



REPORT CLASSIFICATION	✓	CATEGORY OF PAPER	✓
Official	✓	Proposes specific action	
Official: Sensitive Commercial		Provides assurance	✓
Official: Sensitive Personal		For information only	

BOARD
26 September 2023

Report Title:	Urgent and Emergency Care Winter Planning, Priorities and System Resilience Framework 2023/24
----------------------	--

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to:

- outline for assurance the robust, comprehensive and co-designed winter planning process 2023/2024 including the System Resilience Framework across the NENC ICS; and
- outline the final Winter Priorities 2023/24 and risks for NENC ICB operating in a new national oversight environment supported by NHS Impact for UEC Recovery.
-

Key points

- The UEC Strategic Board oversees Winter Resilience and Winter Planning for NENC ICS and reports to the ICB Executive Committee as well as the ICB Board – last comprehensive paper to 12 September 2023 Executive Committee.
- The delivery plan for the recovery of urgent and emergency care was published in January 2023 with a requirement for a two-year delivery plan which specified key programmes and actions for implementation by local UEC systems, with ten high impact areas.
- Preparation for winter planning 2023/2024 has focused on engagement with system partners during the review of Winter 2022/2023 with further consultation facilitated through the UEC Network through Community of Practice events throughout 2023.
- The 2023/24 winter plan aims to deliver on the successful elements of the previous year’s plan building on specific areas including the ten high impact areas to further strengthen the offer and respond to new emerging needs and system changes. This is underpinned by the System Resilience Framework.
- The 2023/24 inclusive winter planning process identified the final three UEC System Priorities for Winter 2023/24 which are presented for assurance to the ICB Board that the ICB is committed to co-design and system buy in to manage collective risks

Risks and issues	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extremely challenging operating environment with escalations across the system at a time when escalations are generally expected to be lower. Industrial action ongoing with more planned and mitigations as far as possible in place. Risks associated with increased demand; mutations in Covid and the UEC capacity required to meet the demand due to workforce and other challenges. 	
Assurances	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System Co-ordination Centre fully operational since 1 Dec 2022 8am to 8pm 7/7 and now working towards the new specification released for the delivery of a sustainable future model. Cross system working in place to manage local and system pressures through the System Resilience Framework Refreshed Local A&E Delivery Board focus including clear responsibilities for delivery and managing performance and their relationship with the overarching UEC Strategic Board whose role is as an enabler and convenor of the UEC system. 	
Recommendation/action required	
<p>The ICB Board is asked to take significant assurance from the robust and comprehensive co-designed planning process undertaken in preparation for Winter 2023/2024 by the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board and with partners across the Integrated Care System and its approach to agreeing and delivering the top three system Winter Priorities for 2023/24.</p> <p>The plan is not without risk and the ICB Board is asked to note that the whole system is working to manage workforce pressures through flexible working models and more integrated delivery, for example across urgent community response and virtual wards; that the system will be ready for any opportunities for extra funding that may become available and that it will share risk collectively as a system to manage what is likely to be a very challenging winter.</p>	
Acronyms and abbreviations explained	
<p>iUEC – Integrated Urgent and Emergency Care SDEC - Same Day Emergency Care TOCs – Transfer of Care Hubs VWs – Virtual Wards UCRs – Urgent Community Response SPoA – Single Point of Access ARIs – Acute Respiratory Infection Hubs SCC - Service Co-ordination Centre OPEL - Operational Pressures Escalation Levels Framework LADBs - Local A&E Delivery Boards iUC+ - Integrated Care Plus – 111 model work</p>	
ICB Board Approval	
Sponsor/approving executive directors	Jacqueline Myers, Executive Chief of Strategy and Operations Neil O'Brien Executive Medical Director
Date approved by executive director	
Report authors	Siobhan Brown, Transformation Director System Wide Marc Hopkinson, Director of System Resilience
Link to ICB corporate aims (please tick all that apply)	
CA1: Improve outcomes in population health and healthcare	✓

Item: 8.1

CA2: tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access							✓
CA3: Enhance productivity and value for money							✓
CA4: Help the NHS support broader social and economic development							
Relevant legal/statutory issues							
Note any relevant Acts, regulations, national guidelines etc							
Any potential/actual conflicts of interest associated with the paper? (please tick)	Yes		No		N/A		✓
If yes, please specify							
Equality analysis completed (please tick)	Yes		No		N/A		✓
If there is an expected impact on patient outcomes and/or experience, has a quality impact assessment been undertaken? (please tick)	Yes		No		N/A		✓
Key implications							
Are additional resources required?	UEC funding is primarily in organisational baselines. Other potential sources include national funding for bespoke areas of work but as yet unknown						
Has there been/does there need to be appropriate clinical involvement?	Yes – through co-design workshops and communities of practice						
Has there been/does there need to be any patient and public involvement?	The main work related to this is through Picker Behavioural Insights Work and Communications campaigns.						
Has there been/does there need to be partner and/or other stakeholder engagement?	Yes – through co-design workshops and communities of practice						