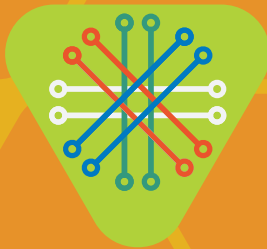




South Yorkshire Innovation Showcase

Supported by the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership
and delivered by South Yorkshire Innovation Hub



Health Innovation
Yorkshire & Humber

**South Yorkshire
Integrated Care System**





Contents

3	Foreword
4	Bold Ambition 1: Focus on development in early years so that every child in South Yorkshire is school ready
9	Bold Ambition 2: Act differently together to strengthen and accelerate our focus on prevention and early identification
14	Bold Ambition 3: Work together to increase economic participation and support a fair, inclusive and sustainable economy
19	Bold Ambition 4: Collaborate to value and support our entire workforce across health, care, VCSE, carers and volunteers. Developing a diverse workforce that reflects our communities
24	Bold Ambition 5: Open category for other cross-cutting themes
29	Other Innovative Practices



Foreword

Welcome to the inaugural South Yorkshire Innovation Showcase. Within these pages, you will see an array of innovative practices from all across our region, from a wide range of organisations, covering a multitude of health and care concerns. They all have one thing in common - a commitment to contribute to a healthier and longer life, fairer outcomes for all and access to quality health and wellbeing support.

The dictionary defines innovation as ‘The process through which new products, concepts, services, methods or techniques are developed.’ and that’s exactly what the initiatives here demonstrate, whether by embracing new technology, using the power of shared knowledge and understanding or employing creativity to positively impact the health and wellbeing of the people of South Yorkshire and beyond.

The NHS priorities focus on the recovery of our core services through continuous improvement (striving to do better in the things we do) for example in access, quality and productivity, whilst transforming (fundamentally changing what we do and how we do it) to create stronger foundations for delivery in the future. It should

be noted these are not mutually exclusive! There is no doubt that innovation is critical to this and we’re proud to be part of a team that displays a joined-up commitment to working together to scope and celebrate innovative practices.

There are five categories of initiatives showcased, aligning with our bold ambitions:

- Focus on development in early years so that every child in South Yorkshire is school ready
- Act differently together to strengthen & accelerate our focus on prevention and early identification
- Work together to increase economic participation and support a fair, inclusive and sustainable economy
- Collaborate to value & support our entire workforce across health, care, VCSE, carers, paid, unpaid. Developing a diverse workforce that reflects our communities
- Open category for other cross-cutting themes

By working together to devise and deliver innovative practice, whether you come from a trust, a local authority, a VSCE organisation or elsewhere, we can achieve these ambitions and enable everyone in South Yorkshire’s diverse communities to live happy, healthier lives for longer.

Thank you



Dr David Crichton
Chief Medical Officer
NHS South Yorkshire Integrated
Care Board (ICB)



Dr Richard Cullen
Chief Clinical Information Officer
& Innovation Lead
NHS South Yorkshire Integrated
Care Board





Bold Ambition 1:

Focus on development in early years so that every child in South Yorkshire is school ready





Tuneful Chatter

Using the power of music, movement and creative play, Tuneful Chatter is transforming the lives of the families of Doncaster amid the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Hundreds of families in Doncaster's most deprived communities have already benefitted from this initiative, designed to improve essential communication, language and social skills that many children missed out on during lockdown. Through engaging sessions filled with music, drama and dance, Tuneful Chatter encourages children to listen, take turns, express themselves and thrive.

Doncaster Council's Early Years Intervention and Preventions Service (EYIPS) has come together with darts - Doncaster's Creative Health and Learning charity and Doncaster theatre Cast to not only support young children, but their parents and caregivers too - providing valuable support, offering accessible activities they can replicate at home, extending the benefits long after the sessions end. At the heart of

Tuneful Chatter is collaboration - early years practitioners and artists work together to ensure the most creative and impactful approaches are woven into everyday learning. Further support for this crucial work comes from the National Literacy Trust and Sheffield Hallam University.

Since its expansion in January 2023, Tuneful Chatter has delivered over 570 sessions with 8,200+ attendances, creating lasting change for families across Doncaster. With ongoing professional development, training opportunities, and an annual Early Years Conference, this trailblazing initiative is laying the foundation for a brighter future for children, strengthening connections between the early years and cultural sectors across Doncaster and combining creativity and care to great effect.

Delivered by

Doncaster Council, darts & Cast





Bump, Birth & Beyond

Bump, Birth and Beyond and their team of Peer Connectors are making a real difference in the lives of pregnant women and families with young children across South Yorkshire.

Through home visits, the Peer Connectors provide access to groups, health appointments, housing and benefits support as well as identifying any gaps in provision and facilitating setting up new groups to reach unmet needs. The one-to-one support focuses on building a trusted relationship with the family, homing in on the specific needs of the communities they serve.

Launched in February 2024, this vital service is dedicated to reducing health inequalities and improving outcomes for families with children under three, working closely with Family Hubs, Health Visitors, Midwives, Social Care, and other partners.

With a holistic approach, the service provides a range of interventions including parental advice, antenatal education, sleep support, and social

prescribing opportunities like cooking, infant feeding and weaning. With incoming referrals from a range of organisations, Peer Connectors have also been quick to respond to the diverse needs of families, addressing challenges such as domestic abuse, mental health concerns, social isolation, and homelessness. Collaboration with Public Health is helping to address important issues like oral health and head lice through dedicated workshops.

The Peer Connector service's ability to mobilise quickly, its broad skill set, and its strong partnerships make it a vital resource for families. As it continues to grow and evolve, the service is committed to promoting positive outcomes, empowering families, and making a lasting impact across South Yorkshire.

Delivered by
NHS South Yorkshire ICB & Barnardo's





Meadows Nursery

Described by a parent as a place to “feel safe and have a voice”, Meadows Nursery is a shining example of collaboration and community-driven change. Sheffield Hallam University have partnered with Save the Children UK and local services to transform lives by supporting both children and their families.

With a focus on providing high-quality early education for children aged 2-3, Meadows Nursery ensures young learners receive the essential foundations for future success. But what truly sets this initiative apart is its holistic, trauma-informed approach to working with families, underpinned by the motto “*Changing Lives through Relationships.*”

Through co-designed services like the parent-led Breakfast Club, families receive crucial support - hot meals, home learning guidance, and access to training and health services - all in a trusted, safe environment. As a result, families are thriving: parents have become community leaders, developed peer support groups, and gained the confidence to pursue new opportunities.



Delivered by
Sheffield Hallam University, Save the Children UK & Sheffield City Council

Children and Young People’s Alliance

The South Yorkshire Children and Young People’s (CYP) Alliance hosted the groundbreaking “Breaking Cycles” conference on 30th May, where over 100 young people and key decision-makers in health and care came together to drive real change across the region. Co-produced entirely with young people, the event showcased their creativity, insights, and ambitions for a better future.

Workshops and activities led by young people tackled pressing issues beyond health, focusing on breaking cycles of inequality and improving support for all children and young people.

With Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children’s Commissioner for England, delivering

an inspiring keynote, the conference highlighted the region’s commitment to empowering youth voices. She praised the event as truly innovative, underscoring its national importance.

By giving young people an equal platform alongside leaders, the CYP Alliance is setting a new standard in inclusive, youth-led collaboration, ensuring their voices shape the future of services across South Yorkshire.

Delivered by
NHS South Yorkshire ICB





Fit Rovers Families



The Doncaster Post-Natal Programme, delivered by Club Doncaster Foundation in partnership with Doncaster Rovers FC and local healthcare providers, is an initiative supporting new parents' physical and mental health. This free, six-week course offers a unique blend of fitness activities such as HIIT training, buggy fitness, and nutrition, all while parents are able to have their babies by their side.

With expert input from Health Visiting, Midwifery, Perinatal Mental Health, and Public Health professionals, they harness

the social reach of the professional sports clubs and community stadium to challenge lifelong habits, inspire positive change and motivate sustained participation in sport, physical activity, training and education. The initiative has gained national recognition from BBC Sport and the English Football League, with Doncaster Rovers being the only club in the country to offer this innovative course in partnership with healthcare services.

Expanding to Family Hubs across Doncaster, the programme continues to welcome families from all backgrounds, ensuring that every parent feels supported on their post-natal journey. Fully booked sessions reflect its success, with exciting plans for further growth in 2024/25.



Delivered by

NHS South Yorkshire ICB, City of Doncaster Council & Doncaster Rovers FC

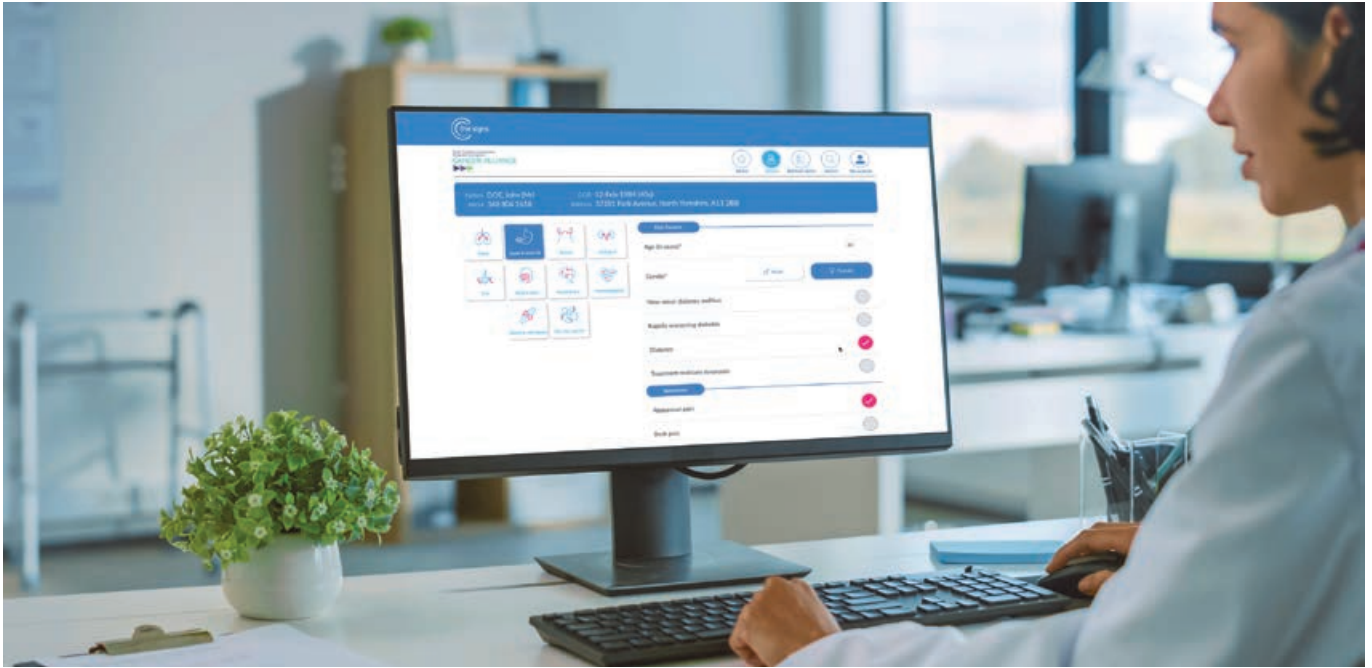




Bold Ambition 2:

Act differently together to strengthen and accelerate our focus on prevention and early identification





C the Signs

Revolutionising early detection and referral of cancer in Primary Care in South Yorkshire, C the Signs harnesses the power of AI. Using an innovative AI-driven decision support tool, GPs are empowered to recognise cancer symptoms early, make accurate referrals and make sure patients are properly safety-netted throughout their diagnostic journey. Seamlessly integrated with clinical systems such as SystemOne and EMIS, C the Signs provided GPs with real-time access to comprehensive cancer pathways during consultations, streamlining patient care and significantly improving diagnostic accuracy.

Launched by the South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Cancer Alliance in partnership with Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber, the initiative has seen remarkable success. Over 48,000 risk assessments and 52,578 referrals were conducted, with 76.4% of practices classified as high-level users. The tool's ability to

conduct risk assessments, facilitate direct referrals, and track patient follow-ups meant that patients were more likely to be diagnosed earlier, significantly improving cancer outcomes in the region.

Not only did C the Signs enhance GP capabilities, but it also contributed to a reduction in emergency cancer presentations, ensuring more patients were identified and treated earlier in their disease progression. This initiative shows the power of digital innovation in healthcare and offers a model that can be replicated across the UK, transforming cancer care and saving lives.

Delivered by

South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Cancer Alliance
& Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber





Creative Health Boards

The Creative Health Board (CHB) initiative is set to transform the integration of arts, creativity, and culture into health and care systems. Supported by evidence from the World Health Organisation (2019) and the UK Government, creative health has been shown to improve wellbeing, prevent ill health, and enhance disease management.

Creative Health Boards aim to develop and test a new, replicable model. This model will bring together community organisations, health professionals, and individuals to co-design creative health initiatives. Each CHB will serve as a collaborative forum, ensuring creative health programs are sustainably funded, accessible, and embedded into local health systems.

With a goal of establishing six CHBs across the UK by 2025, the long-term vision is to embed a CHB into every health and care system nationwide. This will provide

communities with a wide range of creative activities designed to improve health and wellbeing, addressing health inequalities and making creative health accessible to all, regardless of their circumstances.

The initiative strives to deliver a significant impact on health and care systems, community assets and individuals at risk of or experiencing health inequalities. By harnessing the power of creativity, the CHB model aims to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals across the UK, setting a new standard for how arts and health can come together to shape healthier futures.

Delivered by

Sheffield Hallam University,
Doncaster Council, darts & Cast





Rotherham Healthwave

Rotherham Healthwave is an innovative and compassionate approach to weight management, transforming health and wellbeing in the community. This groundbreaking service moves beyond traditional weight loss programs by focusing on holistic health, addressing the wider factors that influence individuals' wellbeing without stigma or judgement. With a broad range of activities, including physical exercise sessions and cook and eat nutrition workshops, the service empowers participants to make sustainable, healthy lifestyle changes.

Early feedback shows a significant rise in engagement, with participants praising the supportive, non-clinical environment and the personalised guidance from dedicated health coaches. By addressing underlying

concerns, such as anxiety or financial stress, and offering social prescribing, the service ensures that individuals receive the comprehensive support they need to thrive.

This compassionate model exemplifies how healthcare can be delivered differently, offering long-term benefits that go beyond weight loss and contribute to lasting health improvements across Rotherham.

Delivered by
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council,
Rotherham GP Federation & Rotherham
United Community Trust

QUIT Programme

NHS South Yorkshire has developed a revolutionary tobacco addiction treatment, marking a significant step forward in public health. The QUIT programme integrates tobacco addiction care into all secondary pathways with comprehensive treatment across Acute, Mental Health and Children's Hospital trusts.

The QUIT Programme is the first phase of a broader Healthy Hospital Programme and aims to reframe how tobacco addiction is viewed in our hospital settings. South Yorkshire is the only ICB that is implementing, at scale, a comprehensive programme across all Acute, Mental Health and Children's Hospital trusts.

Through targeted training in Very Brief Advice (VBA) and Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT), QUIT teams are fostering a culture of awareness and engagement among hospital staff. This initiative has empowered many former smokers

to become QUIT champions, amplifying its impact within their departments.

With a particular focus on vulnerable populations, including those with severe mental illnesses, the QUIT Programme has gained recognition from national health organisations, underscoring its status as a model of best practice.



Delivered by
NHS South Yorkshire ICB





Early Help Navigation Team

The Early Help Navigation team at Barnsley Hospital is ensuring children, young people, and families receive support and timely access to vital services beyond medical care. By effectively engaging with families and providing early help, the team has successfully facilitated 1,774 direct contacts and made 703 referrals for targeted assistance since August 2020. Their proactive approach empowers families to navigate challenges, ultimately preventing hospital readmissions. Support includes giving information and registering to family hubs as well as referring and signposting to other agencies and specialist support services.

The team collaborates closely with hospital staff, offering training and raising awareness of early

intervention strategies, which has enhanced service delivery and improved outcomes. A recent initiative with the diabetes team supported 86 additional families.

Committed to promoting health and wellbeing, the Early Help Navigation team shows how integrated support can create lasting change in the lives of families in Barnsley.

Delivered by

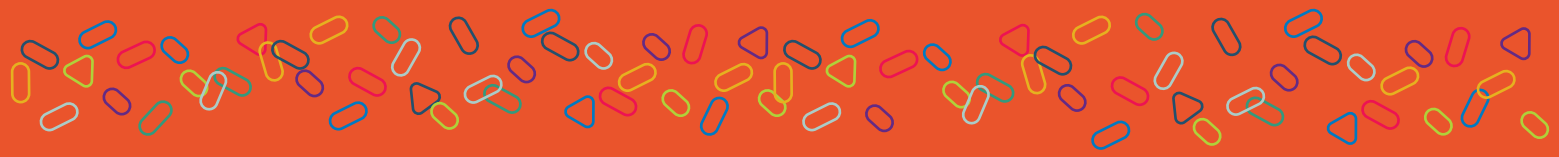
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Early Start and Families Service &
Barnsley Hospital





Bold Ambition 3:

Work together to increase economic participation and support a fair, inclusive and sustainable economy





ReSTORE Programme

The ReSTORE Programme (Refugee Support Training Orientation Recruitment and Education) is an initiative that helps refugee nurses re-enter the nursing profession in the UK. Recognising the value of their skills and the growing demand for nurses in the NHS, ReSTORE provides tailored support to guide refugee nurses through the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) registration process.

Through a range of services, including Occupational English Test (OET) training, Computer-Based Theory Test preparation, and OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) training, ReSTORE equips participants with the necessary qualifications to resume their nursing careers. By facilitating employment as healthcare support workers while they prepare for their nursing exams, ReSTORE allows participants to gain practical experience and contribute to the healthcare system.

Since its establishment in 2023, ReSTORE has made significant strides. Nineteen participants have already secured roles as NHS clinical support workers, with eleven currently completing their OSCE training and on track to qualify as registered nurses by the end of the year.

Founded by nurse Blerta Ilazi, ReSTORE aims to address the UK's nursing shortage and highlight the importance of a diverse healthcare workforce.

ReSTORE has been recognised both in the UK and internationally, with invitations to share best practices in supporting refugee nurses.

Delivered by
NHS South Yorkshire ICB





Supported Self Help

The South Yorkshire Supported Self-Help Programme brings together Doncaster Mind, Sheffield Mind, and Rotherham and Barnsley Mind to provide vital mental health support across the region. This partnership responds to the growing need for accessible mental health services, especially for those who face barriers such as long waiting lists, inflexible working hours, or living outside a supported area.

Offering a free six-week guided programme, this service delivers rapid access to support - typically within just a week of referral. Designed for flexibility, the programme is available 7 days a week, with appointments from 9am to 8pm to accommodate people's diverse schedules. In just six months, the programme has helped more than 2,600 people achieve an incredible 86% improvement rate, allowing participants to manage issues such as anxiety, depression, stress, and more.

Using a blend of one-to-one support and the use of counselling-based techniques and cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) tools, through face-to-face meetings, online, or over the phone, clients receive personalised guidance that fits their needs. Crucially, no mental health diagnosis is required, ensuring that anyone feeling overwhelmed can access help.



Clients have praised the programme, with many rating it 9/10, while also seeing significant improvements in their wellbeing. By collaborating across South Yorkshire, the initiative has strengthened local mental health support, streamlined resources, and ensured lasting impact - helping people lead healthier, happier lives.

Delivered by

Mind in South Yorkshire





Pathways to Work Commission

The Pathways to Work Commission is an exciting initiative designed to help Barnsley residents access meaningful employment, particularly those furthest from the labour market. Chaired by the Rt Hon Alan Milburn, the Commission brought together national experts and local voices, conducting extensive research and engagement with over 150 individuals and organisations.



The Commission's work has already made waves, culminating in a highly acclaimed report that launched both in Barnsley and Westminster. Its recommendations offer fresh approaches to tackling economic inactivity, with a bold vision for creating an inclusive economy where everyone can thrive.

in and political ambition for action, and shaping the existing service culture and provision in the process. This programme aims to deliver significant social and economic benefits, bringing Barnsley closer to achieving its vision of a growing, learning, healthy, and sustainable community by 2030.

Starting in Spring 2025, Barnsley will pilot a borough-wide employment support programme, aiming to support 2,200 economically inactive residents into sustained employment by 2028 by investing in research, building stakeholder buy-

Delivered by
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

South Yorkshire Digital Health Hub

The South Yorkshire Digital Health Hub (SYDHH) is transforming the future of healthcare by fostering collaboration between industry, academia, healthcare providers, and patients across Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield. With over 25 partners, including leading companies like Google and GE, SYDHH is committed to driving digital health innovation.

networking events, provided tailored training, and guided over 20 innovative proposals through a comprehensive incubation process.

This initiative is helping address real healthcare needs, with funding allocated to support promising projects.

Their mission is to build a vibrant community of practice, provide essential training, and mentor digital health innovators to create impactful solutions. Since its launch, SYDHH has hosted

Delivered by
University of Sheffield





Barnsley NHS Talking Therapies



The Barnsley NHS Talking Therapies (BTT) and Barnsley College project, established in 2009, is a vital initiative supporting students and staff aged 16+ with accessible, timely, and effective mental health services. By offering a range of NICE-approved treatments for anxiety and depression, including low and high-intensity CBT and counselling, this partnership ensures students receive the mental health support they need to thrive academically and personally.

to manage their mental health while awaiting more intensive therapy.

Recognized nationally by the 2024 Association of Colleges Annual Beacon Awards for outstanding mental health provision, this collaboration showcases Barnsley's commitment to early intervention and holistic student well-being, empowering students to achieve their full potential.

Operating within the College's Health and Wellbeing Centre, BTT provides on-site clinic appointments five days a week, offering access to mental health professionals in a familiar environment. The initiative also incorporates WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) interventions, equipping students with practical coping strategies

Delivered by
Barnsley NHS Talking Therapies
Barnsley College Project

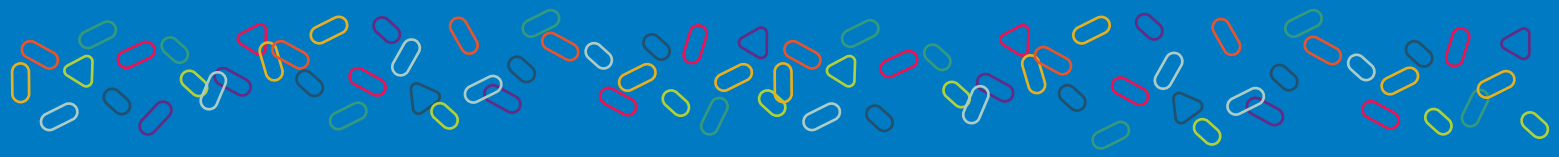




Bold Ambition 4:

Collaborate to value and support our entire workforce across health, care, VCSE, carers and volunteers.

Developing a diverse workforce that reflects our communities





Onboarding & Beyond

By adding a skill mix into their diabetes team, Rotherham Foundation Trust have delivered vital, continuous support that goes far beyond onboarding, ensuring lasting improvements in glucose management for children and young people (CYP) in some of Rotherham's most underserved communities.

Additions to the team include a full-time Family Support Worker (FSW) and a Specialist Dietician. This has been made possible thanks to the support of NHS England's Equitable Provision of Diabetes Treatment Technology Fund.

The FSW has been invaluable, streamlining technology onboarding, guiding families in connecting to data platforms, and providing essential troubleshooting. This role enables the Pediatric Diabetes Specialist Nurses (PDSNs) to focus on the complexities of supporting patients with new technology and clinical care.

Additionally, the Specialist Dietitian has provided essential dietary support before Hybrid Closed Loop (HCL) systems are introduced, produced practical resources like the "Getting the Most out of Your HCL" leaflet, and offered critical ongoing guidance.

The impact is evident: since July 2023, 70 CYP have started HCL, demonstrating improved glucose control over time. These results underscore the profound benefit of a well-rounded, skill-diverse team, meeting the newly published workforce standards for CYP diabetes services.

Delivered by

Rotherham Foundation Trust





Sexual Rights Charter for Older Adults

The Sexual Rights for Older Adults Charter is a pioneering initiative in the UK, rooted in a partnership between the university of Sheffield and Age-Friendly Sheffield that is transforming how sexuality in later life is supported, opening up conversations that lead to better health and social care services.

Sexuality remains vital to many as they age, yet outdated assumptions and a lack of training have often left these needs unmet.

Through collaboration with partners across health care, social care, and community settings, the Charter is making meaningful change. In Sheffield, it's embedded in all 68 older adult care homes, aligning with Sheffield City Council's quality goals and supporting Care Quality Commission standards. Primary Care Doncaster co-designed training to enhance nurse trainee skills in addressing older adults' sexual rights, meeting a high-need area identified by research. This training aims to increase

staff confidence and competence in the sexual rights of residents, and will be rolled out across the aged-care sector in Sheffield and beyond, with two national care home providers implementing the charter in their care homes.

Since its launch in 2022, the Charter has made lasting strides in tackling age-related discrimination, thanks to support from the Economic and Social Research Council. Our work has gained global acclaim, featuring in the United Nations' State of the World Population Report and highlighted as a case study in the Decade of Healthy Ageing Progress Report. These recognitions affirm the Charter's impact, empowering an inclusive, age-friendly approach to care that ensures everyone's right to thrive.

Delivered by

University of Sheffield & Age-Friendly Sheffield





Integrated Workforce Development

NHS South Yorkshire ICB and Sheffield City Council have made significant strides in integrated care through collaboration across the Integrated Care System (ICS), Local Authorities, and broader care partnerships. By embracing the Principles of Integrated Working and developing partnerships built on mutual respect and shared purpose, there is a sustainable workforce strategy that addresses the challenges of alignment in policy, procedures, and workforce demands.

Through initiatives such as the Workforce Engagement Board and Social Care Placement Expansion Project, the approach to workforce development is inclusive and future-focused. The engagement model recognises key leaders, facilitates collaboration across health, care, and voluntary sectors, and values contributions from all, including paid and unpaid caregivers. Dedicated project groups focus on essential aspects, from empowering the social care workforce to strengthening recruitment and retention,



ensuring our workforce reflects and serves our diverse community.

Looking forward, the goal is to create a best practice integration toolkit to support integrated systems.

Delivered by

NHS South Yorkshire ICB
& Sheffield City Council





The Innovation Centre

South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub's pioneering use of Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) is transforming primary care training, creating an engaging and effective path for workforce attraction and retention. By integrating AI-driven simulations and VR tools into training, the Hub offers a blended learning approach that increases confidence, improves skill transition, and strengthens primary care-specific expertise. Bespoke content, like the Safeguarding Conversation Tool and immersive nursing scenarios, allows practitioners to learn, practice, debrief, and refine their skills safely, creating an adaptable, cost-effective training model.



Through partnerships with Sheffield Hallam University and Keele University, the Hub is exploring research into pedagogical impacts and expanding TEL's applicability. Positive evaluations reveal TEL's powerful impact, with learners praising the realistic AI patient responses and valuing the chance for safe, repetitive practice. This innovative model is set to reach broader audiences, enhance quality, and support sustainable primary care training across the Integrated Care System and beyond.

Delivered by

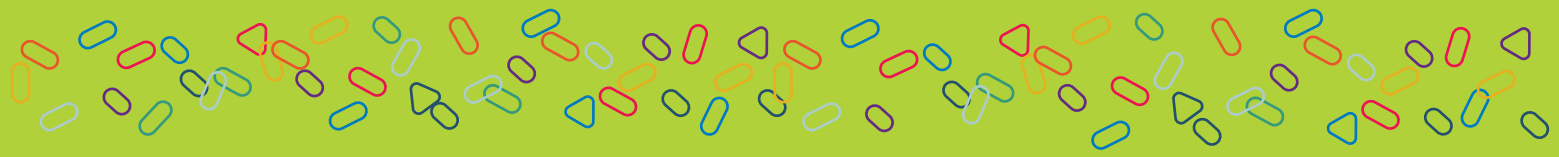
South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub





Bold Ambition 5:

Open category for other cross-cutting themes





Mental Health Early Response

The Early Response for Mental Health (PUSH) initiative is reshaping emergency mental health care in South Yorkshire, becoming the first Integrated Care System to provide a streamlined, early intervention pathway for mental health-related 999 calls. Through this “No Wrong Door” model, patients are directed to appropriate mental health services at the earliest point of contact, reducing multiple clinical assessments and improving the timeliness and quality of care. The model, facilitated by a partnership between the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and local mental health trusts (RDASH, SWYFT, and SHSC), allows clinical navigators to connect patients directly to mental health professionals after an initial call assessment, freeing ambulance resources to respond to critical cases.

This approach provides patients with a single, comprehensive clinical assessment that swiftly connects them to community mental health

services, bypassing unnecessary emergency department visits. A recent success story highlights this impact: a patient with suicidal thoughts was transferred directly to a mental health clinician and received treatment within hours - avoiding a hospital admission and receiving effective, tailored care.

With 69.8% of redirected calls successfully supported through this collaborative effort, PUSH shows an innovative, compassionate approach to mental health crises, bringing patient-centred, rapid response care to those in need.

Delivered by

Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust,
Rotherham Doncaster and South Yorkshire
NHS Foundation Trust, South West Yorkshire
Partnership NHS Foundation Trust & Sheffield
Health & Social Care NHS Foundation Trust





Taking a Health Inequalities Approach to Cholesterol Management

NHS South Yorkshire ICB's project to combat cardiovascular disease (CVD) is achieving remarkable results, focusing on improving health outcomes for individuals and addressing significant health inequalities in premature mortality from CVD. With a proactive approach, the initiative has targeted cholesterol management in populations disproportionately affected by socioeconomic disparities. Analysis from the Business Intelligence team revealed that patients from South Yorkshire's more deprived areas were less likely to reach the recommended cholesterol levels, a gap that became the foundation for an incentive scheme to address health inequalities directly.

The project introduced a primary care incentive scheme focused on primary care networks (PCNs) serving areas with the highest health inequalities in cholesterol treatment. By prioritising treatment for patients from the most deprived areas, and centralising reporting to reduce the burden on practices, the initiative streamlined efforts to drive impactful change in cholesterol management.

Results from June 2023 to March 2024 demonstrate success: overall treatment to target levels rose by 5.97%. Over 1,800 additional patients have reached optimal cholesterol levels, 44% of whom are from the most deprived areas. The project also marked a 5% increase in high-intensity statin prescriptions and increased uptake of advanced lipid-lowering therapies, reflecting significant progress down the treatment pathway.

With lessons from this project, the ICB is exploring similar approaches to improve equity in other health areas, furthering the region's commitment to tackling health inequalities and delivering transformative, inclusive healthcare.

Delivered by

NHS South Yorkshire ICB





ePAQ

ePAQ (electronic personal assessment questionnaires) is a pioneering, award-winning digital assessment platform transforming patient care by streamlining assessments and enabling personalised treatment planning across 25 NHS hospitals in the UK. Developed in collaboration with the University of Sheffield, Leeds Beckett University and Medipex Ltd., ePAQ uses secure, intuitive questionnaires that patients can complete on their PC, tablet, or smartphone, making it convenient and accessible.

This innovative tool has been proven to reduce consultation times, minimise unnecessary clinic visits, and enhance patient experience. By allowing clinicians to review patient information ahead of time, ePAQ fosters more meaningful, informed interactions and ultimately improves patient outcomes. ePAQ supports NHS initiatives



like net-zero goals and virtual clinics, aligning with NHS England’s vision for digital transformation in healthcare. With over 60 published research articles validating its impact, ePAQ is at the forefront of efficient, patient-centred care and clinical excellence.

Delivered by

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, University of Sheffield, Leeds Beckett University & Medipex Ltd.

The Waiting Game

The Waiting Game is an impactful, youth-created resource developed by young people in mental health groups with Chilypep, aiming to improve understanding of the complex journey young people face in navigating mental health services in the UK. Launched in May 2024, it has already reached over 700 players across cities including Sheffield, Glasgow, Manchester, and Leeds.

By engaging healthcare professionals and decision-makers through interactive gameplay, *The Waiting Game* provides an eye-opening perspective on the experiences of children and young people. Over 100 copies have been distributed to professionals in Children and Young People’s Services.

This innovative tool has been embraced at national conferences and by influential organisations such as NHS England, CAMHS, and the YMCA. *The Waiting Game* is now integrated into Chilypep’s



participation training, ensuring its continued role in shaping a more inclusive and responsive mental healthcare system across the UK.

Delivered by

Chilypep, NHS South Yorkshire ICB & South Yorkshire Children and Young People’s Alliance





NHS T2Day Programme

The T2Day programme is an innovative NHSE-backed initiative aimed at improving care for young adults (18-39) with Early Onset Type 2 Diabetes (EOT2D). This programme uses the PIER model - Prevention, Integration, Education, and Remission - to meet the diverse needs of young adults and enhance engagement beyond traditional models. Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, T2Day leverages partnerships across primary care, community organisations, and specialised workforces, ensuring a supportive, holistic care network.

This tailored approach has led to the programme being selected to take part in the T2Day national evaluation. Community

outreach, T2Day webinars, and a new Behavioral Science Campaign are helping healthcare providers increase awareness, knowledge, and skills. With the support of T2Day Buddies and Champions, the programme ensures sustainable impact for years to come, while filling research gaps on holistic support models for young adults with EOT2D

Delivered by

NHS South Yorkshire ICB

Including the primary care electronic patient record in the secure data environment

The University of Sheffield has created a linked primary and secondary care research database that can be used to address unmet needs across the region. A collaboration between the NHS South Yorkshire ICB, Primary Care Sheffield, and the University of Sheffield, this project is funded as a pilot study in Sheffield with aims to scale geographically across South Yorkshire. Bridging Cultures in Mental Health from the University of Sheffield offers intercultural awareness training to Sheffield Health and

Social Care professionals, with the aim of embedding intercultural awareness into current practice and advocating for building further inclusivity with the organisation.

Delivered by

Delivered by University of Sheffield, NHS South Yorkshire ICB & Primary Care Sheffield





Other Innovative Practices

With so many initiatives submitted, we were unable to shortlist everyone. Here's a snapshot of the other great initiatives we received.

Sheffield's Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Integrated Care Pathway from Sheffield City Council is an integrated perinatal and infant mental health pathway collaboratively created between health and the local authority. This pathway involves shared resources, and a shared model of working between CAMHS, health visiting, midwifery, and Early Help services.

Smoking in Pregnancy Financial Incentive Scheme from Barnsley Council aims to strengthen the existing specialist support available in Barnsley for women to quit smoking in pregnancy.

Talking Together, from the City of Doncaster Council is a Speech and Language Therapist led early intervention and prevention approach to tackling speech, language and/or communication needs that do not meet thresholds for specialist service input. Co-produced by the NHS and Doncaster Council, it is embedded in communities across the city and aimed at coaching and empowering parents to develop their child's speech, language and communication skills.

Hibi, from Hibi Health Ltd is an app supporting families of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Hibi enhances local children & SEND services by providing families with access to care management tools & personalised SEND guidance.

Integrated Approach to 1001 Days: Early Days Workers from the City of Doncaster Council is an integrated offer

for families during the critical first 1001 days. This means a shared offer held by the council, the midwifery service, and the health visiting service with consistent messages, training, and data sharing being coupled with additional capacity and more contact with families at key points on the timeline between conception and the second birthday.

Supporting internationally educated health and social care workers is an initiative from NHS South Yorkshire ICB supporting internationally recruited workforce in health and social care alongside supporting managers and support teams

Mission: Menopause from NHS South Yorkshire ICB is a system-wide initiative bringing together all health and care across SY to engage staff and make tangible changes, showing the power of practical joint working as they tackled taboos surrounding menopause.

Dance On, from arts charity darts is a hyper-local programme of fun, social dance activity targeted at women over 50 in Doncaster. The programme is proven to sustain physical activity levels, improve mobility and social connections and reduce frailty in inactive older people.

Family Wellbeing, from Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a resource giving details of local and national organisations that may help families having difficulties with money, housing, and food.



Maiya Automating Healthcare Innovation

from Automating Healthcare Ltd and created in partnership with GP Partner Dr Alex Rawlins and Primary Care Sheffield is a revolutionary software that automates and improves routine care. Using advanced AI/RPA technology, Maiya automates the management of long-term conditions and helps reduce health inequalities by using patient's preferred language, which increases the efficiency of patient interactions, improves patient outcomes and frees up the GP healthcare team to focus on providing exceptional levels of care.

Beyond Reflection #We're in this together,

a collaboration between Barnsley Public Health/ICB, Barnsley College, the Youth Association and the founder of My Body is My Body is a short film co-produced by young people to illustrate the range of issues affecting young people's emotional wellbeing and ensure their voices were heard.

Caught in Two Minds is a stroke campaign from Barnsley Council on behalf of the Heart Health Alliance. Using real, local stroke survivor stories, the campaign aimed to highlight the early signs and symptoms of stroke.

Young Person Friendly Self-Referral

Form from young people's empowerment project Chilypep has been co-developed in consultation with young people and makes it easier for young people to seek support.

You're Welcome Assessment: Making Young

People Feel Welcome also from Chilypep has enabled Barnsley Hospital to gain a deeper understanding of the needs and expectations of young people, making their services as accessible as possible.

Advice in Primary Care from Citizens Advice Sheffield, commissioned by NHS South Yorkshire offers advice (particularly money and debt advice) within three Primary Care Networks.

Doncaster Fairness and Wellbeing

Commision, from City of Doncaster Council takes an in-depth look at fairness and wellbeing issues for Doncaster, undertaking detailed research, analysis and planning to create a fairer future for Doncaster's residents.

School Health Profiles, from City of Doncaster Council facilitates conversations between schools and school nursing to plan services to improve health, wellbeing and attainment.

Young People's Experience of Vaping Amongst Their Peers

is a co-produced study between embedded researchers and Local Authority Public Health Practitioners investigating how young people from a range of backgrounds understand vaping amongst their peers. Study outputs will include recommendations for policy and practice and key messages about vaping, specifically targeting young people.


Doncaster's Whole Systems Approach to Walking, Wheeling and Cycling

is a collaboration between Transportation, Public Health, Physical Activity and Cross-Council Departments to increase and promote walking, wheeling and cycling across Doncaster.

How to Hack the NHS Podcast from Conisborough Group Practice is aimed at patients to help them understand the changes in Primary Care so that they can get the best out of the system.

The Smiles for Miles Base Project, led by the Children, Young People and Families Consortium supports children and young people with SEND to reach their goals, as defined by them. Project priorities are early intervention, improving spaces and places that matter to communities, bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities and providing young people with the right activities and support.





Working Together in Research, from DiverseCity Development Trust is a South Yorkshire wide cross-sector initiative whose vision is making South Yorkshire known for health and care research that centres health equity and inclusion, supported by NHS South Yorkshire ICB.

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals have committed to improving knowledge and building capacity to tackle inequalities by developing a health inequalities training pyramid, training modules and a health inequalities process and toolkit.

The FEEL GOOD programme, from NHS Business Partner Functional Fitness is an exercise on referral pathway for anyone struggling with their mental health or experiencing episodes of low mood. The programme offers a free 12 week intervention which includes 1 hour exercise and 30 mins social time each week.

Joint Working in Heeley - Women's Drop-In Clinics from Heeley Plus Primary Care Network is an initiative focusing on supporting women's reproductive health using a multi-disciplinary approach and aims to focus both on medical and non-medical aspects in supporting health issues.

Hillsborough Primary Care Network aims to increase the rates of cancer screening and encourage self-checking to increase early diagnosis, leading to better outcomes. They are also focusing on improving diabetes care and hypertension case finding through outreach events and visits to food banks.

Radiologix AI from Med Frontier Suppliers & Consultancy offers a revolutionary automated radiology report generation solution aimed at significantly enhancing diagnostic accuracy and efficiency.

The Proud to Care Hub, from NHS South Yorkshire ICB was developed to support people in accessing jobs in health and care, creating training and support to help people to overcome any potential barriers they may face without judgement or bias.

Medicines Optimisation in Vulnerable and Housebound from NHS South Yorkshire ICB and Sheffield City Council aims to improve medicines optimisation for vulnerable and housebound patients. The project has included a pharmaceutical review of council policies, identifying and resolving gaps in training provision, exploring and trialling technological solutions to medication related issues and more.

South Yorkshire Tobacco Control Alliance – Smokefree Starts, Smoking and Mental Health Campaign from NHS South Yorkshire ICB delivers a behaviour-change campaign to myth-bust some commonly held beliefs around smoking and mental health.

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust Digital Weight Management project provides additional support to overweight patients using a digital platform to offset the requirement to physically attend weight management groups.

The Rotherham Care Homes Hydration Project from NHS South Yorkshire ICB and Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust provides intensive face-to-face hydration training and a virtual hydration training package to care home staff, developed by a large multidisciplinary team. Results have shown a huge improvement in a range of areas associated with dehydration, including lowering UTIs.



Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, working alongside AGFA Healthcare and Netcall has introduced a user-friendly X-ray appointment booking portal which allows patients to take control on when they would like to attend for their X-ray appointment, booking their appointment online via mobile phone, tablet or computer. This provides patients with the flexibility to make the appointment at a time convenient to themselves, as well as being able to request a call back from the Radiology booking team at the click of a button from the booking portal.

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust alongside partner Gleamer have introduced a Radiology AI system which provides clinical decision support to clinicians and health professionals when reviewing X-ray imaging. This integrates with existing Trust Radiology digital infrastructure, providing an AI summary within moments.

Man v Fat Football from Rotherham United Community Trust is a national project which has been fine-tuned to meet the needs of the Rotherham Community. Its aim is to use football as a hook to encourage men to lose weight and lead a healthier lifestyle.

Compassionate Sheffield, from Sheffield City Council with support from Sheffield City Public Health Grant, NHS South Yorkshire ICB and St Luke's Hospice aims to develop Sheffield as a Compassionate City to enable delivery of the ambition in the Sheffield Health & Wellbeing Strategy to ensure that everyone has a dignified death in a place of their choice.

Early Intervention Mental Health Hub (Sheffield) from Sheffield Futures delivers early intervention mental health support to young people ages 11-25. The project focuses on reaching young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, particularly those from North East Sheffield.

Through your eyes - The Human Library from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust invites patients and service users to speak to staff about their long-term health condition, with the aim of improving patient care by understanding the condition from a patient's point of view.

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has developed psychological support for teams supporting teenagers and young adults with cancer, aligning with current evidence that self-care and mindfulness are key mechanisms in the reduction of work-related stress and compassion fatigue.

Sexual Health Outreach, developed by Solutions4Health Doncaster provides sexual health services in the community to inclusion health groups who often find accessing sexual health services challenging. The programme offers sexual health screening and treatment, vaccines, condoms, contraception and sexual health advice and support.

Cardio Rehab Collaboration from South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust aims to maximise patient activation and improve health outcomes of patients diagnosed with heart failure through access to Health & Wellbeing Coaching after completion of the Cardiac Rehabilitation exercise programme.

South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust are collaborating with Barnsley Council, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Barnsley Healthcare Federation and Yorkshire Ambulance Service to refine pathways for supporting patients in a crisis to prevent or reduce risk of escalation to hospital, improve wrap around provision for patients and their families and improve patient outcomes.





The Huddersfield Application for Mental Health Assessment (HAMHA), from the University of Huddersfield aims to develop the HAMHA app to support non-Mental Health Nurses and Allied Health Professionals to assess mental health needs and risks of children and young people in NHS services across the UK.

Piloting a Networked Approach to Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) Service Provision in South Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and Chesterfield is a project from South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Acute Federation which aims to reduce variation and inequalities in treatment access, increase treatment choice, gain insight on factors which influence choice and understand outcomes.

CognoSpeak from Royal Hallamshire Hospital and the University of Sheffield project will deliver a low-cost, accessible, scalable and repeatable tool that will aid overburdened medical staff in the early and accurate detection and monitoring of cognitive impairment, making Memory Assessment Pathways more accessible to underrepresented groups by providing a remote, easy-to-use test for people with memory worries.

Bridging Cultures in Mental Health from the University of Sheffield offers intercultural awareness training to Sheffield Health and Social Care professionals, with the aim of embedding intercultural awareness into current practice and advocating for building further inclusivity with the organisation.





Notes







Find out more about South Yorkshire Innovation Hub

Visit SYInnovation.net to find out more about the South Yorkshire Innovation Hub, follow us on social media @SYInnovationHub or send us an email syinnovation@yhahsn.net

You can also keep up to date with Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber @HealthInnovYH and South Yorkshire ICS @SYhealthcare.



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