



Cheshire and Merseyside VCFSE News

May 2025

Welcome to our May update for voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) colleagues in Cheshire and Merseyside (C&M).

Some of you will already be receiving our news directly, or via your local infrastructure organisation and this email complements that and is another way to share our updates with you.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and we encourage you to share it in full, or any of its content with your networks.

You can also find past and future editions online [here](#).

Updates

C&M VCFSE Health & Care Leaders Group

Our [Leaders Group](#) brings together sector colleagues with an interest in health and care on a quarterly basis, working alongside VS6 Partnership and CWIP to form our [Cheshire and Merseyside VCFSE Alliance](#), one of 42 alliances aligned to integrated care systems (ICSs) in England.

Our 6 May meeting heard from NHS C&M colleagues about the latest national directives and what they mean for the work of the integrated care board (ICB) and wider ICS, summarised as follows:

- NHS C&M is working on its plan to deliver nationally required cuts to its internal running costs, which need to be made by end December
- In light of [NHS cuts and wider reforms](#), a [blueprint](#) expected from NHS England will describe changes to the way ICBs work in the future, as system leaders for improved population health
- Alongside this, NHS C&M continues to await the publication of the NHS 10 year plan and in the meantime has carried out a light refresh of its [Joint Forward Plan](#).
- An accompanying annual delivery plan has been drafted and includes overarching commitments to working with the VCFSE sector but which is subject to change pending the 10 year plan and ICB blueprint
- Developing neighbourhood models of health is a key priority in NHS C&M's draft annual delivery plan addressing [recent guidance](#) and an ICB working group is in formative stages, with its membership including VCFSE representation

If you've any queries about these updates above, or about our C&M Leaders Group, email them to cmhcl@vsnw.org.uk

Your VCFSE Reps - C&M Housing & Health Partnership

Launched in November 2024, [this Integrated Care System \(ICS\) partnership](#) is focusing on addressing key recommendations from the [All Together Fairer](#) report, which highlights the importance of housing in promoting health and wellbeing.

Working with the Cheshire and Merseyside VCFSE Health and Care Leaders Group, VS6 and CWIP we are delighted to announce the following colleagues will be our VCFSE representatives on the Housing and Health Partnership Board, which oversees the programme:

- Liverpool City Region - Justin Hill and Ellie McNeil, YMCA Together (shared role)
- Cheshire & Warrington – Theresa Pass, Visyon

Andrew van Doorn OBE, Chief Executive of charity HACT, is the independent chair of the board, which along with its four main workstreams, is in its early stages of development. If you would like to get involved then please do contact him directly: andrew.vandoorn@hact.org.uk

We'll keep you updated on this work as it progresses.



Opportunities and Resources

Funding opportunity: Deliver neurodiversity training in Cheshire & Merseyside

VCFSE organisations are invited to apply for funding to deliver training sessions that support a new neurodiversity pathway for children, young people and families.

Two lots available:

- £14K: Professional training sessions
- £3K: Family and carer information sessions

The deadline to apply is Thursday 22 May 2025.

[Read more](#)

Events

Champs Collaborative Child and Family Poverty event

Champs Public Health Collaborative is hosting an online event to reflect on progress one year since the 2024 situational analysis into child and family poverty across Cheshire and Merseyside. The session will include updates from across the system, along with reflections from two local speakers on their work to address poverty in communities.

This event follows the recent VS6 Child Poverty event, which brought together organisations from across the region to share insights, challenges and collaborative approaches. A full report with recommendations from the event is coming soon!

Date: Monday 9th June 2025

Time: 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Location: Online (Microsoft Teams)

[Register here](#)

Subscribe and Feedback

If you didn't receive this newsletter directly from VSNW, you can [subscribe here](#) to ensure you don't miss future updates.

We'd love to hear your thoughts on this new update—what's useful, what could be improved, and how we can make it more relevant to you and your work. **Share your feedback with us at** cmhcl@vsnw.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. If you have any updates or opportunities you'd like us to share in future newsletters, please contact cmhcl@vsnw.org.uk



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