

Chief Officer's report part 1

13th January 2026

Team

Recruitment has commenced for an Engagement Officer on a fixed term basis.

Advert closing date is 9am 23rd January.

Interviews/assessment on 5th February. Recruitment panel - Sam, Ali and Marie (with Corinne and Jenni on standby)

I continue to support Elyse and Ali. Team meetings, Wellbeing Mornings and Team Away Days continue as usual.

Enclosed with papers is the latest work plan.

We attended the pensioners lunch in December hosted by Salford Media and engaged with 120 Salford residents.

We attended Salford CVS annual conference.

We ran a volunteer drop-in session in December.

2026 Health Fair date has been confirmed as Tuesday 7th July. Same format as in previous years. However, we are planning on linking this in with the 'Salford 100' plans.

Mark's Grant

We're receiving £1000 in donations - £500 each from Galliford Try and Multivate as part of their social value commitment to Salford Council. Salford CVS have committed to add to this and we will also. We will be using this for a grant in Mark's name. We will follow our grants process once we have determined the theme. Mark's family and friends will be on the grants panel. I have invited Galliford Try and Multivate to be on the panel also.

Action – I would like a board member on the grants panel – please let me know if you are interested.



Health and Social Care in Salford

Included with papers are the ICPC briefing notes for September and October's meetings. Awaiting the briefing note for November's meeting. December's meeting took the form of a workshop to determine future 'place' priorities – of which I was a presenter. I used our Communications report from last year as the basis for my presentation – stressing the importance of getting communication right for Salford residents. This was very well received.

Due to the changes happening across the NHS, Salford's PCCC (Primary Care Commissioning Committee) has been temporarily stood down as a meeting. Alternative arrangements will be in place to ensure that updates and decisions normally addressed in meetings are managed appropriately elsewhere.

Along with other Healthwatch, I attended a focus group looking at NCA governance.

Healthwatch England

Louise Ansari has now left her role at Healthwatch England, and interim leadership has been put in place. HWE continue to support local Healthwatch as much as possible at the moment, including the facilitation of meetings with the DHSC about future plans – which both Jenni and I have been attending.

Along with other Healthwatch, we have been asked by Healthwatch England to respond to the DHSC consultation on the creation of 'NHS Online'. Under current legislation, local Healthwatch must always be consulted when any new NHS trust is proposed. The deadline for this is the beginning of March.

Action – if any board member would like me to share the papers on the 'NHS Online' proposals to give feedback, please let me know.

I also attended an online session with the Kings Fund about the future of local Healthwatch.

