

NHS reform key messages

NHS Greater Manchester

Updated 18.3.2025

What we know



Greater Manchester

Integrated Care Boards

- On Wednesday 12th March 2025, the Government announced that all Integrated Care Boards (ICB) across England, including NHS Greater Manchester (NHS GM) must reduce costs by 50%
- Although ICBs will continue to exist as statutory bodies, it is mandated that they must become leaner
- Clarity on when and where NHS GM must make the requested 50% cuts (i.e. headcount or running costs) is expected imminently

NHS England

- On Thursday 13th March, Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer announced the abolition of NHS England (NHSE), with the aim of reducing the bureaucracy and duplication which currently occurs between NHSE and the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC)
- It is calculated that this move will reduce the current combined NHSE and DHSC headcount of 18,000 by around 50% - saving the NHS around £500 million
- It is expected that this process, which is being led by Chief Exec Sir Jim Mackay, will take around two years to implement.

Our response

NHS GM will;

- respond to this Government ask, whilst ensuring that our vital plans to deliver the best healthcare for the people of Greater Manchester remain intact.
- continue to engage with stakeholders throughout the process to co-design an effective and well-informed transition plan
- embrace this request from Government as an opportunity to re-shape and improve the way in which we are structured and work - ensuring we are efficiently set-up to oversee the delivery of the new NHS 10-year plan
- ensure focus is maintained on the delivery of our GM Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Strategy, which describes how we will help our population to get into – and stay in – good work; recover core NHS and care services; help people stay well and detect illness earlier; support our workforce and our carers; and achieve financial sustainability
- continue to work to our Sustainability Plan which provides our system with direction in terms of ensuring we address our financial, performance, quality and population health challenges.

To receive our updates please email gmhscp.gm-stakeholders@nhs.net

