



Purpose: For Information

# Scrutiny Committee Report

Committee	<b>POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE</b>
Date	<b>4 SEPTEMBER 2023</b>
Title	<b>UPDATE ON PATIENT TRANSPORT</b>
Report of	<b>ISLE OF WIGHT PLACE DIRECTOR, HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT INTEGRATED CARE BOAD</b>

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. This paper is for the Committee to note and discuss as necessary.

## **Background**

2. Isle of Wight residents have expressed many concerns over a considerable period of time regarding the suitability, complexity, cost, time and comfort of travelling to the mainland (and back) as a Patient and/or carer for Health and Care services.

## **Situation**

3. In April 2023, the Isle of Wight Health and Care Partnership set up a multi-agency taskforce to understand the current situation, the challenges and to propose a number of options for solutions to the current challenges faced by Isle of Wight residents.
4. The Taskforce is made up of representatives from the Isle of Wight NHS Trust, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (HIOW ICB), Isle of Wight Council and Isle of Wight Transport Improvement Board and is chaired by Darren Cattell, Place Director HIOW ICB.

## **Actions**

5. To date the Taskforce has met three times and has already achieved some notable successes:
  - We now know how many people travel for treatment and where they travel to, a very useful position with which to base any options on and to understand the scale of the challenges.

- We have undertaken a thorough literature search to establish offers, discounts and arrangements already in place from Ferry Operators.
- We have re-publicised current offers and are developing a communications plan to enable greater awareness of current and any future offers.
- We have worked with Portsmouth Hospitals University Trust to amend the Outpatient appointment times to later in the day to enable Island Residents to travel at a more convenient time to reach their appointment in Portsmouth.
- We have held some Community engagement events and at least one Operator has made changes to current operating procedures as a result of feedback.
- We have reached an agreement with all three Ferry Operators to set up a joint working group to explore the challenges faced by Island Residents and we will report back on this group's activities in due course.

### **Next steps**

6. The Taskforce continues to meet to take forward the next set of actions including further Community engagement events.
7. If members have any thoughts or ideas on how the Taskforce could add further actions to improve the experience of Isle of Wight Residents the Taskforce would be pleased to listen and incorporate these.
8. The Taskforce will report further progress at future meetings.

### **Funding**

9. Funding for Patients to travel to the mainland has historically been provided by the Isle of Wight Council in the way of a grant to the Isle of Wight NHS Trust. Patients are then able to reclaim certain costs from the Isle of Wight NHS Trust for their travel. Isle of Wight Council has reduced the value of the grant in 2023/24 and it appears that the revised value may not completely cover the reclaimed costs of patients. The Isle of Wight Health and Care Partnership agreed to add the task of finding a solution to this funding issue to the terms of reference of the Taskforce Group referred to in this paper.

Darren Cattell, Isle of Wight Place Director  
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board