

Torbay Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board

6 November 2025

ICB recent changes

Chair appointed to NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly and NHS Devon

The Chair of the new NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board (ICB) and NHS Devon ICB Cluster has been announced as John Govett, following approval by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

John has chaired NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB since it launched in 2022.

John Govett started his new role from 1 September, ahead of the first cluster Board meeting on 16 October. The cluster has also confirmed the new aligned group of ICBs' and Cluster Non-Executive Directors, along with the new ICB Cluster governance and committee arrangements. The appointment of the cluster Chief Executive Officer has not yet been announced.

Devon's exit from the Recovery Support Programme (RSP)

NHS Devon has exited from the Recovery Support Programme (RSP) following significant progress made to improve the quality of care for people in Devon in a sustainable way.

The organisation was placed into the National Oversight Framework Segment 4 by NHS England in 2022/2023 – the bottom category of national assessment – which triggered support from NHS England, both regionally and nationally.

The criteria were also applied to all three acute providers in Devon (Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust).

The criteria were designed to promote system-wide solutions to issues that are similar across Devon, given the geographical, demographic, staffing and financial challenges.

It has been recognised regionally and nationally that improvements have been made within the Devon system during the organisations' time in segment 4 and the associated national Recovery Support Programme (RSP).

As a result, NHS Devon and Royal Devon formally exited the RSP in August 2025 and this means the previous RSP exit criteria no longer apply to both organisations having demonstrated sufficient progress against all exit criteria for leadership, urgent and emergency care, and elective performance.

NHS Devon will continue to receive support for finance and strategy, and we will be agreeing a medium-term financial plan and health and care strategy by the end of the September to set us on a strong footing going forward.

The remaining Devon organisations in RSP (Torbay and Plymouth) continue to be supported regionally and nationally to achieve sufficient progress to also exit the RSP.

While there is still much more to do to continue improving services for our patients, we would like to thank our colleagues for their contributions to making this improvement and the huge achievements made.

Health and Care Strategy development

The Devon Health and Care Strategy was approved by the South West Peninsula Board on 16 October 2025. A Masterclass for Torbay OSC members has been arranged for the 13 November 2025 to talk through the Devon Health and Care Strategy in more detail. The final version of the strategy will be shared directly with members.

The Strategy sets out our vision and priorities for the next five years in line with the national NHS Plan and sets out clear priorities to improve prevention and early intervention, integrate services more effectively, and support people to manage their own health and wellbeing.

By focusing on personalised care, digital innovation, and workforce development, the aim is to create a resilient and responsive system that delivers high-quality care close to home. NHS Devon remains firmly committed to delivering services that are not only high-quality and person-centred, but also financially sustainable.

This strategy reflects NHS Devon's dedication to making responsible choices that ensure long-term value, resilience, and equity across the system. By rooting the new model of delivery, the aim is to safeguard resources while continuing to meet the evolving needs of local communities.

Importantly, the strategy embodies Devon's commitment to 'place-based' care, recognising the unique needs of communities across Devon.

NHS Devon is determined to break down traditional barriers between health and social care, working together in partnership with local authorities, voluntary organisations, and, crucially, the people it serves.

The development of the Strategy has been guided by a structured Discover–Design–Deliver methodology. This approach ensures that transformation is not only

evidence-based and strategically sound, but also inclusive and co-produced with the people who use and deliver services across the system.

Discover Phase: Building a Shared Understanding

The Discover phase focused on developing a rich understanding of the current health and care landscape in Devon. This included:

- Reviewing existing intelligence through the system's insights library, which collates data on population health, service performance, and inequalities.
- Drawing on the 10-Year Plan engagement, which involved over 3,400 participants across Devon. This provided a robust evidence base, particularly around the three strategic shifts:
 - From hospitals to community and primary care
 - From treatment to prevention
 - From analogue to digital services

This phase also identified a committed cohort of over 200 individuals who expressed interest in ongoing involvement. This presents a valuable opportunity to establish a citizens' panel or bespoke reference groups to support continued co-design and accountability.

Design Phase: Co-Creating the Future

Building on the insights gathered, the Design phase focused on collaboratively shaping the strategy's content, priorities, and delivery models. Key activities included design workshops, each aligned to a chapter of the strategy, involving stakeholders from across the system—health, care, voluntary sector, and community representatives.

Deliver Phase: Embedding Change

As the strategy moves into delivery, engagement will remain central.

This ongoing engagement will help build trust, foster shared ownership, and ensure that transformation is sustained over time.

Developing a case for change for cardiovascular disease, cardiology and cardiac surgery services

The development of the draft cardiovascular disease (CVD) case for change and technical document has progressed significantly and now includes feedback from colleagues across Devon, including acute provider trusts.

The draft case for change, once finalised, will not contain any proposals for change in itself. Instead, it will identify the current challenges from a clinical, organisation,

patient and public perspective and act as a starting point for discussions about any new models of care and service delivery.

The draft documents have been shared with cardiology clinical leads from across Devon for review, comment, and feedback. This feedback has now been received and is being reviewed to further develop the draft cardiology case for change document and supporting technical document. NHS Devon want to ensure sufficient time is provided for this process ahead of a patient and public involvement programme.

NHS Devon is committed to this being a clinically led piece that is supported by the clinical teams from across Devon. Further engagement work is also planned with Overview and Scrutiny Committees, clinicians and other stakeholders to support the draft case for change development process.

The latest updates are published on the One Devon [website](#).

ENDS