

NHS Long-Term Plan: Prevention Strategy

Reference Number: RDF1516-23

Date of Response: 02/06/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

I am writing to submit a formal Freedom of Information (FOI) request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I kindly request your assistance in providing me with information regarding the prevention strategies implemented or planned by your NHS Trust (if available) in line with the NHS Long-Term Plan 2019.

Specifically, I am interested in obtaining details about the measures, initiatives, and actions taken by your NHS Trust to address the "prevention" aspect outlined in the NHS Long-Term Plan. This may include but is not limited to:

- Strategies or programs focused on promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing diseases.*
- Initiatives aimed at reducing health inequalities and improving access to preventive healthcare services.*
- Collaborations with local authorities, community organizations, or other healthcare providers to enhance prevention efforts.*
- Allocation of resources or funding for prevention activities.*
- Policies or guidelines related to preventive healthcare services.*
- This may be referred to as a "prevention strategy". I would like to see any overarching prevention strategies from the trust, not individual departments.*

Answer: The Trust has a range of activities relating to prevention, please see responses below.

Strategies or programs focused on promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing diseases.

The Royal Devon is developing a Health Inequalities strategy which describes the Trust's approach to supporting the reduction of health inequalities as a care provider, procurer of services/goods and employer. Within our local care partnerships (East and North Devon) we have agreed plans with our partners which see sustained work on priorities emerging from national priorities on disease prevention (Core20+5), the Devon Joint Needs Assessment and other data sources as well as community insight. The Trust is also working on primary prevention issues with partners as part of local place based partnerships.

Initiatives aimed at reducing health inequalities and improving access to preventive healthcare services.

Example of projects currently underway include:

- North Devon - Supporting people at high risk of heart failure through primary care outreach and access to treatment at home; active travel support; arts/activity on prescription; tackling health inequalities through physical activity. Further information on other projects can be found on the One Northern Devon website <https://onenortherndevon.co.uk/>
- East Devon – Loneliness and social isolation; informal career support; supporting children and young people with mental health issues; social prescribing in the emergency department
- Trust-wide: tobacco dependence; weight management.

Collaborations with local authorities, community organizations, or other healthcare providers to enhance prevention efforts.

The Trust is one of the principal partners of One Northern Devon. One Northern Devon is a partnership of organisations (housing and environmental services, education providers, employers, community groups, fire, police and health and social care services). working together to improve wellbeing for the people and communities of North Devon and Torridge. One Northern Devon aims to reduce health inequalities through co-ordination of the activity of all partners involved in the wider determinants of health and an approach that is person-centred and place-focussed.

The Trust has also recently driven the establishment of the One Eastern Devon Partnership Forum which is a place that brings a wide range of partners together (health and social care; education; University; district and county councils; care providers; VCSE; pharmacy; mental health providers; police and housing) to leverage and influence strategies and priorities both at system level and within the Eastern locality for the benefit of the population.

The Trust is also a key player in both the place based partnerships (Local Care Partnerships (LCP)) in North and East Devon which have workplans focused on prevention activities.

Allocation of resources or funding for prevention activities.

For example: Funding is agreed at the Integrated Care Board (ICB) level, to support delivery of each LCP workplan.

In addition, the Trust has bid for external funding to support the prevention projects – Poverty Truth Commission and Remote monitoring/outreach on heart failure, to name two of the most recent.

Policies or guidelines related to preventive healthcare services.

Our Health Inequalities evidence base, methodology and toolkit will be contained in the Health Inequalities strategy.

This may be referred to as a "prevention strategy". I would like to see any overarching prevention strategies from the trust, not individual departments.

The Royal Devon's Health Inequality strategy is in development and due for presentation to Board in August/September 2023.