**NEWS RELEASE**

**31/03/2017**

**NHS Five Year Forward View means greater partnership working across Lancashire and South Cumbria**

In an announcement today, Simon Stevens, the Chief Executive of the NHS in England provided an update on the progress of the NHS Five Year Forward View, the national plan to transform the healthcare system.

For Lancashire and South Cumbria residents this means greater partnership working between NHS, local government, patient groups and community, voluntary and faith organisations through the Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria programme. The partnership is working to help people stay more healthy so they can avoid time in hospital, make it easier for people to see a GP and get help faster for people with mental ill health.

An easy to understand guide has been published to explain how this sees organisations coming together to improve outcomes and care for local people, reduce pressures on services and make best use of our financial resources.

Organisations in Lancashire and South Cumbria are involved in improvements that need to happen across the whole region and are working to develop local plans by working together in five areas. These are the Fylde coast, Pennine Lancashire, Central Lancashire, West Lancashire and Morecambe Bay.

New ways of working on the Fylde coast have been highlighted by NHS England as an exemplar of good practice and those, or similar developments, could be replicated across the whole of Lancashire and South Cumbria to the benefit of the population of the whole region. The Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria programme will enable innovations on the Fylde Coast and best practice from the other localities to be spread more widely and quickly as and when lessons are learned from the implementation process.

Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria has published an easy to understand guide to the challenges in health and care for the region and how organisations are working together to create solutions to tackle them. This is available at [www.healthierlsc.co.uk](http://www.healthierlsc.co.uk)

Dr Amanda Doyle, a Blackpool GP and Chief Officer for Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria said: “This means organisations across Lancashire and South Cumbria working in a collaborative way as a Sustainability and Transformation Partnership. This will allow us to develop solutions and make decisions together in the interest of our local communities.

“The pressures the NHS is under are well-known and so making best use of the money, staff and services we have is crucial.

“The document which we have published aims to help local people and health and care staff to understand the shared challenges we face in our area, how we need to work together to tackle these and how local people need to be involved.”

The Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View document was published by NHS England on 31st March 2017.

**Notes to editors:**

This press release is issued by Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria, the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership for the region.

* The [NHS Five Year Forward View](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/5yfv-web.pdf) was published on 23 October 2014 and sets out a new shared vision for the future of the NHS based around the new models of care. It was developed by the partner organisations that deliver and oversee health and care services including the Care Quality Commission, Public Health England and NHS Improvement (previously Monitor and National Trust Development Authority). Patient groups, clinicians and independent experts also provided their advice to create a collective view of how the health service needs to change over the next five years if it is to close the widening gaps in the health of the population, quality of care and the funding of services.
* Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria is the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership for the region and sees NHS, Local Authority and Third Sector organisations working together to improve health and care across our region. Lancashire and South Cumbria has been split into five local areas, one of which is Fylde Coast. These local areas are will be involved in improvements that need to happen across the whole region but they are also developing local plans for their own areas. An easy to understand document is available at [www.healthierlsc.co.uk](http://www.healthierlsc.co.uk) which outlines the challenges faced in health and care and how organisations are working together to tackle them.
* The vanguards programme is one of the first steps towards delivering the NHS Five Year Forward View. Each vanguard site is taking a lead on the development of new care models which will act as the blueprints for the NHS moving forward and the inspiration to the rest of the health and care system.
* The Fylde Coast health economy when referred to as a vanguard site includes the following organisations: NHS Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); NHS Fylde and Wyre CCG; Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust; Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust; Lancashire County Council; and Blackpool Council.