

Neighbourhood Based Care Board – headline summary

July 2026

The Neighbourhood Based Care Board met on 16 July 2026. It reviewed progress on workforce support, clinical governance, neighbourhood planning and new governance arrangements.

This was the final meeting of the Board in its current form. Its work will move into new strategic and operational groups.

Key messages at a glance

- Clinical risk and governance guidance will be shared with neighbourhood teams while further work continues.
- Lewisham plans to transfer its neighbourhood development team to its local integrator host in April 2027.
- A new modelling tool will help teams plan neighbourhood services and test their possible impact.
- New governance arrangements will focus more closely on delivery and how the system manages barriers.
- Digital, workforce, estates, finance and community pharmacy work need clear routes into the new arrangements.

Workforce development and clinical governance

Work continues to help staff develop the skills needed to work across organisations in integrated neighbourhood teams.

Staff webinars have had strong interest. Recordings and resources are being added to the neighbourhood health website. Members asked for clearer promotion so more staff can attend the live sessions.

A proposed development offer for managers includes:

- neighbourhood-focused management learning
- practical masterclasses
- peer support through Coffee Connections
- guidance on building teams across different organisations

Members discussed the need to avoid repeating work already taking place locally. Any shared support should respond to local needs and build on existing skills and resources.

The Board also reviewed draft clinical risk and governance guidance. This aims to help teams manage staff movement, risk and performance across organisational boundaries.



Members asked for the guidance to cover mental health involvement and the clinical safety of digital tools. Wider legal questions about accountability in integrated teams still need further work.

The Board supported continued development and circulation of the guidance. Teams will be able to use it while further supporting resources are developed.

Lewisham neighbourhood development team

Lewisham is developing plans to transfer its neighbourhood development team from NHS South East London to Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust.

The Trust acts as the host for Lewisham's local integrator partnership. The proposed transfer would include neighbourhood development and primary care development functions, with their staff, responsibilities and budgets.

The planned transfer date is April 2027. Detailed work will cover legal checks, delegation, financial arrangements and staff consultation.

Members discussed several issues, including:

- protecting the partnership's shared identity
- keeping decisions within the partnership
- maintaining a strong role for primary care and the voluntary sector
- managing budgets under different financial rules
- sharing learning with other boroughs

The Board supported further development of the proposal. Final arrangements will need to follow the relevant governance and approval processes.

Neighbourhood benefits modelling tool

The Board saw a demonstration of the South East London Neighbourhood Benefits Modelling Tool.

The tool uses linked, anonymised data to help teams explore how proposed neighbourhood services could affect demand, activity and costs.

Its first areas of focus include:

- frailty
- multiple long-term conditions
- children and young people living in the most deprived areas

Users can test different groups, services and levels of support. They can also change key assumptions and explore possible effects over one to 10 years.

Members welcomed the tool but stressed that teams will need practical support to use it. Assumptions, data quality and local knowledge must remain clear when people interpret its results.

The tool was due to launch after final testing. A final report and technical handover to the South East London business intelligence team were also planned.



New governance arrangements

The Neighbourhood Based Care Board was set up in 2023 to support the development of neighbourhood care. This was its final meeting.

A new Neighbourhood Strategic Delivery Committee will become a formal committee of the NHS South East London Board. It will focus on checking progress in delivering the Neighbourhood Health Service.

A Neighbourhood Operational Delivery Group will support the committee. It will bring together delivery plans, identify barriers and help develop shared solutions.

The Integrator Partnership Forum will continue as a place for local partnerships to share learning and address common challenges.

Members said that supporting work on digital, workforce, estates, finance and community pharmacy must have clear links to the new arrangements. More work is needed to confirm how this will happen.

As always, papers and key documents about the South East London neighbourhood approach can be found on the [NHS South East London website here](#).

