

Care and Wellbeing Model: Test of Change

A 'test of change' project is starting in June 2022 which will enable the transformational elements of the new Care and Wellbeing contract to be tested, and an evidence-base developed prior to implementation at a larger scale across the city, with the aim of future proofing services.

Funded through the Integrated Better Care Fund (iBCF)¹, commissioners will work with a single provider, Fosse Healthcare, procured through a competitive tender process in early 2022, and with Sheffield University (SchARR)² as the evaluation partner. The project will run for two years in Netherthorpe, Uppertorpe and Walkley, until May 2024, gradually increasing scale to delivery of around 700 weekly care hours over its duration.

Key elements to be tested include improvements to care worker terms and conditions, multi-disciplinary working, closer links with the voluntary sector, the provider operating as a trusted reviewer and the impact of digital technology. The project will utilise an action learning ethos, enabling areas of positive learning to be cascaded to the wider delivery of home care services across the city while the project is live.

The overarching evidence-base and independent expert evaluation will be instrumental in informing the transformational elements of the new contract. The transformational changes will be introduced using a staged approach, reflecting the need to ensure the contract is first effectively mobilised in year 1, particularly given the existing challenging environment and level of change inherent in the rationalisation of the market and areas.

¹ [Improved Better Care Fund](#)

² School of Health & Related Research, Sheffield University

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