

Care Closer to Home

Conference 2026

#CareCloserToHome

London
24 February 2026

In partnership with

Welcome



Ruth Rankine

Director of Primary Care Network
NHS Confederation

We are delighted that you can join us in London for our annual Care Closer to Home Conference.

Today, our health and care service stands at a critical juncture. The past year has brought significant change, with a swath of policy documents setting the direction of travel alongside structural reform, which our members are experiencing on a day-to-day basis.

A neighbourhood health service, and the promise of a shift to a new model of care that is preventative and better supports those most in need, is now at the heart of the reform agenda for the NHS. We have been struck by the level of enthusiasm behind delivering this shift, enabling people to live well in their local areas and receive more care closer to home.

As attention now shifts to implementation and is spread nationally, our members are now seeking clarity on the core principles, intended outcomes and essential functions of neighbourhood models. Change on this scale offers opportunities and challenges, and that's why this year's conference is focused on the practical solutions for delivering on the government's ambition to move 'care closer to home'.

Throughout the day, delegates will hear from both national and local experts, alongside our members, about the potential of this new model of care. As well as the overarching vision, the conference will have a particular focus on the enablers to deliver a neighbourhood health service: the future operating model, provider alliances, estates, workforce and leadership among others.

The discussions we have today are crucial in fostering collaboration between different parts of the system – as we seek to spearhead the closely integrated neighbourhood working which will form the bedrock of a reconfigured NHS.

We would like to extend our thanks to our partners Accurx, Optum and Specsavers, as well as our exhibitors, whose support makes this event possible. We encourage you to engage with our exhibitors and attend the partnership sessions to hear more about how they are supporting local leaders to innovate and drive better outcomes.

Finally, thank you for being part of today's discussion. Your continued support is vital in driving the changes we need to make. Let's continue to work together to ensure that care is delivered where it matters most – close to home.

Programme

08:00 – 09:30	Registration and networking (breakfast available lower ground floor and level 1)
08:20 – 09:20 In partnership with 	Exploring neighbourhood estates solutions (Harpley, level 1) Ruth Rankine (chair), James Bawn, Ama Goulden, Sarah Mcilwaine, Dr Jonathan Levy
09:30 – 09:40	Chair's welcome (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor) Lord Victor Adebowale CBE
09:40 – 10:35	Neighbourhoods: progress, challenges, and opportunities across sectors and systems (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor) Lord Victor Adebowale CBE (chair), 'Foluke Ajayi, Dr Duncan Gooch, Dr Kathy McLean, Dr Buki Adeyemo, Maria O'Brien
10:35 – 11:10	Keynote from Samantha Jones OBE (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor) Lord Victor Adebowale CBE (chair), Samantha Jones OBE
11:10 – 11:30	Break, networking and exhibition (refreshments and exhibition on lower ground floor)
11:30 – 12:30	Breakout sessions – choose one of the following:
Breakout 1	Connecting us to the real world: bringing neighbourhood health into neighbourhood reform (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor) Michael Wood (chair), Jack Sallabank, Michelle McManus, Harry Owen-Jones, Cathy Elliott
Breakout 2	Neighbourhood working in practice: sharing insights from the South East Neighbourhood Health Accelerator Programme (Beaumont, level 1) Louise Wheeler (chair), Helen Gillivan, Kamal Bahia, Amy Warman, Rachel Jevons, Dr Mayur Vibhuti, Aeilish Geldenhuys, Dr Pro Mallik
Breakout 3 In partnership with 	Insight into impact: turning data into impact for neighbourhood-based primary care services (Harpley, level 1) Dr Chris Nortcliff (chair), Alexis Bradshaw, Matt Jones, Bethan George, Sarah Button
Breakout 4 In partnership with 	Primary care without walls: making care closer to home real (Sidney, level 1) Dr Duncan Gooch (chair), Stephen McAndrew, Dharmesh Patel, Amit Patel, Sara Hurley
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch and exhibition (lunch and exhibition on lower ground floor)

13:30 – 14:30	Breakout sessions – choose one of the following:
Breakout 1	<p>Rewiring the NHS: can the new operating model drive the left shift? (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground)</p> <p>Douglas Blair (chair), Nigel Fraser, Dr Sohail Munshi BEM, Sarah McConnell-Davies, Viral Kantaria</p>
Breakout 2	<p>Unlocking the power of partnerships to transform care and improve performance (Harpley, level 1)</p> <p>Professor Andy Brooks (chair), Dr Andrew Kelso, Nicole Rich, Dr Sian Stanley, Amy Jackson, Ann Nutt</p>
Breakout 3	<p>Bringing the right team together: building the neighbourhood workforce (Beaumont, level 1)</p> <p>Dr Rupa Joshi (chair), Amanda Carey-McDermott, Rachel Small, Alison Blakely, Paul Sherriff</p>
Breakout 4 In partnership with	<p>Where neighbourhood plans meet practice: digital, teams and delivery (Sidney, level 1)</p> <p>Dr Satya Raghuvanshi (chair), Dr Dan Bunstone, Dr Mayur Vibhuti, Dr Penelope Blackwell</p>
14:30 – 14:50	Break, networking and exhibition (refreshments and exhibition on lower ground floor)
14:50 – 15:40	<p>Moving from rhetoric to reality: implementing a neighbourhood health service (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor)</p> <p>Ruth Rankine (chair), Dr Minal Bakhai MBE, Jacob Lant, Mike Barker, Claire Kennedy, Dr Claire Fuller</p>
15:40 – 16:15	<p>Keynote from Al Mulley – Feeling known and cared for closer to home: unleashing existing capabilities across neighbourhoods in England (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor)</p> <p>Matthew Taylor (chair), Al Mulley</p>
16:15 – 16:40	<p>Chief executive’s summary and close (Main stage – Trinity, lower ground floor)</p> <p>Matthew Taylor</p>
16:40	Close



Speakers A-Z



Lord Victor Adbowale CBE is chair of the NHS Confederation, Social Enterprise UK, and IPPR; co-founder and chair of Visionable UK Ltd; founding chair of Collaborative CIC; founder and director of Leadership in Mind; and joint chair of the BMJ Health Commission. He was previously chief executive of Turning Point; a non-executive director on both the board of NHS England and the Co-Operative Group, and chaired a number of commission reports into policing, employment, mental health, housing and fairness. Victor was awarded a CBE for services to the unemployed and homeless people, and became a crossbench peer in 2001.



Dr Buki Adeyemo is chief executive of North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust, and chair of the NHS Confederation's Mental Health Network. She is a consultant in old age psychiatry and has worked in the NHS since 1997. During her career, Buki has specialised in medical education and psychological therapies achieving interpersonal therapy level B training, and is passionate about developing medical leadership in a multidisciplinary team.



Foluke Ayaji is vice chair of the NHS Confederation and chief executive of Airedale NHS Foundation Trust. She is also chair of the NHS Confederation's Acute Network. She was director of strategic transformation in the Humber Coast and Vale Health and Care Partnership for NHS England and NHS Improvement and worked as chief operating officer at University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust. She has held senior roles in the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS Employers. She has also held senior operational management roles at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. During her career, Foluke has worked for provider, membership, regulatory and commissioning organisations in local and regional roles, as well as for national agencies.



Kamal Bahia is the regional primary care network lead for integrated neighbourhood development for NHS England across the South East region. She is an inspiring healthcare leader with over 20 years' experience across the NHS and corporate sector, specialising in healthcare policy, programme management, and transformational change. Kamal has led on complex programmes that strengthen primary and community care, improve population health, and developed collaborative primary care and integrated systems capable of delivering high quality, sustainable care.



Dr Minal Bakhai MBE is the director for primary care and community transformation and improvement for NHS England and is leading the National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme. She leads national strategy and delivery of large-scale complex change programmes and digital transformation, and most recently led the design and implementation of Modern General Practice and the General Practice Improvement Programme. Prior to this, Minal led national policy and delivery of digital first primary care, spreading and scaling digital access and delivery across general practice. Minal is also a practicing GP, working at an inner-city London practice.



Mike Barker is deputy chief executive and director of health and care integration for Oldham Council, where he leads the design and delivery of place-based services that improve outcomes for local people and strengthen partnerships between health, social care and community organisations. He has over 25 years of experience driving system transformation, strategic commissioning and integrated health and social care across complex public sector landscapes, and champions integrated working across NHS Greater Manchester and local government.



James Bawn is strategic business development director for England at Community Health Partnerships (CHP). He has over 21 years' experience working across healthcare systems covering service planning, estates planning and delivery, and transformational change. He has led major public-private partnership (PPP) projects securing finance funding of over £60 million for a number of standalone, multi-use, primary, community and mental health new builds. James also supports the NHS to deliver on its integration agenda in using its core primary and community estate to meet local population needs through a co-located and collaborative approach.



Dr Penelope Blackwell is a GP partner at Hannage Brook Medical Centre in Wirksworth, Derbyshire. She is also a senior clinical leader serving as neighbourhood health and care chair and clinical director for Derby and Derbyshire ICB. She has extensive experience leading transformation across organisational boundaries, strengthening integrated neighbourhood teams, and shaping system wide models of care. A strong advocate for a resilient general practice, she champions the role of the voluntary and community sector, the value of social prescribing, and prevention focused approaches that improve population health.



Douglas Blair is chief executive of Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust, which delivers community, mental health and learning disability services in Gloucestershire. He joined the NHS in 2006, with experience in commissioning, strategic and community services provider leadership roles. Prior to his time in the NHS, he was a fast-stream civil servant. This followed his first career as a sound engineer, working at Abbey Road Studios.



Alison Blakely is deputy chief paramedic at the London Ambulance Service, with strategic responsibility for specialist and advanced paramedics, education and professional standards. She has held a range of senior roles across the organisation, including quality and improvement, operational delivery and patient safety. Alison brings a strong commitment to patient-centred, integrated care and is particularly passionate about developing innovative approaches that support high-quality patient care.



Alexis Bradshaw is regional director for the Midlands at Optum (UK) and has extensive experience in population health management and system transformation. She has built an international career in healthcare strategy and the design of innovative care models enabled by multidisciplinary teams, technology, and aligned incentives. Alexis has a strong background in primary care as a founding member of the US-based organisation lora Health, where she helped pioneer high impact, relationship based, integrated primary care.



Professor Andy Brooks is a GP and clinical chair of the National Association of Primary Care (NAPC) and a senior visiting fellow at The King's Fund. He has worked in healthcare for over 25 years in senior leadership roles and has overseen the development of integrated care systems and innovative solutions for neighbourhood care, financial and governance arrangements between healthcare services, local government, public health, social care and the voluntary sector, and the early development of primary care networks.



Dr Dan Bunstone is GP and clinical director at Warrington Innovation Network with over 15 years of senior board-level experience in both NHS and private sector organisations. His roles have provided the opportunity to drive strategic vision while using cutting-edge technology to augment patient care and deliver high-quality outcomes. Dan has spearhead digital innovation to improve patient access and care quality, and serves as a clinical consultant for Vor, an AI-driven platform delivering personalised workout programmes with a new focus on proactive and preventative healthcare.



Sarah Button is head of PCN transformation at NHS Lincolnshire ICB, where she leads system-wide programmes that strengthen primary care and improve population health outcomes. She is experienced in using data-driven insights to inform strategic commissioning, turning complex analytics into practical decisions that shape service design, resource allocation and long-term planning. Working closely with system partners, Sarah leads collaborative improvement initiatives that help teams navigate complexity, adopt sustainable models of care and deliver meaningful, measurable impact for local communities.



Amanda Carey-McDermott is chief executive of the Confederation, the sole GP federation in Hillingdon, north-west London. The Confederation is a membership organisation serving the 42 local practices. It is a core member of the Hillingdon Health and Care Partnership alongside Hillingdon Hospital, Central and North West London NHS FT, London Borough of Hillingdon and the local voluntary sector partnership. Hillingdon is well known for its forward-thinking local partnerships and for pioneering neighbourhood working, reflected in its place as a wave 1 National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme site. Amanda is also SRO for Neighbourhood Working at Place and chair of the Place Digital and Data Steering Group. She is also a member of the NHS Confederation's Primary Care Advisory Group.



Cathy Elliott is director of strategic commissioning and functions development for ICBs in North West England. She was previously chief executive of Cheshire and Merseyside ICB and chair of NHS West Yorkshire ICB and held a Department for Transport ministerial appointment as the independent chair of a community, environment and local economy public funding programme. Cathy has also held previous roles as chair of Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust; a NHS non-executive director in Greater Manchester ICS and as a senior social policy advisor to non-profit organisations.



Dr Nigel Fraser is chair of Herefordshire General Practice (Taurus) - the primary care collaborative for Herefordshire, SRO for neighbourhood delivery for Herefordshire, LMC secretary and a partner member for primary care on Herefordshire and Worcestershire/Coventry Warwickshire ICB cluster. He is vice chair of the Primary Care Network at the NHS Confederation, with responsibility for neighbourhoods. He is also GP and partner at Wargrave House Surgery in Hereford.



Dr Claire Fuller is national medical director for NHS England. Her portfolio covers primary care, community care, and mental health as well as neighbourhood services, public health and medicines. In July 2025 she became the higher tier responsible officer with responsibilities for performers list and professional standards. Claire is a practicing GP and has prioritised improving GP retention, improving the primary/secondary care interface, improving the awareness of patient safety issues within primary care and the creation of a network of GP leaders across England. Claire led on the Fuller Stocktake report, which provided recommendations for integrating primary care, and more recently, the Red Tape challenge which looked at ways to remove bureaucracy.



Aeilish Geldenhuys is strategic head of public health at Medway Council. She has worked in public health since 2008 and her early career was focussed on commissioning and partnership work/pathway development for areas such as substance misuse, sexual health and public health nursing. She now covers a broader portfolio which also includes children's partnership commissioning, workplace health, workforce development, domestic abuse and healthy school's work. Aeilish is a strong advocate for working in partnership to achieve shared outcomes.



Bethan George is regional director for London and East of England and leads on strategic programmes of work across the Optum UK portfolio. She previously worked as a director in their population health management advisory team supporting health and care organisations to use data and analytics to improve outcomes for populations and secure best possible value from local resources. Beth has worked for almost 30 years in the NHS in both commissioning and provider organisations.



Helen Gillivan is the director of adults and integrated commissioning at Kent County Council, with over 20 years' experience across health and care. She has a strong focus on integration, transformation, and commissioning, and is passionate about co-production and ensuring people's voices are central to service design and delivery. Helen is also an associate of the NHS Confederation, delivering the south-east region Neighbourhood Health Accelerator Programme and supporting the development of integrated neighbourhood models.



Dr Duncan Gooch is chair of the NHS Confederation's Primary Care Network and a managing partner, GP and clinical director of Erewash Health Partnership in Derbyshire. His leadership in this role has been instrumental in advancing the quality and accessibility of primary care services in the region to enhance patient care. Duncan is also a GP trainer, who educates and mentors the next generation of GPs to ensure they are well-prepared to meet the evolving challenges of healthcare.



Ama Goulden is a regional programme manager on the One Public Estate (OPE) programme covering the London, South East and East regions. The OPE programme supports locally-led partnerships of public sector bodies to collaborate around their public service delivery strategies and estate needs – whether that's catalysing major service transformation such as health and social care integration; unlocking land for new homes and commercial space; or creating new opportunities to save on running costs or generate income.



Sara Hurley CBE is former chief dental officer for England (2015–2023), advising ministers and NHS leaders on oral health, workforce and service reform. She led national programmes on prevention, integration and access, and continues to support integrated care systems to embed dentistry within neighbourhood health and place-based models.



Amy Jackson is deputy director of transformation and integration for West Essex Health and Care Partnership, working in a joint role with NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB and Essex County Council in an integrated commissioning capacity. Amy leads system-wide work on neighbourhood health and integration that focuses on using population health management approaches to design services around the needs of local populations. She also serves as the local coach for the national Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme.



Rachel Jevons is lead for public mental health and Crawley public health locality lead at West Sussex County Council, focusing on public mental health, particularly on mental health of young adults aged 16–25. She has worked in the healthcare and public health sphere for 25 years, including working at a national level at Public Health England and as evaluation and health economics manager at West Sussex County Council.



Matt Jones is the deputy director for population health management and prevention at North East London ICB and leads on the system-wide adoption of a population health management approach across East London's seven boroughs and 30 integrated neighbourhood teams. His work spans strategy, infrastructure, analytics and culture change — translating linked data and population-level insights into practical interventions that improve outcomes and reduce inequalities.



Samantha Jones OBE is Permanent Secretary of the Department for Health and Social Care. She was previously expert adviser to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, interim Permanent Secretary and Chief Operating Officer for 10 Downing Street, and expert adviser to the Prime Minister for NHS transformation and social care leading on all elements of health and social care policy. Samantha started her career as a general and paediatric nurse and has worked in a variety of operational management roles across the NHS including as a chief executive for two trusts.



Dr Rupa Joshi is the managing partner of Woodley Centre Surgery and has been a frontline GP for over 24 years. Beyond the practice, she is the SW deputy medical director for primary care and responsible officer at NHS England, national primary care medical directorate lead for group clinics, estates and children and young people, transformation lead for the British Society of Lifestyle Medicine and RCGP College representative for obesity and malnutrition.



Viral Kantaria is chief integration officer for mental health, learning disabilities and autism working across Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust and NHS Coventry and Warwickshire ICB. His role works in partnership with wider stakeholders to create an infrastructure to execute commissioning decisions that will improve outcomes. Viral has previously held senior positions overseeing major investment and transformation programmes in mental health at NHS England and East London NHS Foundation Trust and recently, as chief of staff to the national chief operating officer.



Dr Andrew Kelso is chief medical officer at The Princess Alexandra Hospital and a consultant neurologist. He studied and trained in medicine at the University of Edinburgh before moving to London for postgraduate research in experimental epilepsy. Since then, he has held senior clinical and leadership roles at Barts Health NHS Trust and NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB. His work is focused on tackling health inequalities and supporting staff wellbeing, with a clear aim: to build safe, responsive health services at scale that deliver high-quality care and give both patients and colleagues the confidence and agency to shape better outcomes.



Claire Kennedy is joint co-founder and chief executive of PPL, and vice chair of New Local. She has been working at the heart of public sector improvement since 2002 and provides strategic development and insight into the implementation of complex policy initiatives across the public sector, including the NHS, local and central government. Claire is an expert in managing and developing people and bringing effective teams together to deliver a shared vision for the future, engaging at all levels from boardroom to frontline, and in complex, networked structures.



Jacob Lant is chief executive of National Voices. He is a committed advocate for working with people accessing health and care services and the wider public, to help improve the accessibility and quality of the care they receive. Jacob combines deep qualitative insights with quantitative data to challenge traditional thinking on how to tackle policy challenges. Jacob previously helped build the Healthwatch network and led successful nationwide policy influencing campaigns on various topics, from maternal mental health services to access to NHS dentistry.



Dr Jonathan Levy is the clinical director of Kentish Town South Primary Care Network and managing partner of the James Wigg Group Practice, which operates NHS GP surgeries across five sites in North Central London (NCL). Jonathan was part of the leadership group that delivered the East Integrated Neighbourhood Team that supports a population of 60,000 residents in Camden, one of the first truly integrated neighbourhood teams in London. Jonathan is NCL's primary care secondary care interface improvement lead and sits on North Central London ICB as a primary medical services partner member.



Dr Pro Malik is a senior GP partner, clinical director and frailty specialist GP and at Medway Central PCN and a GP fellow in population health and health inequalities. Pro has delivered care at scale across Kent and Medway for over 30 years, leading innovative approaches to frailty, population health and health inequalities in communities experiencing significant deprivation. She is a strong system leader and advocate for progressive primary care, innovation, and digital transformation and has helped to trailblaze integrated care and neighbourhood models that improve outcomes for local people.



Stephen McAndrew is director of NHS services for Specsavers group, non-executive director of Primary Eyecare Services Limited and partner and company secretary of Haroula LLP. At Specsavers, Stephen leads its engagement with governments, policy makers, commissioners and funders across the UK, and other government funders of health and care in the UK and Europe. Stephen has served as an NHS non-executive director and vice chair of two NHS foundation trusts and served on a number of NHS and Department of Health and Social Care committees and working groups. He is also a charitable trustee and consults on risk, governance and leadership with UK and international clients across public, charitable and for-profit sectors.



Sarah McDonnell-Davies is chief transformation officer for NHS North Central and North West London ICBs. She has worked in the area for ten years and works closely with clinical and professional leaders, partnerships and provider alliances and is a member of the newly formed London Neighbourhood Board. Sarah aims to drive equity and meaningful change across a diverse and vibrant area, and ensure strategic commissioning and transformation puts population health at its core, rooted in local needs and assets.



Sarah McIlwaine is director of primary care at the North Central London ICB where she leads commissioning, contracting, strategy, performance and transformation across the five boroughs and approximately 200 GP practices. Passionate about improving mental health and community based care, Sarah is an experienced health and care leader with over twenty years in commissioning, complex programme leadership, provider development and collaborative system working.



Dr Kathy McLean is chair of NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB, and chair of NHS Confederation ICS Network. Previous to this role, she was chair of University Hospitals Derby and Burton. Kathy was also medical director and chief operating officer at NHS Improvement, which provided leadership and support to NHS trusts and foundation trusts.



Michelle McManus is the partnership director for Walsall and Wolverhampton places, jointly employed by the NHS and the local authority. She has significant experience leading transformation programmes across health and social care. Since joining Walsall Together in 2019, Michelle has overseen the integration of health, care and wellbeing services, driving a strong focus on population outcomes. Under her leadership, Walsall has been recognised through several formal awards. It has a nationally recognised, fully integrated intermediate care service that supports effective, person centred care and rehabilitation following a stay in hospital. It is one of 43 places in the National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme.



Professor Al Mulley is professor of health policy and clinical practice at the Dartmouth Institute, and professor of medicine at Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine. He leads an international healthcare delivery science programme dedicated to forging partnerships around the world to build the capabilities essential to achieving sustainable healthcare economies. He was previously chief of general medicine at Harvard and Massachusetts General Hospital for nearly three decades. Al's clinical training and research interests have spanned from intensive medical care to the integration of primary care and population health.



Dr Sohail Munshi is joint chief medical officer at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust. He was a GP partner in Manchester for over 25 years and became the chief medical officer of Manchester Local Care Organisation in 2018 with the leadership team taking on the locality of Trafford in 2019. Sohail is a senior clinical advisor to the NHS England national director of health inequalities improvement.



Dr Chris Nortcliff is a GP and chief clinical information officer for the Greater Manchester Primary Care Provider Board and leads the clinical input into data, digital and information governance strategy. Chris has held various senior system leadership roles including GP partner, head of a multi-site social enterprise practice, and director within a GP federation. He has recently joined CoreHealth Partners, a specialist consultancy dedicated to strengthening NHS primary care, community services and adult social care.



Ann Nutt BEM is chair of the patient panel at The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust (PAHT). She is a qualified disability equality practitioner with a postgraduate qualification and holds an RNIB diploma in multiple disabilities. Ann is a founder member of Power Us and has extensive experience in service user engagement and co-production, presenting across Scandinavia and Europe. She has also presented internationally, including at the World Social Work Conference in Australia, on service user involvement in social work education.



Maria O'Brien is chief executive officer of West London NHS Trust, and vice chair of the NHS Confederation's Community Network. Previously, she was responsible for community services in Camden at Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust, before becoming their divisional director of operations. She joined their board of directors as the executive lead for trust community services, becoming their chief nurse and then subsequently the deputy chief executive. Maria initially trained as a registered nurse at Guy's Hospital with a specialist focus in cardiac nursing and intensive care.



Harry Owen-Jones is co-founder of the property charity 3Space which has operated 46 high street properties across the UK for the past 15 years. His work is focused on helping the public and third sector deliver economic and social value through assets under their ownership and influence. He has been involved in the full life-cycle of delivering affordable workspace and community infra-structure, from strategy and policy work through to feasibility, procurement, mobilisation and operation. Harry is looking to establish 'The Public Trust', a national organisation dedicated to protecting, owning and stewarding community buildings for public benefit.



Amit Patel is chief executive officer at Community Pharmacy South West London and member of the NHS Confederation Advisory Group and chair of the National Community Pharmacy Leadership Forum. Amit is a system-level healthcare leader with extensive experience across commissioning, provider and representative roles in primary care. He specialises in the design and delivery of integrated primary care models, translating national policy into practical, locally deliverable services at scale.



Dharmesh Patel is chief executive of Primary Eyecare Services, and an optometrist by background. He leads the largest optometry not-for-profit lead provider of enhanced eye care services in England and, with a strong clinical pedigree as well as wide-ranging expertise in service design and procurement, Dharmesh remains actively involved in the role of primary care in its whole entirety. Dharmesh was the inaugural chair of the Greater Manchester Primary Care Provider Board and remains active on the board as chair of the optometry provider sub board.



Dr Satya Raghuvanshi is VP of clinical at Accurx with a background in paediatrics and public health. She leads the clinical, policy and marketing functions, focusing on improving healthcare communication between patients and healthcare professionals. Since joining Accurx in 2020, she has supported product development and growth across the NHS with expansion of Accurx products into acute, community, and mental health trusts. Satya's current focus is on how the NHS can deliver integrated neighbourhood working.



Ruth Rankine is director of the NHS Confederation's Primary Care Network. During COVID-19, she led national influencing activity as well as representing the interests of our members. Ruth has strengthened links into ICSs through the establishment of primary care focused forums with the confederation's ICS Network. Prior to joining the confederation, Ruth worked in strategy and operational leadership roles in the NHS and government. She was deputy chief inspector for general practice, online services and military health at the Care Quality Commission and director of strategy and planning at NHS Direct.



Nicole Rich is director for both community physical and mental health services for EPUT in West Essex. Her career spans over 25 years, starting as a podiatrist working in the community and acute trust setting. This was followed by senior operational leadership roles encompassing a wide range of community services including integration with adult social care and four years as a commissioner. Her expertise lies in the delivery of effective high-quality patient care, transformation alongside her solution-focussed approach. She is passionate about integrated working, the foundation for neighbourhoods, and supporting people to remain well and at home.



Jack Sallabank is the founding director of Future Places Studio, a place-based research and strategy practice, and has worked in a consultancy capacity with local authorities, developers, and anchor institutions on public and private development projects. Jack has authored more than 50 studies and thought-leadership papers exploring the forces shaping the future of cities and communities. Jack works alongside UK-based sports clubs and their respective councils, supporting the development of capital projects that deliver benefits for both clubs and the places they serve.



Paul Sherriff is chief officer for primary care at NHS Birmingham and Solihull ICB. In his previous role as its chief officer for partnerships and integration, he played an instrumental part in developing integrated working and primary care to support the delivery of the ICB's core aims. Paul also led on place development, and GP provider strategy development and delivery.



Rachel Small is chief operating officer for Dorset Mental Health Trust and with more than 17 years' experience, she has led a wide range of mental health and community services including primary care, social care, community care, specialist and tertiary services, working alongside numerous commissioning bodies. Rachel is passionate about bringing lived experience into service delivery and enabling professionals and people using services to recognise the contribution peer specialists can offer. She is a founding member and co-chair of Dorset HealthCare's Women's Network.



Dr Sian Stanley is a GP partner and clinical director at Stort Valley and Villages PCN. She has been a GP for over 25 years and recently became the medical director for an integrated urgent treatment centre at Princess Alexandra Hospital, and the urgent and emergency care strategic lead for Herts and West Essex ICB. In 2022, Stort Valley and Villages PCN received the HSJ award for Innovation in Primary and Community Care for their Waiting Well with Autism pathway.



Matthew Taylor is interim chief executive of NHS Confederation and NHS Providers until Sir Ciarán Devane takes over as the new chief executive for the new organisation, following a merger. Matthew joined the NHS Confederation as chief executive in June 2021 and will take up the position as chair of the Fair Work Agency, supporting the government's mission to kickstart economic growth. Matthew is a high-profile public figure who has had a distinguished career at the heart of public policy for the last 20 years.



Dr Mayur Vibhuti is Vibhuti is a practising GP and chief clinical information officer for NHS Kent and Medway ICB where he leads large-scale digital transformation and turns ambitious ideas into practical solutions that improve patient care, support clinicians and strengthen systems. Mayur has led multi-professional digital leadership programmes, building lasting capability across health and care and has spearheaded AI adoption through a cross-sector Ambient Voice Technology pilot spanning acute, primary, community and social care settings.



Amy Warman is the PCN development manager and INT management lead for the Crawley neighbourhood at Alliance for Better Care, and has a background in supporting complex patients in community settings. Amy is dedicated to building collaborative relationships, strengthening communication and streamlining pathways across organisations to improve population health outcomes for the residents of Crawley.



Michael Wood is head of health economic partnerships at the NHS Confederation. He advises NHS leaders on policy, strategy, partnerships and funding, relating to the local economy. Prior to this he developed and held the role of NHS local growth adviser working as deputy local growth consultant for the Higher Education Funding Council for England. He has been senior European policy manager at the NHS European Office and has worked for the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman and as a Member of the European Parliament in Brussels. Michael currently holds national advisory positions on the Civic University Network and the National Civic Impact Accelerator, as well as the Midlands Engine Health Board. He also advises NHS London on the development of its NHS Anchor Network.



Louise Wheeler is head of leadership development and an assistant director at the NHS Confederation, supporting the delivery of different leadership programmes. She is an organisational psychologist, specialised in supporting leadership and organisational development and change. Prior to joining the NHS Confederation, Louise led the senior leadership programme curriculum for the Civil Service Leadership Academy, designing and facilitating it for executive and board level.

Exhibition and exhibitor stands

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Optum | 6. VitalHub | 12. Prescribing Care Direct | 20. Core Prescribing Solutions |
| 2. Accurx | 7. Roche | 13. IQVIA | |
| 3. Specsavers | 8. NHS Employers | 17. One Touch Health | |
| 4. Doccla | 9. Speek Health | 19. NHS Confederation | |
| 5. NHS Property Services | 10. Hempsons | | |

Rooms

- **Exhibition and main stage** are on the **lower ground floor**
- **Plenary sessions** are in the main stage on the **lower ground floor**
- **Breakout sessions** are on **level 1** and in the main stage on the **lower ground floor**
- **Multi-faith room** is on **level 1**
- **Accessible toilets** are on **all floors**

Lower ground level

Main stage – Trinity

Lift from main entrance and to breakout rooms

Lift

Stairs

1 2 3 4

Catering

5 6 7 8 9 10

Exhibition

Stairs

17 19 20

Catering

12 13

Lift to breakout rooms

Lift

Exhibitors A–Z

Stand 2

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LinkedIn: Accurx

Accurx

Accurx is the communication platform used by 98 per cent of GP practices and a growing number of NHS trusts and pharmacies, helping to connect everyone involved in a patient's care. It enables staff to send SMS and email messages to patients and other healthcare providers, manage inbound demand, transform outpatient care, and more. Accurx recently launched its AI clinician scribe in partnership with Tandem Health. Designed for use across the NHS, it helps healthcare professionals save hours each week by instantly generating consultation summaries and structured documents, ready to review and send.

Stand 1

Event partner



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www.optum.co.uk/tech-enabled-services

X: @Optum_UK

Optum

Optum is a leading technology-enabled health services business. We deliver proven solutions through clinical and health system expertise, enabled by digital innovation. Our mission is to help people live healthier lives and help make the health and care system work better for everyone.

We support the NHS's long-term vision by building the foundations for proactive, coordinated out-of-hospital care, unlocking the future practice of medicine, and enabling people to actively participate in their care. From streamlining workflows to supporting prevention and medicines optimisation, we help clinicians focus on what matters most — delivering high-quality, patient-centred care that improves outcomes and reduces system pressure.



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www.specsavers.com

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Specsavers

Specsavers is proud to partner with this year's Care Closer to Home Conference, supporting the shared ambition to deliver more preventative, accessible care within local communities. With over 40 years of experience providing primary eye and hearing care across high street and community settings, Specsavers plays a vital role in neighbourhood health services that reduce pressure on GPs and hospitals and help people live well closer to home.

Through collaboration with NHS partners, local systems and provider alliances, Specsavers is helping to demonstrate how community-based models can deliver timely interventions, early diagnosis and integrated care for those most in need. The conference provides an important opportunity to explore practical solutions to neighbourhood working, from building a sustainable workforce to aligning national policy with local delivery.

Specsavers welcomes the focus on implementation and looks forward to contributing insights on how trusted community providers can support the next phase of NHS reform.



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Community Health Partnerships

Community Health Partnerships is a DHSC owned NHS company working in partnership with local health and care systems to provide innovative and sustainable spaces for patient care. We support neighbourhood health services through partnership working and better use of the NHS LIFT estate.

The NHS Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) programme is a model of public private partnership focused on improving community-based health outcomes. These facilities provide high quality spaces for health and social care services delivered in local communities, especially in areas of high need.

Through joint ventures and working on behalf of the NHS we manage a portfolio of over 300 properties. We manage the buildings on behalf of the NHS through our property and operational team. We lease space to over 1300 health and care providers who support tens of millions of patients and service users.

Stand 20



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Core Prescribing Solution

Core Prescribing Solutions is a UK clinical services workforce partner supporting GP practices, Primary Care Networks (PCNs), and Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) to deliver safe, compliant, and high-quality clinical pharmacy services.

The organisation provides fully managed, remote and on-site clinical pharmacy teams, including Clinical Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians, aligned to NHS England priorities and the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS). Services are designed to reduce pressure on practices, improve medicines optimisation, and support long-term workforce resilience.

Core Prescribing Solutions handles recruitment, training, clinical governance, and ongoing performance management, allowing local teams to focus on patient care rather than staffing challenges. Their model supports Structured Medication Reviews, long-term condition management, care home support, and medicines safety work at scale.

By combining experienced clinicians, strong governance frameworks, and flexible delivery models, Core Prescribing Solutions helps NHS organisations work smarter, improve outcomes, and create long-term value across primary care.

Stand 4



hello@doccla.com

www.doccla.com

LinkedIn: Doccla

Doccla

Founded in 2019, Doccla is a virtual care provider delivering care across the continuum – from proactive, long-term support to higher-acuity virtual ward pathways. We work in partnership with health systems to help patients stay well at home, reduce avoidable admissions and improve outcomes at scale.

Doccla is CQC-registered, with regulated clinical teams and a comprehensive end-to-end service that covers implementation, technology, logistics and patient support. Clients value our ability to take care of the operational complexity, freeing clinicians to focus on what matters most – delivering high-quality care.

Our virtual care services are proven to reduce costs across a wide range of pathways, improving outcomes while releasing capacity across the system.

Stand 10

HEMPSONS

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Hempsons

Hempsons is passionate about the success of primary care sector. Advising GP practices, primary care networks and federations every day on legal matters, we help them take decisions for a sustainable future and show the opportunities for GPs and the key issues affecting them taking into account the NHS changes.

Stand 13

 IQVIA

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IQVIA

As a global human data science company, IQVIA is at the forefront of unlocking the potential of health data to drive key advancements for health improvements and delivering transformative benefits to improve population outcomes. IQVIA believes that the value of unlocking data is in the clinical and strategic decision-making it can inform. As a trusted partner to health systems and providers, we use our extensive data and analytics capabilities to transform outcomes and deliver pioneering biomedical research.

Through using these capabilities and clinical expertise, we have risk assessed populations and implemented targeted interventions, resulting in reduced emergency admissions; a key challenge the health systems face.

95 per cent NHS organisations already use one or more of our services including costing, coding, benchmarking and data warehousing. Our team of clinical pharmacists also support the healthcare system in a range of long-term conditions to providing additional clinical capacity to enhance patient experience and outcomes.

Stand 19



membership@
nhsconfed.org

NHS Confederation and NHS Providers

The NHS Confederation and NHS Providers announced in October last year their plans to merge following extensive member engagement. Eighty-five per cent of NHS leaders told us in autumn 2025 that they wanted a single, unified, membership body for the NHS, representing their views to government and helping them to improve their services.

We have now merged to form a single independent membership organisation that brings together, supports and speaks for the healthcare system in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Our purpose is to improve the NHS and the health of the UK as the independent membership body providing an influential and trusted voice for NHS leaders and supporting our members to improve their services.

Our new organisation will formally launch in April 2026 and we are inviting all current members of both legacy organisations and non-members to join us now.

To find out more contact membership@nhsconfed.org

Stand 8



armedforces@
nhsemployers.org
[www.nhsemployers.org/
Armed-Forces](http://www.nhsemployers.org/Armed-Forces)
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NHS Employers

Supporting Armed Forces Reservists in Healthcare

As a global human data science company, IQVIA is at the forefront of unlocking the potential of health data to drive key advancements for health improvements and delivering transformative benefits to improve population outcomes. IQVIA believes that the value of unlocking data is in the clinical and strategic decision-making it can inform. As a trusted partner to health systems and providers, we use our extensive data and analytics capabilities to transform outcomes and deliver pioneering biomedical research.

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Stand 5



michael.o'connor@property.services.uk

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NHS Property Services

NHS Property Services (NHSPS) is proud to exhibit at the Care Closer to Home Conference 2026, an event focused on delivering practical solutions that support the government's ambition to shift care into neighbourhoods and strengthen community-based health services. As the strategic estates partner to the NHS, we manage, maintain and develop around 3,000 NHS buildings across England, ensuring safe, efficient and sustainable environments for integrated care boards, trusts and GP practices.

Through services spanning estate strategy development, optimisation, facilities management and capital project delivery, NHSPS helps health systems create spaces that enable preventative, community-focused models of care to thrive. Our work supports the development of neighbourhood health services by improving estate utilisation, supporting net-zero aims, and shaping buildings that better serve local populations.

We're committed to creating healthier places and empowering NHS partners to bring care closer to home – building an estate that supports the future of community-based healthcare.

Stand 17



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LinkedIn: [OneTouch-health](#)

OneTouch Health

OneTouch is a multi-functional care management system that enables care providers to manage every aspect of their clients' needs through a single, integrated platform. It delivers critical efficiencies while supporting continuous improvements in care quality.

Built as one unified system, OneTouch allows information to be shared seamlessly across all stakeholders involved in an individual's care. Reporting, rostering, digital care planning, recruitment, e-learning, finance and HR are fully connected and accessed through one secure login, eliminating duplication and disruption.

Developed by experienced care professionals for care professionals, OneTouch is designed to streamline day-to-day operations and significantly reduce administrative burden. Providers can focus on delivering high-quality care without the complexity of managing multiple systems.

More than just technology, OneTouch is a long-term partner committed to strengthening and future-proofing care organisations. The platform supports care homes, residential and domiciliary care providers, complex care organisations, and public sector bodies by improving outcomes while optimising operational efficiency.

Stand 12



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Prescribing Care Direct

Prescribing Care Direct (PCD) is a director-led company that prides itself on the bespoke medicines management service we can provide. With over 25 years of combined experience and a proven track record, PCD is well-positioned to achieve the requirements of your GP surgery/PCN. PCD aims to develop and deliver a high-quality medicines optimisation and fully managed pharmacy service to GP surgeries and PCNs nationwide. PCD can help unlock surgeries ARRS funding to ensure that it is used in the most cost-effective and clinically efficient manner.

Find out more from our website www.prescribingcaredirect.co.uk or get in touch today via email: info@prescribingcaredirect.co.uk

Stand 7



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[www.diagnostics.roche.com/
gb/en](http://www.diagnostics.roche.com/gb/en)

Roche

At Roche Near Patient Care, we are dedicated to 'bringing care closer to patients' where it matters most. Responding to the rapid transformation of healthcare driven by the increase in chronic diseases, digitalisation, and a critical focus on prevention, we champion a decentralised approach to diagnostics. Our mission is to enable sustainable healthcare systems by extending accurate testing capabilities beyond traditional laboratories to diverse settings, including pharmacies, ambulances, and patient homes.

We focus on high-burden areas such as diabetes, cardiometabolic conditions, and infectious diseases to help improve clinical outcomes and reduce the cost of care. Through our broad portfolio of interconnected solutions we facilitate confident decision-making and operational efficiency. Ultimately, we strive to make healthcare more patient-centric across the entire journey of disease prevention, diagnosis, and monitoring.

Stand 9



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Speek Health

Speek Health is a NICE-aligned digital self-harm specialist innovation supporting young people and their carers when they need it most. At a time when **1 in 5 teenagers self-harm**, hospital admissions have risen **22 per cent**, and families face **2–3 year waits** for specialist care, Speek provides immediate, evidence-based support, while saving **£3.67 for every £1 invested**. This opens access for the **80 per cent of families currently excluded** from traditional services.

Speek delivers proven clinical impact, with **92 per cent programme completion** (compared to a 40–60 per cent industry standard) and **80 per cent+ clinical recovery**, achieved through structured, outcomes-driven digital treatment.

Speek is led by **Kanu Batra** (CEO) and **Dr Olivia Collier** (CCO, former SLAM/loPPN Clinical Psychologist), and advised by **Prof. Peter Fonagy**. The company has recently completed a **Phase I clinical trial with University College London**, funded by National Institute for Health and Care Research, demonstrating how specialist care can be delivered earlier, better, and at scale.

Stand 6



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VitalHub

VitalHub UK (VHUK), a subsidiary of VitalHub Corp, is a leading provider of integrated digital solutions that help health systems manage complexity, improve flow, and enhance care delivery at scale.

With a strong foundation in clinical insight and operational expertise, VHUK's diverse portfolio of innovative technologies span patient engagement, hospital and community flow, care coordination, command centre infrastructure, workforce planning, and mental health services. Designed to integrate across care settings in both planned and unplanned care, its platforms enable faster decision-making, greater coordination, and measurable performance improvement.

Trusted by healthcare providers worldwide, VHUK supports the delivery of high-performing, patient-centred care where staff are empowered, resources are optimised, and patients receive the right care, at the right time.

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