



Integrated health and care strategy

Health and care organisations across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire working together to build services for the future.

The health and care needs of people living in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire are changing. Our population is getting bigger, people are living longer and, at the same time, those who provide services are coming under greater pressure.

That's why the NHS, local authorities, other providers and the voluntary sector have been working together locally as BSW Partnership to improve people's experience of health and care, drive up the quality of services and ensure financial stability.

This integrated health and care strategy lies at the heart of this partnership as we work to help children and young people start well, then to live well and older people to age well.

We're doing this through a focus on the following three priorities:

Priority 1: Improving the Health and Wellbeing of our population

Helping people to stay well

In BSW we will focus on preventing people from becoming ill and giving them the tools they need to stay healthy.

We will do this by:

- Helping them to stop smoking.
- Helping people with health problems related to sexual health, alcohol dependency, obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease sooner, before these problems get worse.
- Providing better support for mental health issues.
- **Involving people in their own care and sharing decisions**
We will make it easier for people to feel in greater control of their own health and care by encouraging them to get involved in making decisions with the clinical and care staff looking after them. We will also make sure they have access to the information they need in order to make decisions and have the opportunity to discuss and share their decisions with everyone involved in their care.
- **Supporting people to take more responsibility for their health and wellbeing**
We will work to improve joint working between the health service, public health and other local authority departments such as housing, leisure, education and planning to encourage everyone to take more responsibility for managing their own care.
- **Making access to health and care services more equal for everyone**
We will work to address the unjust and avoidable differences in people's health across different groups of people in BSW and improve access to the health and care services they need. We'll look to reduce the gap in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy, increase the uptake of health checks with a particular focus on our more vulnerable communities and invest to ensure that we meet the needs of children with learning disabilities.

Priority 2: Developing healthy communities

Primary care networks are at the heart of our approach to integrated health and care.

- **Integrating health and care support in the community**
To help people remain healthy and live in their own home while avoiding unnecessary admissions to hospitals and care homes, we will work to ensure the right services are available for specialist support in the community so, as much as possible, we can help people avoid going into hospital.
- More and more patients are now being seen by healthcare professionals other than GPs, such as physiotherapists, paramedics and physician associates, which not only supports patients to get appointments quicker but allows GPs to focus on patients most in need.
- GP practices across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire are coming together to join Primary Care Networks, enabling more people to live healthy and independent lives.
- Primary Care Networks improve outcomes for patients through closer working between organisations providing health and care services and offer access to a wider range of health and care professionals.
- They enable GPs to provide care to meet the needs of local people, focus more on supporting those patients with complex conditions and, with the support of their teams, help to prevent ill health.

Priority 3: Sustainable secondary care services

Integrated services for those needing specialist care

- Secondary care provided in hospitals and the community plays a crucial role in BSW and works to ensure patients are assessed and discharged in a way which supports positive outcomes while reducing avoidable admissions and stays in hospital.
- By expanding and reforming urgent and emergency care services across BSW we can ensure people get the care they need fast and relieve pressure on A&E departments.
- We will look to our Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs) to provide out-of-hospital urgent care, with the option of appointments booked through a call to NHS 111.
- UTCs will work alongside other parts of the urgent care network in BSW, including primary care, community pharmacists, ambulance services and other community-based services to provide a locally accessible and convenient alternative to A&E for people who do not need to attend hospital.
- For those who are treated in our hospitals, we will work to ensure they receive the best possible care in the shortest possible timeframe.

Tell us what you think!

We can only develop and implement this strategy with your input and support. Download a full copy of our integrated health and care strategy at www.bswstp.nhs.uk.

Please pass on your views at:

Web: www.bswstp.nhs.uk

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