**🔑 KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCSE)**

* The *FutureCare Programme* is moving forward, with VCSE engagement seen as vital to its success – a dedicated launch event and communications campaign are underway.
* System transformation aims to shift resources from hospital to community care, reduce length of stay, and avoid unnecessary admissions, supported by VCSE and integrated data systems.
* The Better Care Fund (BCF) Q3 update highlights strong performance on avoidable admissions and residential admissions, though falls-related hospital admissions remain a concern.

**📅 H&W BOARD MEETING – AGENDA ITEM SUMMARIES**

**📌 AGENDA ITEM 7 – FUTURECARE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME**

* **Overview:** FutureCare is Dorset’s system-wide transformation to reduce avoidable hospital stays and deliver better care at home &/or in intermediate settings by 2027.
* **Workstreams:** Six core areas including Alternatives to Admission, Transfers of Care, Home & Bed-based Intermediate Care, System Visibility, and Change Capability.
* **VCSE Involvement:** The Dorset VCS Assembly has been engaged in identifying sector strengths and service gaps, with a launch event and updates planned to embed VCSE in programme design and delivery.
* **Financials:** Programme aims to realise £28m in system-wide savings by April 2026 and £60m by 2028. Dorset Council is expected to benefit by £4m annually, with programme delivery costs estimated at £9m.
* **Next Steps:** Mid-programme review in July 2025. Ongoing alignment with major system programmes (e.g., New Hospitals Programme, Integrated Neighbourhood Teams) to maximise delivery and outcomes. Second VCS Event planned for the Autumn.

**📌 AGENDA ITEM 9 – BETTER CARE FUND (BCF) Q3 2024/25 REPORTING**

* **Status:** BCF Q3 report submitted under delegated authority and now formally endorsed by the Board. Planning for 2025/26 is underway, aligned with FutureCare and neighbourhood service models.
* **Performance:**
  + **Avoidable Admissions:** On track (Q3: 150.5 vs. target 156.7)
  + **Discharge to Usual Residence:** Slightly under target (88.4% vs. 92%)
  + **Falls Admissions:** Not on track (577.9 vs. 1933.3 annualised)
  + **Permanent Admissions to Care Homes:** Performing well (444.63 vs. target 465.15)
* **System Pressures:** Flu, COVID, and norovirus drove high demand in Q3, with increased use of short-term bedded care and higher UCR demand (+40%).
* **Planning 2025/26:** New BCF framework focuses on integrated neighbourhood health, prevention, and care closer to home. Strong collaboration with the VCSE and carers is essential.

**📌 AGENDA ITEM 10 – INTEGRATED NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS (INTs)**

* **Overview:** Progress continues across Dorset’s Integrated Neighbourhood Teams with neighbourhoods forming their own priorities and approaches based on population health data.
* **Good Practice Examples:**
  + **Portland Together**: Bringing together health, housing, education and employment services.
  + **Purbeck**: Teams aligning around themes such as frailty, obesity and mental health to remove service barriers.
* **Key Messages for VCSE:** Voluntary and community sector partners are seen as essential to delivering place-based prevention and early intervention, and to ensuring wider determinants of health (e.g. housing, transport) are embedded in care models.
* **Next Steps:** Building consistency across Dorset’s neighbourhoods while maintaining flexibility to respond to local population needs.

**📌 AGENDA ITEM 11 – JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA)**

* **Focus Area:** Children and Young People (0–24) – Dorset’s first deep dive JSNA dedicated to this age group, co-produced with Healthwatch, young people, and education and social care partners.
* **Key Findings Include:**
  + Cost of living and income deprivation affect young families across the county.
  + Mental health, emotional wellbeing, and healthy lifestyle challenges are prevalent and interlinked.
  + Young people value safe places, trusted adults, and support navigating services.
* **Strategic Relevance:** The JSNA is a critical resource to inform commissioning and partnership work across services that support families. VCSE partners are key to responding to findings through community-level support and early help.
* **Next Steps:** Ongoing dissemination and alignment with prevention programmes, youth engagement strategies, and Family Help transformation.

**📌 AGENDA ITEM 12 – RIGHT CARE, RIGHT PERSON (RCRP)**

* **Overview:** RCRP is a national model that ensures mental health-related incidents are responded to by the most appropriate agency—not defaulting to police. Dorset began phased implementation in April 2024.
* **Phases Complete:**
  + Phase 1: Concern for Welfare
  + Phase 2: Absence from healthcare settings
  + Phase 3: Section 136 and voluntary mental health presentations
  + Phase 4: Transportation (Jan 2025)
* **Safeguarding Implications:** Dorset is leading national work on safeguarding under RCRP for children and vulnerable young adults. Implementation is being monitored by safeguarding boards and the Integrated Care Board.
* **VCSE Role:** VCSE partners are vital in helping shape appropriate crisis and outreach responses and ensuring individuals are supported compassionately and in the right setting.

**📌 AGENDA ITEM 13 – WORK PROGRAMME AND FUTURE ITEMS**

* **Upcoming Topics:**
  + *June 2025*: Updates on Children & Young People Strategic Alliance and JSNA delivery
  + *September 2025*: FutureCare mid-programme review
  + *November 2025 & March 2026*: Further progress on Integrated Neighbourhood Teams, Family Help transformation, and public health strategies
* **New Proposals:**
  + Place-based Partnership development
  + Refresh of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy
  + Oversight of physical activity and oral health strategies
  + Tobacco control and switching to vaping
* **VCSE Involvement:** Future items explicitly include co-production with VCS partners, particularly in preventative care, youth services, and neighbourhood-level integration.

🗓️ **NEXT MEETING:** Health & Wellbeing Board – Autumn 2025 (mid-programme FutureCare review due)