

# Supporting wider social and economic development (1)

The South East London ICS collectively employs more than 100,000 staff, many from our local communities; it is also one of the largest purchasers, property owners and investors across the six Boroughs. There is a collective ambition to adapt how the ICS's economic power and resources are deployed to create economic opportunity and better environments for deprived communities and, in doing so, directly tackle the economic and social inequalities that contribute to poor health.

Aligned to the Anchor agenda, many of the organisations that make up our Integrated Care System are already doing good work in this area. Together we have set a strong expectation within our system that we should work together as a partnership through our ICS Anchor System Programme to accelerate progress and maximise the impact of the work ongoing within individual organisations.

## **SEL system-wide approach to maximising social value:**

### Sharing and celebrating best practice

A myriad of programmes are ongoing, both cross-system (see next page) and within the Anchor organisations. An Anchor Alliance has been formed, bringing together representatives from across the ICS to share and celebrate best practice, both from within south east London and from other UK systems. The Anchor Alliance also provides an opportunity for partners to identify opportunities to work together in value-adding cross-system projects (see below).

### Listening to our people and communities

Building on the success of South London Listens, between June and September 2023 a south east London-wide listening campaign was undertaken, led by delivery partner Citizens UK with support from Anchor Institutions and VCSE partners. Over 2,500 people across southeast London took part in the campaign, leading to the development of five pledges in the areas of: becoming a Living Wage system, championing English as a Second Language (ESoL) support, supporting those furthest from the workforce into employment, making physical spaces available to VCSE partners, and developing an action plan for better housing. These pledges were publicly committed to through an Accountability Assembly in November 2023 at which leaders from across the ICS came together with leaders from community organisations and members of the public.

### Community-based cross-system projects

Following commitment to the five pledges, work programmes are being developed for community-based delivery based on the principle of co-development with our people and communities. In addition, relevant opportunities are being explored as they arise. For example, following a successful bid for £250k of Health Education England funding, the Anchor System Programme is working with the ICS People Strategy implementation team and the SEL VCSE Strategic Alliance to deliver projects designed to support local people into health and care employment, with the SEL VCSE Strategic Alliance leading the process of recruiting VCSE partners for the collaboration. These projects will be complementary to those ongoing within SEL Anchor Institutions and other SEL programmes (see next page).

# Supporting wider social and economic development (2)

## Maximising our social value across the five Anchor pillars:

Using buildings and spaces to support communities

The Estates strategy recognises the need to use the buildings and spaces available to the system in new ways which allow for integrated working, support local communities and ensure the system is environmentally sustainable. This includes creating vibrant community hubs and destinations that serve the specific needs of south east London people and communities.

See 'Estates'

Reducing the environmental impact

Delivering the ICS Green Plan supports carbon reduction efforts across the NHS in South East London, in line with NHS national net zero targets. Making a meaningful contribution to net zero supports the ICB's mission to protect and improve population health, reduce health inequalities and build a more resilient healthcare system – whilst reducing financial impacts in the longer term.

See 'Sustainability'

Widening access to quality work

Our People Strategy sets out key actions for promoting SEL as a great place to work, supporting widening participation and the broader Anchor agenda. All 5 SEL NHS Trusts are now accredited as London Living Wage (LLW) employers alongside other organisations; this work continues. The SEL Health and Care Jobs Hub is supporting local people into employment with specific targets set for education, work experience and apprenticeships. The Jobs Hub aims to address structural barriers to engagement, recruitment and retention. Piloting new work and building collaborations are central to investing strategically and planning for sustainability

See 'Workforce'

Purchasing more locally and for social benefit

NHS London Procurement Partnership (NHS LPP) have created a pan-London tool kit to maximise social value by strengthening communities through collaborative working across the public, private, and community and voluntary sectors to create the biggest impact. This was created using a place-based approach to understand social inequalities.

More information is available through NHS LPP

Working more closely with local partners

The South East London ICS is structured under a 'system of systems' model, building on strong existing relationships using the principles of partnership, subsidiarity and accountability. Relationships, collaboration and investment in the VCSE sector continue to develop and strengthen, including through the creation of a Director of Voluntary Sector Collaboration and Partnerships role. We have co-developed and publicly signed our SEL VCSE Charter which outlines our system's commitments to positioning the VCSE sector as key strategic partner, shifting our approach towards equitable collaboration and investing in the sector's capacity and sustainability to ensure sustained positive impact for the diverse communities of SEL.

See 'System development'