpatient environments during 25/26 Agree Home First estates strategy (neighbourhoods, central community, inpatient) during 25/26 Deliver fire safety improvements Create opportunities to enhance staff wellbeing spaces at our service delivery sites 	 PLACE, PAM, ERIC – results in upper quartile for Mental Health comparators Improved fire safety audit results. More environments assessed as being neurodiverse-friendly

Strategic aim 2: Effective use of resources

What this means

This means maximising the value achieved for service users by making best use of all our resources to deliver outstanding care and make the Trust is a great place to work. That includes people's time, buildings and materials, and money. It requires us to think and act sustainably, to stop doing things that don't add value. It also requires us to be creative and innovative, applying new ways of working such as the use of digital and Al solutions to improve the way we work.

Why it's important

By making it easier for our teams to do their jobs we free up time for them to increase their impact for service users. To invest in Improving Lives and to meet the growing needs of our communities, we must reach a state of recurrent financial balance, so that efficiencies we make can be directed towards delivering outstanding care.

Bold Ambition 2

We will become a sustainable and digitally-enabled organisation, achieving recurrent financial balance within the lifetime of this strategy.



Objectives	Deliverables	Measures
Realise the benefits of implementing Rio and become a digitally-enabled trust	 RiO Electronic Patient Record (EPR) fully implemented in 2025 The Trust's ambition is to deploy a modern, robust, reliable and user friendly EPR that will enable us to transform services by: Reducing community waiting times Enable the Trust to deliver safe and high-quality care to all service users. Provide staff with the tools needed to carry out their roles efficiently and effectively Allow SHPU to integrate with systems used by local partners and national systems Improve SHPU's ability to co-ordinate care across all care settings Digital Target Operating Model implemented in 2025 	 Digital Maturity Assessment; Data Quality Maturity Index & Data Security Protection Toolkit Digital Maturity Assessment – ambition to reach '4' Data Quality Maturity Index – score 95%+ Data Security and Protection Toolkit - standards met or exceeded
Sustainability: Deliver net zero carbon care and impact on the social and environmental determinants of health	 Enhance sustainable development visibility Demonstrate leadership in sustainable development Empower and equip staff and our service users to make sustainable choices Develop low carbon care pathways adapted and resilient to impacts of climate change Develop heat decarbonisation plan Develop an SHPU green travel plan Implement the NHS Net Zero Supplier roadmap and work with our suppliers to reduce emissions 	 Net Zero carbon by 2045 Reduce direct control emissions to net zero by 2030 >10 applicants for Sustainability Award at SHPU Shine Awards Minimum 75% of our estate has a costed plan for decarbonising heating systems Minimum 60% of our sites have a 'good' accredited travel plan 100% tenders and procurement frameworks include minimum 10% net zero weighting
Deliver our financial plan every year, to achieve recurrent balance.	 Achieve planned levels of VIP in 25/26 and 26/27 Deliver service-line financial recovery plans to eliminate over-spends 	 25/26 £8m VIP, -£5.5m year-end position 26/27 £8m VIP, balanced year end position
Become more productive in all parts of our Trust	 Corporate services productivity review and Target Operating Model in 25/26 Implement Akeso and Model Hospital clinical productivity opportunities. Improve estate utilisation 	 Work towards corporate/ clinical cost ratio to be defined through TOM Achieve productivity gains identified for Length of Stay, Out of Area placements, and community teams Reduce estate footprint and increase % space utilisation

Improving lives, our strategy 2025-2030 26 Improving lives, our strategy 2025-2030

Strategic aim 3: Reduce inequalities

What this means

In order to reduce inequalities in the health outcomes of the population we serve we need to do three things. 1) We need to improve access to / experience of care so that it is fair for everyone. This means doing things differently for people who find it harder to access support or have a poorer experience. 2) We need to expand the range of things we do so we increasingly focus on prevention and the wider determinants of health. 3) We need to use population data to focus our efforts where they are most needed, and work in partnership with communities and their trusted organisations.

Why it's important

It is critical that we reduce inequalities both in terms of access and experience of the care we provide and in terms of the health outcomes people achieve. Being Inclusive is one of our core values and our staff and service users told us clearly that reducing inequalities matters to them. Prevention is also an essential part of how we can meet the growing needs of our population and make the best use of the resources available to us.

The Home First aim will help us to support people closer to home with their communities, which will help us better understand any health inequalities and how best to address them

Bold Ambition 3

We will become an exemplar in addressing health inequalities and working in partnership on the wider determinants of health

Objectives

Implement our

Inequalities and

Population Health Plan

Deliverables

Increase personal data recorded on Rio, by taking a behavioural science-led approach with teams

- Annual Health Inequalities Statement publication (within Annual Report)
- NHS Board Self Assessment (repeat annually)
- Implement our commitments under the Fair and Healthy Sheffield Plan (tackle racism, fair access to care, climate action)
- Increase active participation in learning and applying population health and prevention, through Health Inequalities Action Group, and external learning opportunities and networks.
- Establish a Population Health and Inequalities Fellowship
- Establish an awards category at Shine 2026
- Explore expansion of the role of the QUIT team to support health promoting behaviours beyond smoking cessation
- Use population health management data to be more proactive and preventative when defining our Model of Care, particularly the neighbourhood model.

Measures

- 80% of service users will have complete personal data on Rio by 2027
- Annual Health inequalities Statement shows year on year improvement in all data categories.
- NHS Board Self-Assessment achieve 'maturing' in all four categories by 2027
- % engaged and active staff increases year in year
- > 15 Health Inequalities Fellows completing projects and qualifications each year
- Decision on QUIT team within 2025/26
- Neighbourhood Model of Care and basis for differential resource allocation clarified within 2025/26.

Objectives	Deliverables	Measures
Improve pathways to work, and access to housing, through local partnerships.	 Supported housing project with re-Think and NPC, linked to Home First work stream 3 Active participation in See It Be It in Sheffield, to engage local young people from key neighbourhoods in careers Community recruitment initiatives through Heeley+ programme and roll-out of neighbourhood model of care Maximise Talking Therapies Employment Advice Build on partnerships with community organisations such as SACMHA, ACT, MAAN, Flourish, to develop volunteering and expert by experience opportunities 	 Evidence of clearly defined accommodation pathways and reduced delayed discharges Evidence of recruitment initiatives that positively target relevant communities Increased diversity of volunteers and Experts by Experience
Convene place partnership/ alliance to align VCS, LA and NHS resources focused on MH, LD, ND, and D	 Develop strong working relationships with VCS partners to provide innovative support packages for people accessing care or at risk of requiring care Align place partnership and Trust improvement programme structures to remove duplication Refine and strengthen the Trust's supporting offer as convenor and enabler of neighbourhood and place-based partnership. Co-produce this with partners 	 Evidence of funding provided to VCS organisations Clarify the resources used to support 'prevention' and 'reducing inequalities', seeking to increase this as a % of overall investment
Implement our Patient and Carer Race Equality Framework.	Implement robust governance structures for PCREF Develop outcome measures Recruit a minimum of 3 community development workers Develop and implement a PCREF toolkit for frontline services to utilise Align the Triangle of Care with PCREF Ensure all staff can access cultural competence training Establish real time feedback loops for patients and carers with ability to see the feedback from those from racialised communities	 Patient feedback dashboard with clear data from racialised communities Evidence of alignment between PCREF and Triangle of care 85% of staff having received cultural competence training
Deliver our equality objectives.	 Plan to develop leaders from diverse communities to address underrepresentation of diverse communities in senior posts Ensure that people from lower socioeconomic and racialised communities have the opportunity to access employment within the Trust and have access to equitable promotion opportunities Ensure people from racialised communities are not over represented in restrictive interventions 	Our workforce profile reflects the community demographic profile Socio-economic background monitoring at recruitment – baseline in 2026 Restrictive interventions reduced overall and ethnicity variance reduced

Strategic aim 4: Great place to work

What this means

This means creating the conditions at SHPU which create an inclusive, values-based culture, in which everyone can thrive and embrace new ways of working. It requires us to support staff to stay well at work; to demonstrate compassionate and inclusive leadership; and to attract and retain diverse talent that understands our population.

Why it's important

Our service users experience our Trust through our People. It is critical that our People are supported so they can deliver outstanding care and Improve Lives. That means ensuring we have sufficient staff, that they are effectively developed and led, in an environment and culture that demonstrates our values. Without our people we do not have the capability to deliver this strategy.

Bold Ambition 2

We will become a University Partnership Trust to help us bring innovative care, leading research and learning opportunities to everyone in Sheffield

Objectives	Deliverables	Measures
Develop our culture through the We Are Our Values programme	We are our Values Delivery Group to drive a series of initiatives informed by staff feedback	Staff survey engagement scores upper quartile
University Partnership Trust to improve care through research, innovation and education excellence	 Achieve University Partnership Trust status in 2025 Strengthen research and teaching links with UoS and SHU Increase number of honorary contracts with University of Sheffield Develop joint innovation and research strategies with HEIs 	 Increase research portfolio in numbers and reach Increase number of Honorary Contract holders Increase in take up of proven innovations, leading to gains in safety, efficiency and productivity, and reductions in incidents, and wait times Improved People metrics – retention, staff survey engagement scores etc.
Improve the safety of our staff by reducing violence and aggression and sexual safety incidents	 Communications campaign to engage staff in taking action together QI programme of intervention to test, learn and spread effective practice 	 Reduction in incidents Improved staff survey feedback
Continue our journey to become an inclusive and anti-racist organisation	 Achieve Bronze accreditation on NW Assembly Framework in 2025 Thriving staff networks that support the Trust becoming an anti-racist organisation 	Staff Survey – experience gaps closed Pay gaps closed Staff networks well attended with evidence of impact

Delivering our strategy

This section describes the way we will deliver our strategic aims, how we will govern and monitor achievement, and details the key capabilities that we will need to strengthen in order to succeed. It also sets out the hierarchy of supporting strategies and plans that will provide detail to the organisation where that is required to bring this overarching organisational strategy to life.

The way we deliver

This strategy will be delivered by each of us owning it and using it to guide our actions. We will use it in our Performance and Development Reviews and the conversations we have as teams so that everyone can understand the important part we all have to play.

Each year we will agree an annual Operational Plan that will provide clarity on the specific actions we need to take that year to deliver our strategy and to meet national and system requirements.

We have developed an Integrated Change Framework which we will use to deliver our strategy. The integrated approach builds on the guidance provided through NHS IMPACT.

- It starts with the development of Quality Improvement capabilities across all teams, and organisational support for a culture that encourages everybody to improve the work they do through small scale PDCA cycles.
- In the middle tier, services and directorates manage the delivery of changes within their leadership remit. These draw upon a standardised method and tool kit that blends PRINCE and MSP-style project and programme management with emergent QI practices based on the IHI Model for Improvement. Changes at this level may benefit from coaching and brief supporting interventions from the Integrated Change Team, which is made up of experts such as QI, PMO, OD, Research and Evidence.
- The most complex and organisation-wide changes are governed through a change portfolio board and overseen by the Board. Each of these programmes has an executive sponsor, programme board, and dedicated support from the Integrated Change Team. The composition of the change portfolio will evolve each year linked to the annual operational planning process through which we phase the delivery of our strategy.



Building capacity and capability to empower everyone to deliver change

Many of the changes we will need to implement in order to deliver this strategy will require us to work in partnership outside the organisation. This is the case at neighbourhood, place and at system level. Our skills in building and maintaining trust and our ability to share responsibility, share information and to maintain an open learning style will be key.

Changes are forthcoming to the national infrastructure of the health and care system. This will have consequences for the roles of local partners including ICBs. Some parts of the country have begun establishing place-based provider collaboratives. We consider that our ability to act as a trusted convenor and enabler of inclusive local partnerships focused on the needs of the population will be important in the delivery of this strategy.

How we will govern and monitor achievement

We will collectively own this strategy. Programmes to deliver the strategy will have executive ownership and will be delivered with colleagues across the organisation using our integrated change approach.

Every Strategic Aim will be overseen by an assurance committee on behalf of the Board. We will report annually on progress through our Annual Report and Accounts, and the Board will receive regular updates on all strategic aims, the deliverables under them and the measures we have set in this document. Our Integrated Performance Report will provide more detailed regular insight into the impact on our organisational key performance indicators.

Key capabilities

Delivery of this strategy will require us to maintain the strong capabilities that are well established in the organisation. In addition, to be successful in the coming years we will need to build our organisational strengths in the following capabilities.

- Digital and the use of data
- ▶ Population Health Management, prevention and reducing inequalities.
- Cultural competence
- Partnership and Stakeholder Management
- Quality Improvement
- Research and Innovation
- Voice and Influence

Supporting strategies and plans

In order to achieve collective focus and shared ownership of this strategy it is essential that we do not have too many additional supporting strategies, and that those we do have are clearly focused on enabling the delivery of our trust strategy. Where necessary there may be delivery plans that contribute to a supporting strategy. The hierarchy of strategies is as follows.



