

# Our aims

2017-2018



South West  
Academic Health  
Science Network

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Working together to achieve  
better health and wellbeing



# Welcome

The South West Academic Health Science Network (SW AHSN) is one of 15 AHSNs set up by NHS England to spread health and care innovation across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, Devon and Somerset.

Our mission is to improve the health and patient experience of people in the South West by supporting and accelerating innovation and quality improvement.

*This is a summary of our three objectives for 2017-18, as set out in our business plan. We are guided by our licence objectives from NHS England, the NHS Five Year Forward View, and feedback from our members. We also link closely with the three health and care Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs) in our area to align our work with their strategic priorities.*



*The South West is a region which faces particular challenges when it comes to delivering health and care services:*

- An ageing population, with 6.4 per cent of residents over the age of 80, compared to the England average of 4.8 per cent. In 20 years, this is expected to rise to 11.7 per cent.
- A largely rural and dispersed population with few major towns and cities, meaning longer travel times for patients and more costly community services.

Our  
region



# Strategic approach

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## NHS England

We are licensed by NHS England and this will be the final year of the current, five-year term. The licence requires us to:

- Focus on the needs of patients and local populations
- Build a culture of partnership and collaboration
- Speed up the adoption of innovation into practice
- Create wealth

## Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs)

The SW AHSN shares its footprint with three STPs in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, Devon and Somerset. Our focus is increasingly to support the strategic objectives being developed by each partnership.

## Accelerated Access Review

This report places AHSNs as a key partner in delivering Innovation Exchanges, designed to improve access to innovative medicines, technologies, diagnostics and digital products, improving efficiency and patient outcomes.

## Our members

We are a membership organisation, with representation from NHS trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups, universities, industry, and the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. We asked for feedback on our plans at three Membership Council meetings.

## NHS Five Year Forward View

This was updated in 2017 and recognises AHSNs' role in helping bridge gaps in health and wellbeing, care and quality, and funding and efficiency.



# Developing as an organisation

*To ensure successful delivery of our strategic objectives and work programmes, we will organise capability around four core areas:*



## INNOVATION

Taking innovative products and services into the health and care system



## IMPROVEMENT

Working with members and partners to support whole system quality improvements



## INTELLIGENCE

Ensuring the best intelligence is used to plan, deliver and measure high quality care

## Corporate Services

Delivering the infrastructure to enable success

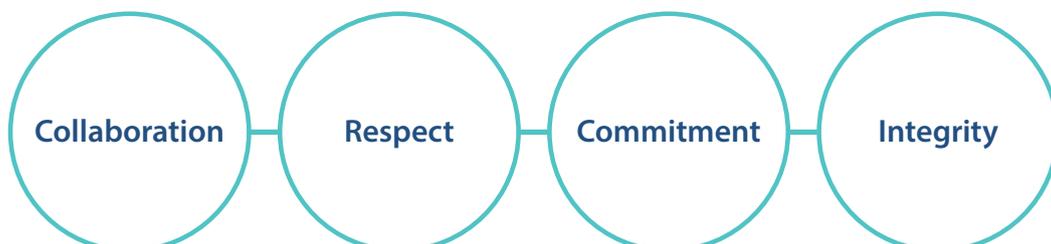
# Our members

*The SW AHSN is a membership organisation. We welcome involvement from organisations across the health, care, industry and voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, who provide health and care services.*

*We have 18 full and nine associate members including universities, health and care providers, NHS trusts, Local Medical Committees and Clinical Commissioning Groups.*

# Our values

*We have four values that guide us in all our work and contact with partners:*



# Supporting the South West health and care system

## Building capability for improvement

- The South West Patient Safety Collaborative – hosted by the SW AHSN – aims to develop the patient safety and improvement capability of health and social care teams across the region.
- We have developed our own teaching faculty and quality improvement training programme to equip front-line staff with the skills they need to improve the quality of care and safety for patients.



**250**  
people to be trained in  
**SAFETY CULTURE  
IMPROVEMENT  
AWARENESS**

**7** experienced  
improvers to be  
given IHI  
**IMPROVEMENT  
COACH  
TRAINING**

## STP areas

- Through the Regional Board for Primary Care Workforce Sustainability, we are working with STPs to develop whole-system and place-based workforce plans for primary care.
- To establish a baseline of people working within primary care, we have developed

a GP Workforce Analysis Tool to understand some of the challenges facing general practice.

- We have championed the issues GPs face finding indemnity cover to support new models of care.
- We supported the establishment and facilitation of GP training hubs in the South West. A national initiative, these are increasingly seen as vital to implement the STP primary care agenda.

*There is a SW AHSN lead director assigned to work with each STP area:*

### CORNWALL AND THE ISLES OF SCILLY

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## GP WORKFORCE ANALYSIS TOOL

to be delivered and spread to all commissioners and providers, and refreshed quarterly

## Innovation, spread and adoption

- As part of a network of 15 AHSNs, we play an increasingly important role in the spread and adoption of innovations from and to the South West.
- We are facilitating the introduction of seven types of medical technology products being fast-tracked through the NHS Innovation and Technology Tariff.
- The NHS Innovation Accelerator selects and supports innovations to be rolled out across the NHS, facilitated by AHSNs.
- The Small Business Research Initiative Healthcare programme is supported by the SW AHSN. We will be monitoring the progress of the innovators already successful in phase one, ready for an application process for phase two in Autumn 2017, where up to £1 million is on offer to further develop the best innovations.

## Intelligence, evaluation and analytics

- We can help refine data capture, analyse linked data and develop the analysis tools to produce actionable insight.
- Our evaluation helps health and care organisations scope and commission the most appropriate services.
- We specialise in supporting our member organisations with business case development for the targeted introduction of innovations, modelling of whole-system impacts, and creating management tools to promote best practice.
- Our newly-launched Regional Intelligence Analysts Network (RIAN), in collaboration with the Association of Professional Healthcare Analysts (AphA) and the Peninsula Collaboration for Health Operational Research and Development (PenCHORD), aims to share ideas, expertise, techniques and tools to identify insightful findings for service transformation and improvement.

# Our strategic objectives

All of our programmes of work fit within three key objectives:

## 1 Enable access to innovation

We will broker partnerships between innovators and health and care organisations in the South West.

## 2 Support system transformation and sustainability

By analysing data held across the region and working together in different ways, we can provide a better understanding of people's needs, assess whether new models of care are effective, and improve patient safety.

## 3 Contribute to economic growth

We will bring in additional investment to support the wider health and care system and innovators in the South West.

Here's how our current projects support the strategic priorities of Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships:



### DEVELOP LINKED DATASETS ACROSS THE SOUTH WEST

#### Integrated care

- Deliver analyses for STP priorities such as urgent care from linked datasets of information held by different organisations.
- Bring industry, the NHS and other partners together at events and workshops, including 'Leadership Exchanges', and 'hackathons' on specific topics such as diabetes or patient transport.
- Spearhead the national safety culture strategy and deliver our own patient safety capability strategy.

#### Acute and hospital services

- Following the success of a new system to share patient information in Somerset, support other areas to do the same.
- Support national priority improvement programmes, such as the implementation of Emergency Department safety checklists and quality improvement in maternity units.

#### Mental health

- Support the South of England Mental Health Collaborative.
- Continue our involvement in the South West Zero Suicide Collaborative.

#### Increasing efficiency and productivity

- Support quality improvement by creating a framework for STPs and our members, and expanding 'Q', The Health Foundation's national community of people passionate about quality improvement.
- Develop the skills and capacity of health and care staff through a new network and training events.
- Provide training in culture and improvement skills, including Institute for Healthcare Improvement training for coaches.
- Publish a practical, online toolkit for organisations to evaluate their own services.
- Host a South West Regional Strategic Group for Research, Innovation and Improvement to increase research investment in the South West.

**117**  
**Q FELLOWS TO BE SUPPORTED**  
across the region

# Our strategic objectives

## Primary care

- Host the South West Regional Partnership Board for Primary Care Workforce Sustainability, addressing the workforce crisis facing primary care.
- Deliver the GP Workforce Analysis Tool to understand staffing challenges in general practice.
- Develop Community Education Provider Networks (CEPNs) in each STP area to co-ordinate education, training and workforce planning in primary care.
- Create an online Models of Care Portal, a website where we can share case studies of new ideas and what works.

## Prevention and early intervention

- Find new ways of supporting people in later life as a partner in the Transform Ageing programme supported by £3.65m from the Big Lottery Fund.
- Deliver a national medicines optimisation project on atrial fibrillation, to improve how people use medicines to prevent strokes.
- With our academic partners, evaluate new ways of working and help turn learning into action through events and creating new resources.

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## Our cross-cutting theme to accelerate the creation, spread and adoption of innovations

- Through the new Health and Wellbeing Challenge Fund, invest £500k in South West innovators from the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector.
- Work with the Small Business Research Initiative Healthcare programme to connect small businesses with NHS organisations to develop new innovations.
- Connect people by signposting innovators and delivering NHS Market Insight Surgeries to advise innovators about the NHS marketplace.
- Promote the innovations available through the NHS England Innovation and Technology Tariff, supporting NHS organisations to adopt them where appropriate.
- Support the roll-out of innovations through the national NHS Innovation Accelerator programme.
- Set up a South West Digital Health Fund.
- Support bids for funding opportunities that bring additional income into the South West.
- Support small to medium-sized enterprises in Cornwall and Devon by being a partner on three projects: Healthy Ageing with Devon County Council, Smartline with the University of Exeter and E-Health Productivity and Innovation in Cornwall (EPIC) with Plymouth University.
- Provide £150k of match-funding to support projects in the region.

**SUPPORT**  
**10**   
**SUCCESSFUL**  
**INVESTMENTS**  
of £100k through SBRI

  **£150k**  
**TO BE** to support  
**PROVIDED IN** organisations  
**MATCHED** and other  
**FUNDING** regional projects





South West  
Academic Health  
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## Get in touch

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To discuss our plans or how we can work together,  
email: [info@swahsn.com](mailto:info@swahsn.com) or call **01392 247903**

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For more information about the SW AHSN, visit our website:

[www.swahsn.com](http://www.swahsn.com)

You can also read our annual review for 2016/17 at:

[www.swahsn.com/resources](http://www.swahsn.com/resources)

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