

Community Voice Partnership Locality Board update

Community Voice Partnership latest news

At the latest meeting of the Community Voice Partnership, key updates and discussions were shared regarding the ongoing work of the Partnership, including its evolving role and engagement activities. The Partnership was originally established by the ONE Stockport Health and Care Board to ensure the voices of local people and communities are heard in shaping health and care services in Stockport.

Key points included:

- **Purpose and Values:** The group collaborates with local organisations and individuals to influence decisions on health and care services.
- **Membership:** Recently expanded to include individuals with lived experience to ensure diverse and inclusive representation.

The Partnership is co-chaired by Michelle Conway (lived experience representative and founder of Keira's Kingdom charity) and Maria Kildunne (Chief Officer, Healthwatch Stockport).

Community Voice Partnership webpage

A draft webpage for the Partnership was presented during its last meeting. Hosted on the Healthwatch Stockport website, the page aims to:

- Enhance visibility of the Partnership.
- Share details about members, co-chairs, and engagement activities.
- Serve as a repository for reports, engagement outcomes, and updates.

Development of the page is ongoing, with a public launch planned early this year.

Engagement activities and partnerships

The meeting highlighted the collaborative work being done across Stockport's partnerships, which include:

- **Community Voice Partnership**
- **Autism Partnership**
- **Carers Partnership**
- **Learning Disability Partnership**
- **Making it Real in Stockport Board**
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership**
- **Preparing for Adulthood Partnership**
- **Age-Friendly Partnership (currently being formed)**

These partnerships are working to amplify the voices of local people by gathering feedback, identifying themes, and informing the Locality Board.

Spotlight on feedback from key partnerships and networks

Community Voice Partnership (Maria Kildunne)

- Healthwatch Stockport supported NHS Greater Manchester with its Fit For the Future public engagement event. The draft write up is attached to this update as Appendix 1.

Carers Partnership (Julia Hewer):

- Developing a GP accreditation model for better carer access to services.
- Supporting the identification of young carers through social worker training.
- Ensuring carers receive timely, accessible information.

Learning Disability Partnership (James Duckett and Mary Edwards):

- Developing a One Stockport Learning and Disability Strategy.
- Introducing coloured phone cases for care staff to differentiate work and personal phones.
- Collaborating with taxi companies to develop a charter and improve services for disabled people and people with learning disabilities.
- Trying to promote and enhance participation in social activity through communication and coordination between providers.

Making it Real in Stockport Board (Richard Currie):

- Improving communication to people using adult social care about services and using plain language.
- Promoting quality care standards throughout the workforce and through service delivery.
- Inviting more members with lived experience to join the Making It Real Board to influence the future development across Adult Social Care.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership (Nina Fedorski):

- Addressing housing and supported living for individuals with mental health conditions.
- Highlighting gaps in care for out-of-area placements.
- Working on delivering the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- Working on the actions highlighted in the joint Healthwatch Stockport and Mental Health Carers Group.

Equity networks (John Clarke):

- Mapping and strengthening networks in Stockport, including faith-based groups.
- Exploring how the Networks can support effective contributions to the various plans and strategies in Stockport.

Children and young people:

- Stockport's annual Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Information Day takes place on Tuesday, 28 January 2025, 9am to 3pm. It's a free event for parents, carers, family members and professionals work with or have children and young people with SEND and/or disabilities. Places for this event, organised by Parents and Carers Together Stockport (PACTS), can be booked [here](#).
- This year's Stockport Youth Summit is also being planned and organised and is due to take place in February 2025. Last year, representatives from many of Stockport's schools and colleges joined voluntary organisations, local businesses and Stockport Council representatives at the first ever Youth Summit. It gave young people an opportunity to discuss and share their views on Stockport Council's 'One Stockport, One Future' plan and voice their opinions on the 'Five Big Things' Stockport Council plans to do to improve Stockport. This was to ensure the long-term plan for Stockport provides what future generations want and need in their communities. An update on this year's event will be provided to Board members afterwards. Last year's impact report is available to view [here](#).

Cross-cutting themes from the different partnerships

There were a couple of themes that all partnerships mentioned: Access to primary care, and challenges faced by people with additional needs.

This wasn't only in relation to GP Access but to all primary care services including dental, ophthalmology, pharmacy, and audiology services.

There appeared to be lack of awareness about how best to use services to suit their needs and where to get additional help or support.

Planned actions and recommendations

Accessibility Feedback: Healthwatch Stockport will incorporate the feedback received from the CVP on improving primary care accessibility, particularly for digital/online services in its primary care work programme.

Partnership Insights: Feedback from various partnerships will be consolidated and presented in the Community Voice Partnership's regular reports to the Locality Board.

Next steps

1. Continue development of the Community Voice Partnership webpage.
2. Encourage the recruitment of lived experience representatives across partnerships.
3. Ensure ongoing collaboration between partnerships to address common themes and priorities.
4. Provide regular updates and actionable feedback to the Locality Board.
5. Work with the Primary Care Board to set up a working group to address the cross-cutting themes arising from feedback from the partnerships.

Actions for the Locality Board at the meeting on Wednesday, 22 January 2025

- **Note** the report and raise any questions.
- **Note** the draft Fit For the Future Stockport event write up and raise any questions.
- **Agree** for the CVP to propose suggestions for next steps based on the feedback from the Fit For the Future event, following further engagement with the other partnerships.