

5 June 2023



Open letter to Chairs of Integrated Care Boards in England

Dear ICB Colleagues,

Hewitt Review: Offer of our support

I am writing to you in my capacity as the chair of the [Care Provider Alliance \(CPA\)](#), following the publication of the [Hewitt Review](#). The CPA brings together the ten national adult social care provider trade associations and offers a united voice representing 75% of all independent and voluntary sector adult social care providers in England.

We were very pleased to be an integral part of the working groups supporting the Right Honourable Patricia Hewitt and her review colleagues to deliver these key findings. One of the review's main messages is the need for a greater proportion of ICB resources to be focused on preventing people's needs from escalating and therefore requiring more complex health and care services.

The review highlighted that, in order to unlock the benefits of Integrated Care Systems, barriers that currently reduce social care providers' ability to play an integral role in local system design and delivery must be removed. Social care and support partners offer far-reaching benefits to ICB system strategies including strengthening preventative services and supporting both the social care and health workforce.

As a collective group of social care provider representatives which gives voice to organisations supporting and employing millions of people, we were delighted that the review explicitly recognised the essential role that social care providers play in local systems in terms of delivering for local communities, and local population health and care outcomes.

Many care providers have told us that it is challenging to find opportunities to connect with their ICB or influence partnership working with their ICSs. The Hewitt Review provides an ideal framework for local systems to set out clearly their plans for involving social care providers fully and meaningfully in planning and strategic decision making.

The CPA offers our support to ICB and ICP Chairs and Senior colleagues. For example, you may wish to gain a better understanding of the breadth and depth of social care and the essential strategic role our members should play within your ICS. We will be delighted to support you in any way that we can, so please do contact us at info@careprovideralliance.org.uk

As you will be aware, we worked with the DHSC, LGA and NHSE to develop guidance on [expected ways of working with adult social care providers](#). In addition, we also published [a guide for care providers on social care partnerships in ICSs](#).

We are currently facilitating a [Learning Network](#) in partnership with NHS England where we bring together NHS, local authority and social care providers to share and learn about emerging practice on key issues.

To date we have held two learning summits – one on strategic partnerships with care providers (co-chaired by Sir David Behan and myself) and one on data sharing arrangements. Our next session is on joint workforce planning, taking place on Tuesday 6 June and co-chaired by Sir David Pearson, and Vic Rayner of the National Care Forum.

We would like to invite all ICBs to attend our Learning Summits, and access recordings and information from previous sessions. [You can visit our Learning Summit pages on the CPA website](#) for details.

Finally, just to reflect on some of the key points with the Hewitt Review:

“Collaboration within an ICS should stretch wider than just those who are members of ICB boards. Wider partners, including social care providers, the VCFSE sector, and the independent healthcare sector should be fully engaged and their contribution better understood within the NHS”.

Ms Hewitt heard loud and clear from the care provider sector:

“a compelling case that social care providers should have a strong voice in every ICS. I agree, although reflecting the general principle of avoiding top-down directions, I believe that each system should decide how best that is done.”

And the review reminded us all that:

“Within the governance review and its own self-assessment, each ICS should consider whether it needs to do more to ensure that social care providers are involved in planning and decision making, that public health expertise is being effectively deployed within the system.”

We firmly believe this is a real opportunity to engage care providers as genuine, strategic partners and we are keen to explore and share models of emerging practice.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



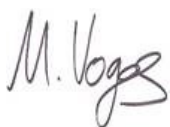
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About the Care Provider Alliance

The Care Provider Alliance (CPA) was formed 10 years ago at the request of DHSC and brings together 10 national trade bodies representing approximately 19,000 independent and voluntary sector adult social care providers in England.

There are no other organisations in the sector comparable in size or reach to the CPA, we represent over 75 per cent of all social care delivery, and our members provide care and support to 1.3 million people through residential, domiciliary and community-based services, whether commissioned by local authorities, the NHS or privately purchased.

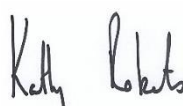
CPA Member Associations



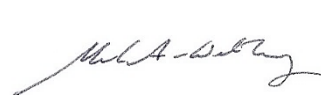
Michael Voges
Chief Executive Officer



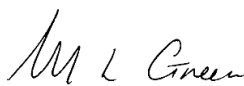
Clive Parry
England Director



Kathy Roberts
Chief Executive Officer



Melanie Weatherley
Chair



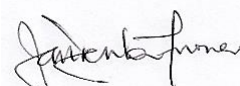
Prof Martin Green
Chief Executive Officer



Dr Jane Townson
Chief Executive Officer



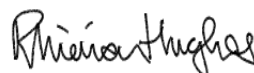
Nadra Ahmed and Ian Turner
Co-Chairs



Prof Vic Rayner
Chief Executive Officer



Ewan King
Chief Executive Officer



Dr Rhidian Hughes
Chief Executive Officer

