

# INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEMS



**INNOVATION AGENCY**  
Academic Health Science Network  
for the North West Coast

## Our role



**Cheshire and Merseyside**  
Health and Care Partnership



**Lancashire and South Cumbria**  
Health and Care Partnership

### About us

The Innovation Agency is the Academic Health Science Network for the North West Coast, funded to accelerate innovation and improvement in health and care.

For our partners in Cheshire and Merseyside ICS and Lancashire and South Cumbria ICS we offer expertise and support in sourcing and adopting innovations; programme management; and facilitation of system and service change.

### TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

There are a range of approaches we can employ to help design the desired future state and then navigate the route.

This can include:

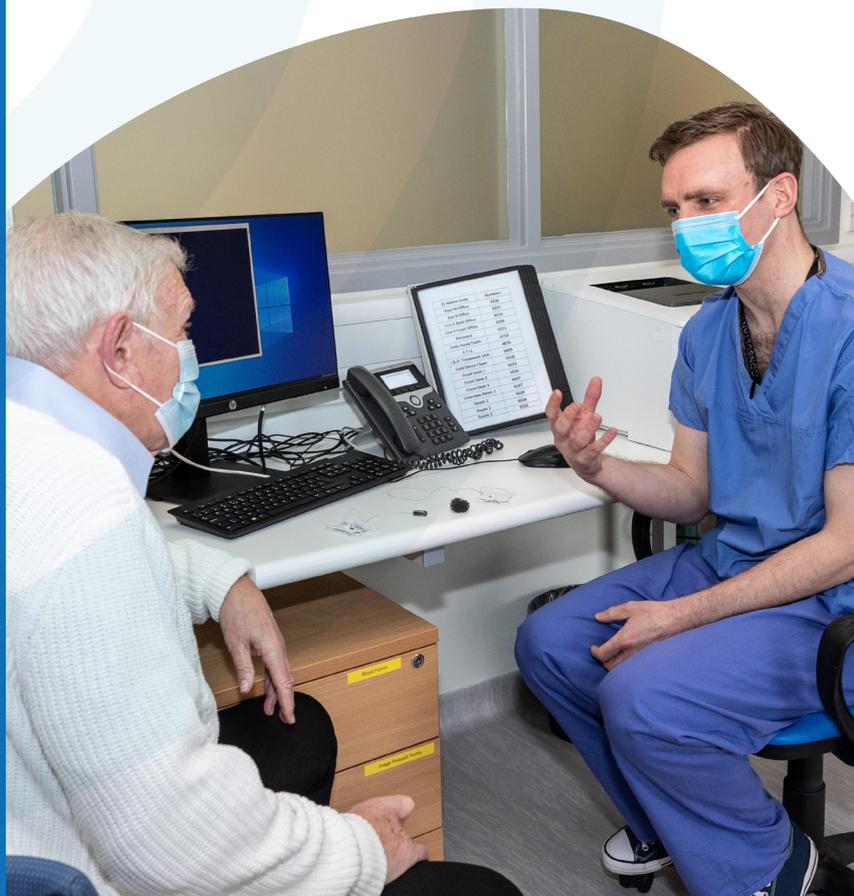
- **Clarifying the challenge** – gathering evidence and insights
- **Producing insight reports** exploring challenges and potential solutions
- **Facilitating system co-design groups**
- **Applying a model for complex change**
- **Implementation and transformation** programme management
- **Real world validation**
- **Supporting business case development**
- **Collaborating to deliver** national innovation and patient safety improvement programmes, capitalising on opportunities to target local needs
- **Coaching Academy** open and bespoke programmes

### How we work

Our team supports local partners with national programmes – either to adopt selected, evidenced medicines and products; or to implement national patient safety improvement programmes. We have a particular focus on areas with high levels of deprivation to increase access to disease prevention and treatments.

We respond to the needs of our local system, understanding their challenges to support the adoption and spread of innovations. We work across different areas in the system which gives us the opportunity to view a challenge from different perspectives.

Bringing together system leaders and facilitating a collaborative co-designed project creates unique opportunities to make the most of what is planned, for example by bringing together expertise across both the clinical and the digital workforce.



# Innovation Pipeline

We collaborate across the country and internationally to scan the innovation landscape and understand which solutions are the best fit for local needs.

This includes innovations which help our local partners meet the NHS net zero commitment, from companies in our region and across the world, sourced through our international programmes.

The most needed solutions are allocated additional resource to progress them on their innovation journey, at pace.

## Examples of ICS projects delivered by the Innovation Agency

Our role with national programmes in the local systems comes at no cost as it is part of our embedded role within the ICSs. We also deliver commissioned projects for our systems and within all our programmes we have a focus on addressing health inequalities.

### Recent work includes:

- **Patient Safety-led programmes** – CVD, mental health, remote monitoring, BP@Home, pulse oximetry, virtual wards, deployment of deterioration tools, maternity and neonatal improvement
- **Working with CVD leads** and the Commissioning Support Unit across Lancashire and Morecambe Bay to identify priority groups for lipid management
- **Adult ADHD pathway redesign** – coached workshops and horizon scanning
- **£2.6m invested to date** into NW by HEE for a new supply of graduates into psychological careers (180 new professionals over 2 years)
- **Endoscopy networks collaborations** including the evaluation and spread of Thrive, a productivity tool for endoscopy units; and successful SBRI bids involving Cytosponge and Pinpoint
- **Scoping phase with the Cancer Alliance** urgent care acute oncology and a use case with the telehealth platform and remote monitoring programmes in Cheshire and Merseyside

- **Remote consultation** - appreciative enquiry, identifying the barriers and success factors to aid further improvement and adoption
- **Cheshire and Merseyside pulmonary rehabilitation pathway** coached redesign with digital innovation
- **Scoping phase** with diagnostics and urgent and emergency care programmes in Cheshire and Merseyside
- **Clinical and Care Leadership framework** development in Cheshire and Merseyside using a design thinking approach

## OUR TEAM

Chief Executive Dr Phil Jennings who continues to work as a GP, leads an experienced executive team and a staff of around 70.

We have a base in Sci Tech Daresbury equipped for hybrid meetings and most staff work from home unless using the offices for meetings and training sessions.

Our footprint is Cheshire, Merseyside, Lancashire and South Cumbria and we work closely with fellow AHSNs across England, as part of the AHSN Network.



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