



Easy read briefing – Integrated Care Systems



**Changes to health and care to help residents
get the right care in the right place at the
right time**

Hello



There is lots of information in this briefing

We have tried to make it easy to read.

Hard words

We put hard words in **purple**. We explain the hard words.



Sometimes you will see blue web links and emails to find out more. You can click these on your computer. Or if you have a paper copy you can type them into your computer to follow the link.

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Why things are changing in health and care in England?



The Government is making some changes to the way health and care services work.



The changes will be in a new law called the Health and Care Act 2022. It will come out in July 2022.



In England a lot of money is spent on health and care every year.



It needs good planning to spend the money well and make sure everyone gets the best health services possible.



The law will change how we plan and pay for services. Planning and paying for services is called **commissioning**.



We want the planning of health services to be done near people, by people who know their local area well.



We also want different services to work together more so it's easier to get the services people need.



This includes social care and voluntary services, like charities.



Health services will still be free



It is important to know about these changes.

You can make some notes here

A graphic of a spiral-bound notepad with a white page and horizontal lines for writing.

The NHS and other services working together – integrated care systems



There are lots of different organisations that can help when people are ill or need support. This can be confusing. This can be different NHS services, the council or charities.



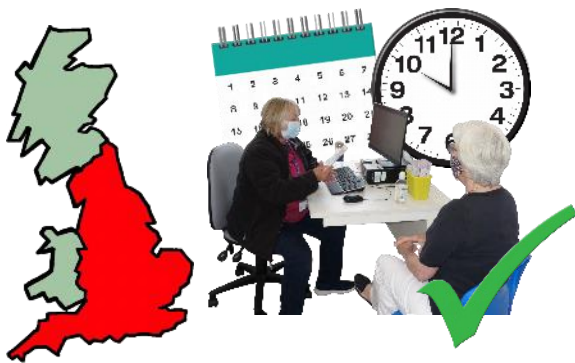
Sometimes the people working in different organisations find it hard to work together.



We think that all the organisations involved in health and care should work together. These are called **integrated care systems** or **ICS** for short.



An **integrated care system** will make it easier to get the right care at the right time from the right people.



In some places people have already been working in this way but now it will happen everywhere in England.

There are 3 main ways that services are going to work better together:

1. Health and social care will work together more. This includes:

- organisations or services run or paid for by the NHS (like hospitals)
- councils
- voluntary and community organisations (like charities)
- and other social care services like supported living.





2. Services that help with your thoughts and feelings (mental health) and services that help with your body (physical health) will work together more. This will help people get the right support.



3. Local doctors (GPs), pharmacies (chemists) and hospitals will also work together more and share ideas.



This is to make sure people get the care and treatment they need at the right time.



They will also work with people, their families or anyone else who supports them.



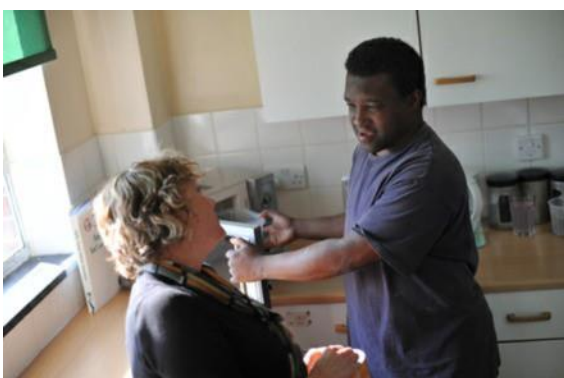
The government plans for **integrated care systems** to be working across all of England by July 2022.



They will share resources (like money) to make sure that people can get the care and support they need.



For example, in one area, local doctors (GPs) and the council are working together to support people with their mental health (their feelings and thoughts) and their physical health (their body). They have link workers that are helping with practical things like being lonely.



Another area has local teams. They include local doctors (GPs) and therapists helping people get support at home instead of having to go to hospital.



One area is working on a new app to use on a mobile phone that will make it easier for children and young people to use health services. This will help them get the support they need, sometimes called reasonable adjustments.



There are now 42 **ICSs** covering all of England.



There will be a group of people from the NHS and social care working together to:

- make sure plans are put into action
- check that all the organisations are working well together.



Each **integrated care system** will:

- help people in that area live longer, happier lives
- make sure everyone gets good healthcare and support so that it's fair for everyone
- help everyone get the right support close to home.



ICs are about planning health and care services based on what people need in each area.



They will work with local people to decide what to do in each area.

So each one will be a bit different.



Each **ICS will be supported** to have a learning disability and autism champion.



The champions will help plan and buy better support services for people with a learning disability and autistic people.



A short video tells you more about integrated care system. You can watch it here:

tinyurl.com/ICSystemVideo



NHS-led provider collaboratives may work with other local organisations or groups to make sure people get support at home or in their local area when they leave hospital. By working together in this way, they can make sure that:

- people are cared for close to home
- people are involved in decisions about their care
- people are involved in decisions about how their local service is run
- care is connected to people's local support and their community
- all the people in their area get the right care and are safe.



We have made a short video that tells you more about **NHS-led provider collaboratives**. You can watch it here: tinyurl.com/NHSProviderCollabVideo

You can make some notes here

A spiral-bound notebook with 15 horizontal lines for writing notes.

Local health services working together differently – primary care networks



The first places to get help with a health problem are usually a:

- doctor or GP
- chemist or pharmacy
- eye doctor or optician
- dentist.



These are usually services close to where people live. They are sometimes called **primary care services**.



Services need to work well together so people get the healthcare they need.



This is even more important if you are disabled or have more than one health condition.



It will help people live a longer and healthier life.

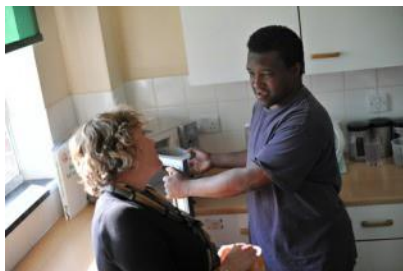


When many local doctors' practices work together and with other health services it is called a **primary care network**.

A **primary care network** can include:

- community services like learning disability nurses and physiotherapists
- mental health services – to support people with their feelings





- social care who give support with day to day living



- voluntary organisations like charities that can put people in touch with other organisations giving support in their area.



Primary care networks try to make it easier for people in each area to get the support they need as easily as possible.



They help share things like:

- some specialist machines like x-ray machines
- your information, so you don't have to keep telling people the same things





- new staff to help provide the right care more quickly



- staff with the right skills, like having a trained physiotherapist or other trained staff.



There are lots of different people who might work in a **primary care network**.



They will help make sure people get to see the right person for what they need, this may not be a doctor.

Some of these people are:



- **clinical pharmacist** - a type of chemist who has lots of training about medicines



- **physiotherapist** – someone who helps to look after muscles, bones and joints. They might help with pains in the body



- **paramedic** – someone who comes to you when you need it



- **health care assistant** – someone who can do some of the things a nurse can do. An appointment might be with a health care assistant instead of the nurse for some things



- **social prescribing link worker** – someone who can help find support in your local area from different groups or charities. This could be practical support with finding a social or interest group



- **mental health worker** - someone who helps with thoughts and feelings.

Getting involved in a primary care network



Primary care networks want to hear from and involve local people in their work.

This will be different in every area.

To get involved with your local network, you can:



- ask the doctors' receptionist to join the public participation group. These are groups you can join to help make doctors' practices better



- ask to get news from your doctors' practice, this might be an email they send out to lots of people



- look on your doctors' website, to see how they are involving people in **primary care networks**



- Talk to your local Healthwatch. These are groups which find out what people think of health and care services to improve them.



To find your local Healthwatch look on their website:

tinyurl.com/yourlocalhealthwatch



More information

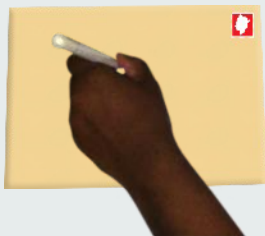
Here is a short video that tells you more about primary care networks. You can watch it here:

tinyurl.com/primarycarenetwork

Thank you



That's the end of the easy read briefing



Please get in touch if you would like a printed copy



You can phone or email.

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