

Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Integrated Care Board

2025/26 Summary of Planned Action to Tackle Inequalities in Access, Experience and Outcomes

1 Architecture for Successful Delivery as a System

- ICB Health Inequalities Team will provide leadership to co-ordinate and support the development of a refreshed high-level healthcare inequalities implementation plan which addresses all Core20PLUS5, Elective Reform and Operational Planning Guidance requirements which incorporates learning from 24/25 processes.
- ICB Health Inequalities Team will work with Providers to strengthen the consistency and triangulation of governance and accountability arrangements through Schedule 2N of the NHS Provider Contract.
- All System partners to develop data, intelligence and insights resources to demonstrate impact across Core20PLUS populations.

2 Targeted Interventions Based on Evidence

- Improve ethnicity and housing status coding.
- Support Primary Care to improve hypertension and lipid optimisation in CORE20PLUS populations with a specific focus on decreasing the percentage point difference between ethnic population groups.
- Flu vaccination uptake decrease percentage point difference between the most deprived 20% of the eligible population (IMD 1 and 2) and the average of the remaining eligible population (IMD 3 to 10).
- Increase early diagnosis rates (cancers diagnosed at stages 1 and 2) across all populations, and by at least as much in the most deprived areas as in least deprived areas.

3 Improved Integration and Partnerships

- Assess our systems maturity as an anchor institution and develop a programme of work to increase anchor impact for Core20PLUS population groups.
- Embed systematic approaches to prevention/lifestyle management, expanding on waiting well initiatives implemented within MSK Transformation to other priority clinical areas.
- Target increased quit rates through the integration of smoking cessation across primary care pharmacists, local authorities and secondary care utilising person centred and neighbourhood teams approaches.



Ambition



Compassion



Optimism



Focus

- Working with the Population Health Management Group, develop our system wide knowledge and intelligence to agree further focused areas of intervention.
- Strengthen local pathway transformation and partnership approaches in the contexts of **digital inclusion**, inclusion health and adopting health and digital literacy practices.

4 Embedding Health Inequalities in Decision-making

- Implementing an audit of how healthcare inequalities are currently considered and developing action plans from findings.
- Strengthen health inequalities expertise within healthcare procurement process to offer better value for money against health inequality and social value criteria.

5 Ambassadorship

- Embed the CQC Framework for Reducing Health Inequalities within Communication, Engagement and Involvement processes and project delivery.
- **Build upon current peer support and development opportunities** to accelerate our ambition to normalise health inequalities into everyday business.
- Provide a focused offer of leadership and support to Primary Care Networks and Local Care Programmes in tackling inequalities during 2025/26.
- Embed the importance of health inequalities within staff induction processes.



Ambition



Compassion



Optimism



Focus