

Greater Manchester Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

Date: 17 February 2026
Subject: Monthly Service Reconfiguration Progress Report and Forward Look
Report of: Claire Connor, Director of Communications and Engagement,
NHS Greater Manchester

Purpose of Report

To set out the service reconfigurations currently planned or undertaking engagement and / or consultation. It also includes additional information on any engagement that is ongoing.

Recommendations:

The Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is requested to:

1. Review the report and highlight any projects they require further information on at this time.

Contact Officers

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Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

Not applicable

Risk Management

This report is to support the risk management of service redesign, ensuring that JHSC has opportunities to review and comment on planned changes.

Legal Considerations

This report is part of the discharge of NHS Greater Manchester's legal duties to engage with scrutiny committees on to consult local authorities on substantial service changes that affect their population (Health and Social Care Act 2006, section 244 and the Local Authority Regulations 2013, section 21).

Financial Consequences – Revenue

Not applicable

Financial Consequences – Capital

Not applicable

Number of attachments to the report: 0

Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Not applicable

Background Papers

Not applicable

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution

No

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency? No

GM Transport Committee Not applicable

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 15 July 2025

1. Introduction/Background

This paper provides an overview of the Greater Manchester wide service redesign projects currently progressing through for engagement and/or consultation. Not all the projects are substantial and therefore not all will be subject to full consultation.

The list of projects will change as projects begin, progress, or are paused or cancelled.

This report is updated every month to allow JHSC to stay up-to-date with the latest position and to request further information as required.

2. Projects

KEY: PI = Project initiation, E = Engagement delivery, OR = Outcome review, PR = Project review, CP = Consultation planning, C = Consultation delivery, DM = Decision making, I = Implementation

Green = complete, Blue = ongoing, Grey = not required

| Name | Purpose | PI | E | OR | PR | CP | C | OR | DM | I | Engagement / consultation | Latest update |
|------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|--|---|
| IVF cycles | To standardise the number of IVF cycles offered by the NHS across Greater Manchester | Green | Blue | <p>Engagement:</p> <p>Engagement was carried out in spring 2024.</p> <p>Engagement scope: Experience of the service and feedback on the suggestion to standardise across GM.</p> <p>Consultation:</p> <p>Consultation on the proposal to standardise at 1+ cycles across Greater Manchester concluded at the end of July</p> | <p>A paper which included the consultation report alongside clinical evidence was presented at the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board on Wednesday 21st January 2026.</p> <p>A decision was made to standardise the number of NHS-funded IVF cycles offered across all ten areas of Greater</p> |

| Name | Purpose | PI | E | OR | PR | CP | C | OR | DM | I | Engagement / consultation | Latest update |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | <p>2025. It targeted women under 40, those with conditions affecting fertility and people with experience of IVF, along with other demographic characteristics.</p> <p>Consultation scope: Proposed option and who should be affected.</p> <p>Over 2,000 people took part, with half face-to-face and half online.</p> | <p>Manchester. This means from 1st April 2026, a single policy will apply:</p> <p>One full IVF cycle for eligible women aged 39 and under. A second attempt will be offered only if the first cycle is abandoned or cancelled.</p> |

| Name | Purpose | PI | E | OR | PR | CP | C | OR | DM | I | Engagement / consultation | Latest update |
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| Specialised commissioning: cardiac and arterial vascular surgery | The pathway of a very small numbers of patients who need urgent and specialist cardiac or arterial vascular surgery is being reviewed. This covers patients who use hospitals provided by the Northern Care Alliance. Patients may end up at a different location following the service review. | | | | | | | | | | <p>Engagement:</p> <p>Targeted engagement through the hospitals engaged with people who have experience of the service in 2024.</p> <p>Options appraisal has taken place with the input of patients.</p> <p>Consultation:</p> <p>Consultation is anticipated as the proposals will include the relocation of services.</p> | <p>A draft Pre Consultation Business Case (PCBC) will be assed by the Clinical Senate for in February 2026. It is then intended to bring the finalised PCBC to Joint Scrutiny at the first opportunity in the new municipal year.</p> <p>Consultation is anticipated over summer and autumn 2026 with a view to a decision being made in December 2026.</p> <p>Date of JHSC: Early summer 2026 (to be agreed).</p> |

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| Safe and Sustainable Specialised Services for Babies and Children | The NW Women & Children's Transformation programme aims to translate several national reviews and associated standards related to Neonatal Critical Care; Paediatric Critical Care; Surgery in Children; and Children and Young People (CYP) with Cancer into an operational plan for the North West. | | | | | | | | | | <p>Engagement:</p> <p>Engagement is being planned for Neonatal Critical Care which will be the first part of the programmes to engage. It will target parents, families and carers who have used the services.</p> <p>Engagement scope: feedback on experiences and on the case for change</p> <p>Engagement plans for Neonatal Critical Care have been agreed and will begin with staff engagement in January/February 2026, including an online survey for staff.</p> | <p>NB: North West footprint for this work.</p> <p>Engagement has begun with staff working in Neonatal Critical Care across the North West. A series of staff briefings are being delivered including three for GM staff.</p> <p>Scrutiny arrangements for future work are to be agreed.</p> |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | <p>It is anticipated moving to patient and carer engagement in the Spring.</p> <p>Engagement scope: feedback on experiences and on the case for change.</p> | |
| <p>Procedures of Limited Clinical Value (PLCV)</p> | <p>This relates to eligibility criteria for funding those procedures where the evidence doesn't generally show a cost effective benefit for patients.</p> <p>Each procedure has a policy that sets out an eligibility criteria, to decide in</p> | | | | | | | | | | <p>Engagement:</p> <p>The approach to engagement for PLCV has changed from engaging on all the policies, to an annual programme of review aligned to the clinical evidence reviews</p> <p>Engagement scope: feedback on experiences and the existing policies.</p> | <p>The most recent focus was on tendinopathies (now completed - 9th January 2026), specifically:</p> <p>Achilles tendinopathy (heel pain)</p> <p>Tennis elbow (elbow pain)</p> <p>Plantar fasciitis (foot pain)</p> |

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|--------------|--|----|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|---|--|--|
| | <p>what circumstances someone would be eligible for it.</p> <p>The purpose of this work is to gather the views of the public to inform those policies and especially from people with lived experience..</p> | | | | | | | | | | <p>NB this engagement is ongoing and cyclical, the current focus is on tendinopathies.</p> | <p>The next theme will be shoulder pain and impingements, which will commence on 23rd February for a 5 week engagement period, aligning with the clinical review.</p> <p>Date of JHSC: 10th December 2024 / 21st January 2025 / 16th September 2025</p> |
| Major Trauma | <p>Major trauma services are very specialised services for people who have a one in lifetime event – e.g. major road traffic accidents.</p> | | | | | | | | | | <p>Engagement:</p> <p>Targeted engagement through the hospitals was undertaken in July 2025. Over 800 patients who had experience of major trauma were written to directly and offered the opportunity to get</p> | <p>Following targeted engagement with former major trauma centre patients, the report has been shared with commissioners, as they continue to work with providers and NHSE and</p> |

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| | Following a review of whether the specialised services for major trauma meet the required specification, further work is being undertaken to consider how the service can be best delivered. | | | | | | | | | | involved via individual telephone calls, WhatsApp, email or online survey. Over 80 (10%) people took part. Engagement scope: feedback on experiences, impact on family, experience of returning to local services. | through the governance process. The report will be used to assist all, to follow the most suitable course of action throughout the service change process. Date of JHSC: 18 th March 2025 |
| Fit for Winter | This work focused on the theme of winter health to help inform our approaches to supporting the public at this time, and vulnerable people in particular. | | | | | | | | | | Engagement: this was a short period of public engagement running from 20 Nov 2025 to 3 Feb 2026. We attended a wide variety of events and locations (at least one in each GM locality). Some specifically targeted groups experiencing | The outcomes of the work has been shared with key ICB decision makers with insight on how people prepare, how they get information and help, what worries them and use of digital services. |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | health inequalities (food banks, day centres, soup kitchens etc.) whereas others were based at high footfall areas like shopping centres where we could expect to see a large number of people. | |

Detailed engagement/consultation plans and briefings are available on request and are normally circulated to members prior to major project engagement/consultation launches.