

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025
Thorntree Hub, Middlesbrough, 14:30-16:30

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	LS confirmed communications about the new sexual health provision has still not been shared. Board agreed to invite the service to return to share outcomes once there is evidence of improvements in early 2026. It was confirmed approximately 11 Spotlight Awards/nominations been issued. CM reminded the Board to promote the awards through their contacts.	
5.	Healthwatch Update CM shared updates from the Healthwatch Chairs and Board meeting (2 Sept 2025): Healthwatch will continue until legislative changes are made, likely Spring 2027. Funding for 2026–27 is secure, and the contract may be extended rather than retendered. Future planning is underway to ensure the public’s voice remains central. The ICB is exploring options and the Government has appointed Louise Ansari as a non-executive director on the board of NHS England. HD praised the team for their resilience and continued hard work. Board noted the importance of independent scrutiny and building strong relationships going forward, with opportunity to shape the future model.	
6.	Project update The Care Home and Domiciliary Care Report will be circulated to the board for comment, by 10.10.2025. The Hospital Discharge Report has been taken to the Trusts Working Group. JL confirmed feedback will be shared and that the findings aligned with the Trust’s workplan. The Health and Wellbeing event at the Baptist Church received excellent feedback and over 150 attendees. The Hemlington event had lower attendance, but stakeholder feedback was	LS

	positive. Lessons were learned about building footfall, and MC suggested involving Footprints in future events and to cc her into emails. Local community leads have been contacted to identify service needs. Board suggested a winter warmer pack for attendees, cooking-on-a-budget session via TVCA's Education Department. Funding may be available from local Ward Councillors budgets. Healthwatch is linking with DEN's coffee mornings. DEN recently won an EDI Inclusivity Award. The contract for the Middlesbrough Lived Experience work is awaiting signature, with a start date planned for 1 November 2025. Staffing remains a challenge following the departure of the Engagement Officer. Recruitment is underway for both a full-time and part-time fixed-term post. The job advert is expected next week and will be shared with the Board. Inclusive Trauma Cards are being co-produced, with some potential to involve the North East and North Cumbria Network. New North East and North Cumbria Network "Feel Better Faster" merchandise has been shared and will run alongside current work. A full communications pack will be shared shortly. HD will distribute it to schools, and the Board is encouraged to share it more widely. Joint Trust, follow-up events, HWST is intends to hold at Redcar Primary in the new diagnostic area, at the end of November. Awaiting confirmation from the Trust. HW role will source attendees, not delivering. Community champions has been rebranded as Together Connect, to reflect the collaborative working and enhanced engagement which provides richer intelligence and greater	
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	impact. CM agreed this was an excellent initiative and looked forward to seeing the outcomes going forward. Connections for organisations supporting rough sleepers through JL and MC to be shared:- Narcotics Anonymous and Recovery Connections, TEWV, TSAB and the Together Connect work were agreed to be shared for future priorities and additional workstreams.	
9	AOB Board agreed to continue to keep an eye on the GB Healthwatch emailing individuals, although there had not been any other reports of emails recently. Chair thanked everyone for attending and the input.	
13	Date and time of next meetings Wednesday 21 January 2026, 2pm – 4.30pm.	