

Partnership with Newcastle in Cumbria

The Partnership with Newcastle in Cumbria is a new alliance between Newcastle Hospitals and the Cumbria Partnership to provide the best possible healthcare to the people of North Cumbria

Cumbria does face unique challenges for the health of its region including the very nature of such a rural location. Both partner NHS Foundation Trusts have already demonstrated that they are 'Committed to Care in Cumbria' as each is already delivering key healthcare services to the local population

By combining the strengths of both organisations and an expanded joint service portfolio, the foundations are in place to provide the best possible healthcare with a personal touch, enabling the partnership to focus in particular on the diverse healthcare needs of people of North Cumbria.

Together we embrace the opportunity to deliver a streamlined approach to service delivery through The Partnership with Newcastle in North Cumbria. We are here for you. Together we can do more for North Cumbria.



Kingsley Smith, Chairman
The Newcastle upon Tyne
Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



Bryan Betterton, Chairman
Cumbria Partnership NHS
Foundation Trust

Simply put, patients will benefit... and that is what matters most of all.



A unique partnership to deliver best possible healthcare to Cumbria

Best of Both

Two high performing Foundation Trusts with a proven history of putting people first.

A Network of Care

A single system of care and new care pathways driving efficiency and productivity and ensuring an easy route for patients into and through the healthcare system. Building on well proven models using telemedicine and other emerging technologies to cover a wide geographical area and ensure improved patient experience and access.

National Profile, Local Presence

Nationally recognised, this Partnership brings together some of the country's best healthcare professionals and services all of which are committed to providing the highest standards of service sustaining skills in the local community.

Health for All

Bringing together national, regional and local acute and mental health services across the whole age spectrum in primary and secondary care settings.

Productive Partnerships

Collaborative working, ensuring the very best outcomes for patients. We have a range of established partnerships which underpin all that we do and we will build partnerships in North Cumbria to sustain services into the future.





Partnership Vision

A Local Presence

We already have great affinity with the people of North Cumbria. By building on our existing services and relationships with all whom we serve we will create a truly unique and outstanding integrated health service in North Cumbria.

Getting it right for Local People

North Cumbria and its residents have a right to high quality healthcare, delivered in the most effective way possible. **The Partnership with Newcastle in Cumbria** believes that this is best achieved by delivering seamless healthcare across primary and secondary care services through a single, enhanced organisation. Most patients know that when they seek help for say a fractured limb in an A & E Department, arrange a vaccination for their child at a clinic, require treatment for bronchitis at the GP surgery or have an insulin injection at home, they are using the National Health Service. What they are often unaware of is that it is made up of separate elements which have differing policies and practice and hence may communicate ineffectively with each other, duplicate work and in certain respects compete.

Currently, community and mental healthcare and hospital care are delivered by distinct organisations and in rather different ways, all of which leads to variable standards in the quality of care, inefficient working practices and on occasion engendering confusion and frustration amongst patients and carers. We seek to once and for all bring about a cohesive pathway of care for patients from home to hospital and home again - something that has eluded the NHS since its inception in 1948!

Once and for all putting the patient at the centre of healthcare provision

The power of a unique partnership

The overriding requirement is to ensure that patients are seen by the right person, with the right information, the right training, the right equipment, in the right place at the right time. North Cumbria should no longer be prepared to tolerate fragmented approaches to care with different organisations delivering different parts of services and the inefficiencies that can arise from such a set of arrangements. The solution is delivering the best possible streamlined service through a single point of contact to deliver a seamless pathway of care. We want patients and carers alike

Seamless patient care; closer to home, in hospital and back again

to experience the **golden thread** of a seamless treatment pathway and increased patient satisfaction. A genuinely integrated health delivery system with renowned centres of excellence.



"We have a relationship with the Consultants in Newcastle already - a formal partnership would only strengthen this relationship... to the benefit of patients. It would seem, from my perspective, a natural partnership"

Dr Michael Goold, Carlisle GP

The Freeman Hospital's
Northern Centre for Cancer Care

The golden thread...

we want patients and carers alike to experience the golden thread of a seamless treatment pathway.

**Sandy Harvey, Public Governor,
Newcastle Hospitals**

One patient, one

pathway... The benefit of shared care is that service delivery is focussed on the patient and not the organisation.

**Jane Donnelly, Public Governor,
Newcastle Hospitals**

“Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is the only countywide provider of health services in Cumbria, with a focus from April this year of increasingly integrating health service provision for the benefit of the people we serve, in the provision of general community services as well as mental health services. Widening the focus further by integrating acute services into the Partnership Trust would help all our communities with further investment in services across the county and working in partnership with Newcastle for specialist acute services would ensure the best service delivery for the people of North Cumbria.”

**Sheila Goodliffe, Head Governor,
Cumbria Partnership NHS
Foundation Trusts**

“I have been coming to the Great North Children’s Hospital at the RVI for over 6 months now since my son was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis. It is a great comfort to know that the staff here are specialists in Leylan’s condition and they are really good at communicating with our GP and local hospitals.

I am more than happy to come to Newcastle to see the specialists here but it would be great to see these services come to North Cumbria so they are closer to home.”

**Lisa Stephenson, mum to 6 month old Leylan
from Maryport, Cumbria**



Q&A

Q. Why has this partnership been created?

A. To ensure the very best healthcare for the people of North Cumbria. Combining the strengths of two high performing organisations will enable us to do this.

Q. How will I benefit from the Partnership?

A. Both community and hospital services will work together to ensure patient care is joined up and delivered as close to home as possible.

Q. Will I have to travel to Newcastle for more of my appointments?

A. No - we will ensure that more services are kept local and that wherever possible the best specialist treatments are available locally. Sustaining safe services in North Cumbria is our principal intention.

Q. Newcastle Hospitals are on the other side of the country. Why are they part of a partnership providing care in Cumbria?

A. Newcastle Hospitals is one of the largest Trusts in the country, renowned for its excellence and range of specialist services. Services are already delivered locally by Newcastle in North Cumbria. It makes sense to expand the range of services which can be accessed easily within the Northern Region to provide more services for local people.

Workington Community Hospital



Eden Assessment Service



**Cathy Bull, Director of Adult Social Care,
Newcastle City Council:**

“Working closely with Newcastle Hospitals to deliver the Better Together strategy has been highly productive resulting in tangible progress and greater cohesion of the health and social care agenda.”

We are already delivering integrated healthcare in North Cumbria, for example in Penrith and Workington we work with GPs to actively assess patients as close to home as possible.

Our Commitment to North Cumbria

- **Local people will benefit from expertise in high profile national services which are delivered locally.**
- **Strong clinical teams and networks** - care pathways that are structured around patient needs, best evidence and strong clinical leadership. Using all the skill and talents flexibly to maximise the impact of health services in the most effective and convenient manner.
- **Well supported and skilled staff** - as one of our most valuable assets, our staff will have access to a wide range of learning and training opportunities as well as a network of expertise - helping them to develop the knowledge and leadership qualities needed to provide outstanding specialist services to the people of North Cumbria.
- **More services locally** - Specialist services sustained and developed in North Cumbria - the Newcastle Hospitals being locally delivered - less travel, less waiting, stronger clinical services.
- **Hospitals fit for the future** - maximising the utilisation of key scarce resources - theatres, beds, diagnostic technologies, specialist staff - to maintain safe and sustainable services. This includes a vibrant West Cumberland Hospital with a strong community and specialist care interface.
- **Professional education and training** - enhanced joint working with leading teaching hospitals and regional universities will recruit and retain high calibre healthcare professionals to the region.
- **And most of all... a joined up NHS!**

Dr Chris Hallewell, Medical Director, Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

"This is a wonderful opportunity to provide the best possible healthcare for the people of North Cumbria. It will bring together the specialist skills in Newcastle and excellent local care in North Cumbria."



Dr Tim Walls, Medical Director, The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

"Improved clinical outcomes through optimising the clinical pathways of care for the people of North Cumbria is our principal focus. Working together with the Cumbria Partnership will enable clinicians to deliver best practice, seamless care in a fully cohesive manner."



A vibrant infrastructure

The **Partnership with Newcastle in Cumbria** is committed to ensuring continued development of all services and supporting the creation of an infrastructure to match across North Cumbria. We are committed to delivering care closer to home ensuring timely access to high quality accommodation and technology in a variety of settings.



"Working with the Newcastle Hospitals is a fantastic experience, engaging with like minded clinicians to deliver a vision for shared and joined up care. Their forward thinking, outward facing approach to collaborating with GP colleagues, working together as one NHS family team means that patients really do receive high quality, safe care, outside of hospital."

Dr Mike Scott, Newcastle GP

The Great North Children's Hospital at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle

“Over the past 16 years I have been a patient at both the RVI and Freeman Hospital. I am more than happy with the treatment, care and support I have received. Staff communicate well and endeavour to meet individual needs, and are efficient and professional at all times.

I feel very privileged to have been treated at Newcastle.”

Mary Easterby from Wetheral, Carlisle



Professor Chris Day, Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Medical Services, Newcastle University:

“Newcastle University works extremely closely with Newcastle Hospitals to advance the healthcare and health science agenda. Together we seek through our Academic Medical Science Centre known as ‘**Newcastle Biomedicine**’, to optimise the translation of research and development into improved patient outcomes. The Campus of Ageing and Vitality and the Institute of Transplantation are very real examples of the benefits we can jointly bring about and we very much see North Cumbria benefitting from such key investments.”

Dr Steve Turley, Newcastle GP

“Partnering with Newcastle Hospitals has enabled us to make things happen quickly to really improve healthcare provision in Newcastle. Having direct access to diagnostic and specialist services in a fully integrated manner makes a real difference to the patient. I can appreciate why such an opportunity with North Cumbria beckons.”

Care in North Cumbria - Local Service Delivery

The Partnership with Newcastle in Cumbria will provide the ‘best of both’ - two of the leading NHS Foundation Trusts working together to do things better for people. Both organisations are already delivering services in the area and are Committed to Care in Cumbria.

The **Cumbria Partnership** currently provides a range of services including community and mental health and specialist services such as dental and specialist rehabilitation. We have extensive experience of managing small specialist teams across a rural health economy.

Newcastle Hospitals deliver the most comprehensive range of services of any NHS trust in the country. Services provided for North Cumbria by Newcastle includes:

- Cancer Care and Treatment
- Cardiothoracic Medicine and Surgery
- Specialist Children’s Services
- Dermatology
- Haematology
- Infectious Diseases
- Neurology and Neurosurgery
- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
- Specialist Surgery
- Breast Care and Screening



If you have any questions or would like further information please contact us at partnershipwithnewcastle@cumbria.nhs.uk

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust
HEADQUARTERS **Freeman Hospital**
High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7DN

Tel: 0191 233 6161 www.newcastle-hospitals.org.uk

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Voreda, Portland Place, Penrith CA11 7QQ

Tel: 01228 603890 www.cumbriapartnership.nhs.uk

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NHS Foundation Trust