

October 2014

First GPs sign Information Sharing Agreement

Leading North West London GPs have become the first to sign the Whole Systems Integrated Care Information Sharing Agreement (WSIC ISA), which looks to support local areas to share information across health and social care through an integrated care record for indirect and direct care purposes.

Local GPs, Dr Ian Goodman, Chair of Hillingdon CCG, and Dr Aumran Tahir, Clinical Director of Whole Systems Integrated Care, put pen to paper as the first of many to sign the Whole Systems Integrated Care Information Sharing Agreement (WSIC ISA), which is a key enabler for delivery of coordinated care in Hillingdon.

There has been extensive consultation with patient representatives in preparing this legal agreement and communication materials which will go out to all 31 partner organisations including all North West London GPs, health organisations and social care organisations. It will enable them to participate in Whole Systems Integrated Care by agreeing to share data for care coordination, care planning and to develop the appropriate the commissioning framework.

Dr Goodman said: "It's a major milestone to be able to present this Information Sharing Agreement to partners in primary care and across the health and social care system in North West London."

"Establishing an integrated care record in North West London will really benefit our patients.

"It is a major step forward in improving the quality of services and treatment especially for those suffering from complex long term conditions. It will reduce the need for people to tell the same story to different professionals, help avoid unnecessary tests and appointments, and enable patients and service users to be more involved in decisions around their care."

Over the coming month, the ISA will be shared with GP and provider partners so they can gain a better understanding of it and the potential benefits the new integrated care record will bring to patients and service users.