

Working together to enhance health in care homes

Key messages from quarterly review

We have a very constructive meeting, which generated a range of opportunities for our vanguard – as well as some important actions.

The key points are captured in summary here:

- The Walton Centre in Liverpool – which is at the forefront of neuroscience worldwide – has voiced its interest in what we are doing, following its work with Professor Don Berwick, the respected healthcare improvement advisor.
- In partnership with NHS England, we are to planning a series of online meetings, presentations and webinars to share our successes among other vanguard sites and the wider NHS community. This should be more effective than the time and expense of staging various site visits,
- We must all work together to ensure that we are contributing fully to the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) processes across East Lancashire and West Yorkshire. This is key as future funding after this year will come through the plans submitted in the STPs.
- The work we are leading on social movements in healthcare continues to trigger growing interest nationally – Professor Alistair Burns, NHS England's National Clinical Director for Dementia, being the latest figure with whom we are to start working.
- A key focus for us moving forward will be to explore ways of developing future relationships with Clinical Commissioning Groups. As part of this, we have begun to research what learning there may be from other care home vanguards from which we can benefit.
- We have started initial conversations with the Care Quality Commission about how some of our innovations can be tested by local inspection teams. This is something we welcome and are keen to progress to give an added endorsement to our approach and all the care homes we are working in partnership with.
- In terms of wider evaluation and measurement of our vanguard, we are examining the optimum size of the tests we adopt. NHS England are increasingly keen to assess quickly how well different themes of different vanguards are working, which may lead us to pursue small, rapid tests to shape future decisions and our next steps. ■