

# NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, Sefton

## Update Report

October 2024

### Southport major incident

(For more information contact: [deborah.butcher@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.butcher@sefton.gov.uk))

### Recovery following Southport Major Incident

Following a major incident in Southport on 29 July 2024 an extensive multiagency response and recovery cell has been established and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB are leading on the activation of the *Cheshire and Merseyside Psychological Support Plan Following a Major Incident*. There has been a significant focus on the psychological support that will be required for all those affected by this incident in the immediate and longer term which has resulted in creation of pathways for all those affected and/ or witnessed the incident.

Resources have also been developed as part of the psychological care offer and a live webpage has been created to provide ongoing updates, to support the victims, their families and the wider community.

Support offer has also been established for staff impacted including the emergency responders that were involved in this incident. All information can be accessed via council link:

[Support For You \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://sefton.gov.uk/support-for-you)

### Women's Hospital Services in Liverpool programme: Improving Hospital Gynaecology & Maternity Services in Liverpool

On Wednesday 9 October 2024, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) will be presented with a case for change document describing the risks facing hospital-based gynaecology and maternity services in Liverpool.

Subject to the board's approval of the document, a six-week period of public engagement will begin on 15 October 2024, giving people an opportunity to share their views about the issues it sets out.

Although some of the challenges outlined in the case for change have been discussed in the past, this is a new process which will focus on the situation as it stands today.

The case for change doesn't set out proposals or potential solutions – these will be explored with partners, stakeholders, patients, and the public later in the programme of work – and no decisions have yet been made.

While it's still too early in the process to speculate about how services might look in the future, the Crown Street site is an important NHS asset, and services continue to be developed there. There are no plans to close Crown Street and, whatever proposals might be developed for the future of gynaecology and maternity services, the site will continue to be used for the provision of NHS services.

The case for change will be published with the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside board papers, which will be available here from the afternoon of 1 October 2024:

[www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk/get-involved/upcoming-meetings-and-events/](http://www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk/get-involved/upcoming-meetings-and-events/)

Further details about planned public engagement will be shared following the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside board meeting on 9 October 2024.

### **Lincoln House Surgery**

Further to the update provided to the last meeting of the committee, a further four week period of engagement was undertaken with patients registered at Lincoln House Surgery regarding the closure of the practice. During this time 45 contacts were made with the key themes being:

- Understanding the process
- Arrangements for medications
- Follow up appointments
- Preferences about which practices they would transfer to

All Southport practices have been accepting new patient registrations and plans continue to move patients to new practices between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

The building will be retained for other healthcare services to operate out of. Currently a community ECG service and the Acute Visiting Service also operate from within the site and there are plans for a winter primary care GP hub to open shortly.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and a Quality Impact Assessment (QIA) have been completed with no significant concerns identified.

### **GP Collective Action**

Following a ballot of its members the British Medical Association confirmed that a period of GP collective action would start on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024. This is not the same as industrial action but means that GPs may stop or reduce certain work. The BMA has

recommended certain actions, details of which can be found on the BMA website:

[Guidance for GP collective action \(bma.org.uk\)](https://www.bma.org.uk/guidance-for-gp-collective-action)

### Workforce data

At the request from the committee, the following information provides detail on the workforce information in respect of GPs in Southport.

GP workforce data from July shows that Sefton has 53.05 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) GPs per 100 000 population, this compares to the England average of 56.46.

This is broken down further to 40 WTE per 100 000 population compared to the England average of 42.29 when trainees are excluded from these figures. 29% of the GP workforce is over the age of 50 compared with 26% across England.

The ICB continues to work with practices to ensure workforce data is submitted accurately and work with the Cheshire and Merseyside Training hub to support GP retention. Locally we also have protected learning time across all professional groups, funding for visa programmes and a GP retainer scheme.