



Hertfordshire and
West Essex Integrated
Care Partnership

Headlines from Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Partnership meeting (November 2023)

Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Partnership held its latest meeting in public on 23 November 2023 in Stevenage.

The ICP is a joint committee, formed by NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board, Essex County Council and Hertfordshire County Council, to improve health and care in Hertfordshire and west Essex. The partnership includes NHS providers, district councils, voluntary sector organisations, care providers and Healthwatch. More information about the partnership can be found [here](#).

Headlines from the meeting on 23 November:

- The ICP considered a proposal for strengthened involvement of local councils in the Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care System. A report presented to the meeting, developed in partnership with district councils, county councils, the Integrated Care Board and NHS providers, proposed ways to embed the distinctive roles, resources and relationships of local authorities within the health and care system, noting particular opportunities for collaboration around councils' responsibilities for prevention and the wider determinants of health.
- The report noted that the 13 district and borough councils in Hertfordshire and West Essex deliver services across housing, planning, economic development, welfare, leisure and environmental health and that all these services affect people's health, making district councils essential partners to the NHS. Many district councils also run additional projects designed to reduce inequalities in health in their local communities.
- Speakers at the meeting included the chief executives of Watford, Dacorum and Uttlesford councils who all noted the strategic opportunities to improve coordinated working between local government and the NHS for growth and planning and for improving the quality of housing. Claire Hamilton, Chief Executive of Dacorum, talked about the healthy places vision for Hemel Garden Communities, and Donna Nolan, Chief Executive of Watford, revealed plans for a new health hub in central Watford which put residents' health and wellbeing its heart.
- ICP members also noted opportunities for coordination around supported housing for older people and people with disabilities, including more nursing care, and the potential for closer working on skills development and workforce planning.
- The report was warmly welcomed and ICP members asked for progress to be made over the coming months on delivery of the recommendations set out in the report.

The meeting papers and presentations can be found [here](#).