



Health Innovation
Yorkshire & Humber

**Transforming Lives
Through Innovation**

Innovation in Yorkshire and the Humber

How our Innovation Hub
model supports ICSs
to innovate



Foreword

Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber has a track record of excellent working relationships with the local health economy, including with, but not limited to, local NHS organisations, local authorities and industry. Since the established of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber has deepened these system relationships through the creation of embedded teams within two of our local Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) - our Innovation Hubs. This embedded

partnership approach enables the development of a deep understanding of priorities and unmet needs and co-production of the best solutions which supports adoption and spread. Our approach and the associated benefits are set out in this briefing note.



Kathy Scott,
Deputy CEO,
Health Innovation
Yorkshire & Humber

In a pressured health and care system, it's a privilege to hold the role of Innovation Hub Directors, where we get to look ahead and out at the horizon for the new ways of working, technologies and diagnostic capabilities that have the potential to help us all lead better lives. This might be through liberating staff time to focus on what they want to do best, caring for people, or through helping us to better identify and reach those who for too long have been poorly served by what has too often been a 'one size fits all' approach.

In our role as Hub Directors, we hold the enviable role of conveners and facilitators of change. We help to bring together partners from across our ICSs, in which we're embedded, to help better

understand the root cause of some of our big challenges, and bring new voices, perspectives and ideas to bear on how we might address these.

We're proud to be part of the ICSs we support, all contributing in our different ways to improve the health and lives of the communities we serve. In this report, we've set out the history of this approach, some examples of the work we do and the impact we've had.



Sarah Dew,
South Yorkshire
Innovation Hub Director



Amy Lochtie,
West Yorkshire
Innovation Hub Director

Hub model and origins

The formation of the ICS approach across England has created significant opportunities for consistency, sharing good practice and, where appropriate, has allowed regions to benefit from economies of scale – whilst remaining deeply connected to place.

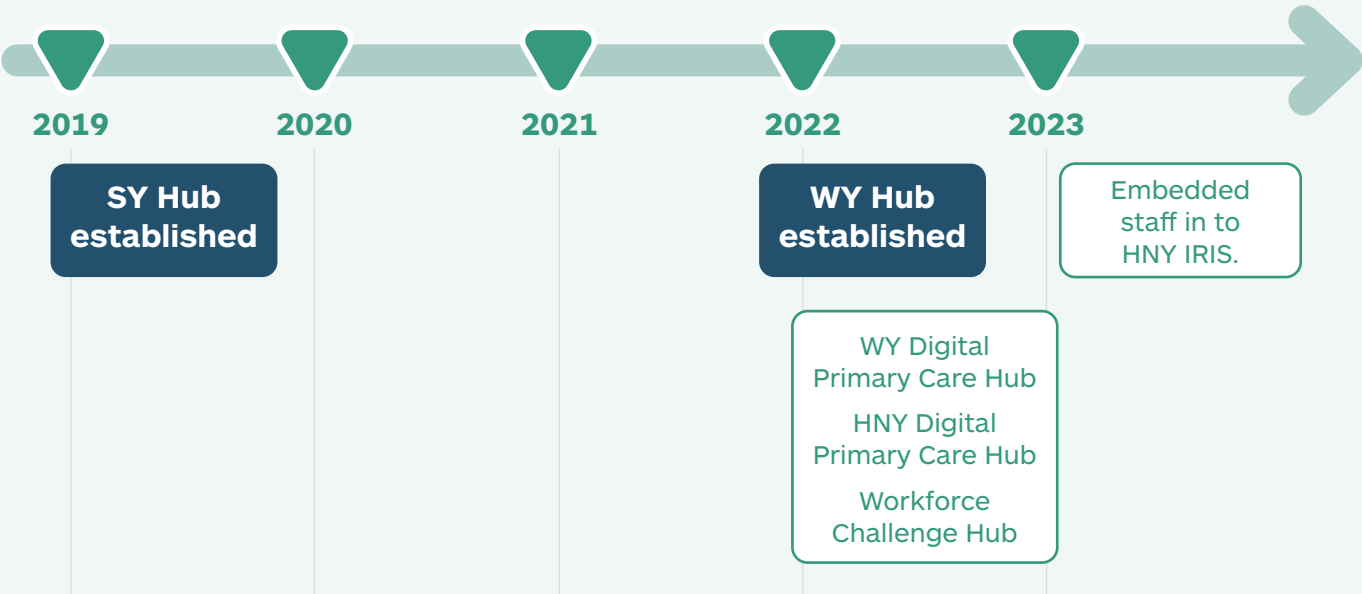
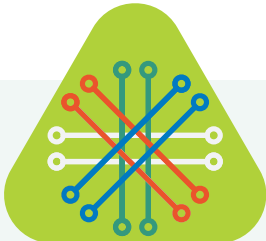
To harness this strategic opportunity for more integrated ways of working and embed innovation as a key part of these new system approaches, in 2019 we established an Innovation Hub in partnership with South Yorkshire ICB.

Due to the success of the hub model in South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire ICB agreed to commission a West Yorkshire

Innovation Hub in 2022. This hub is rooted in the learning from our South Yorkshire model, but tailored to West Yorkshire's specific system needs and the stakeholder environment in the region.

We have gone on to develop a couple of more specialised Innovation Hubs in primary care; one in West Yorkshire and another in Humber and North Yorkshire. Given their particular focus on primary care, they have been able to build deeper networks and relationships into a part of the health and care system that can be particularly complex for sharing and scaling innovation, and bring tailored innovations focused on primary care needs.

The development of the hub model



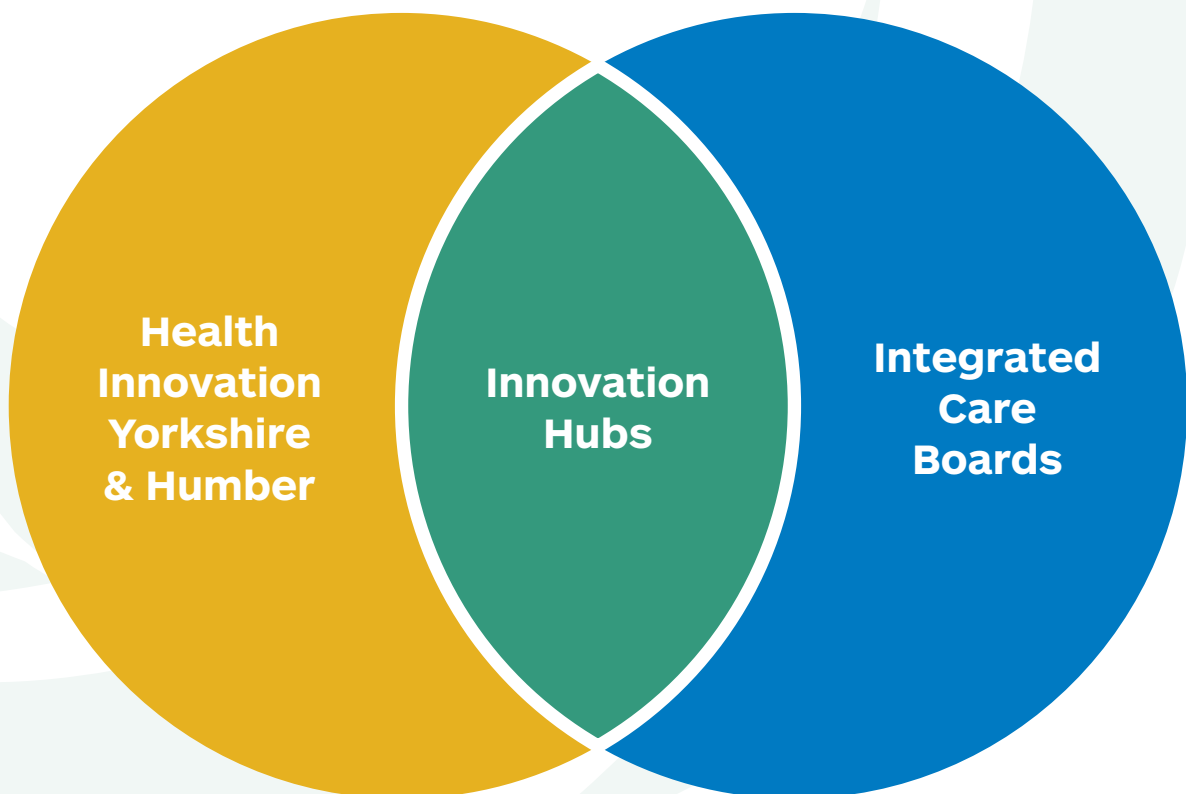
An overview of the Innovation Hub model

The innovation hubs are small core teams hosted by Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber but embedded within the ICB. The director acts as the innovation lead for the ICB, with project manager and team administrator support to drive forward priority projects on behalf of the ICB.

Crucially though, they can draw on the wider capability and capacity of Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber – ensuring that national Health

Innovation Network programmes and the Network's support to industry innovators are informed by deep local insight and drawing in industry and commercial expertise as required.

Our hub teams sit on relevant system leadership boards at the ICB, ensuring they hear first-hand about the challenges the system is facing, and enabling them to rapidly mobilise relevant connections, resource and insight from the national Health Innovation Network pipeline.



Our Innovation Hubs in practice

Health Innovation Yorkshire and Humber has worked with the ICBs in our region to pioneer an embedded Innovation Hub model which:



Understands the challenges

health and care partners face, and the priority areas for transformation, and identify relevant evidence-based innovations that respond to these priorities.



Implements, evaluates and scales novel approaches

to supporting people to stay well, and receive the best care when they aren't, and reduce health inequalities.



Actively supports local inclusive economic growth

by supporting local innovators to engage with the region, whilst also attracting those from further afield, supporting them to help improve health outcomes through innovation and improvement.



Builds system capability

around innovation, research and improvement, working with staff at all levels to improve the understanding of opportunities presented by transformational change in the NHS.

Case studies



Understanding the challenges of our health and care partners

Case study: Understanding the links between ambulance conveyance and areas of high deprivation in Wakefield.

The West Yorkshire Hub was approached by both the West Yorkshire ICB and Mid-Yorkshire Teaching Hospitals who both had data indicating that people living in our most deprived communities are conveyed more frequently to hospital and were interested in understanding this in more detail. The proof-of-concept programme in Wakefield is using a multi-factoral approach involving

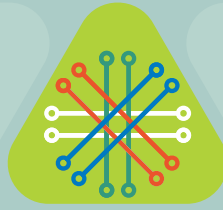
a range of partners from across Wakefield including organisations wider than healthcare, as poverty is more than just a healthcare issue. The outputs of this programme will enable Wakefield place to better understand health access need and behaviours better to serve its most deprived communities and use these findings to influence policy and identify pathway change for patients.

Implementing, evaluating and scaling novel approaches

Case study: Innovation grant programmes to address priorities in urgent and emergency care and cancer in South Yorkshire

We have delivered innovation grant programmes alongside the South Yorkshire ICB's UEC Alliance and Cancer Alliance to invest over £400k into supporting people's ideas to address priority issues in cancer and urgent and emergency care. The programmes have delivered innovative projects, such as an AI enabled tool to improve

breast cancer diagnosis, an augmented reality rehabilitation programme for children and young people with cancer, and a virtual frailty ward. The grant programmes have also promoted the value of innovation, signalled support for staff's innovative ideas to improve care and helped to create an innovation positive culture.



Case study: evaluating Community Diagnostic Centres in South Yorkshire

Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs) are a novel approach designed to ensure earlier diagnosis closer to home. In South Yorkshire, the vision for CDCs is to establish a network of centres, developed in partnership with the diagnostic networks for imaging, pathology and endoscopy, that increase networked diagnostic capacity, increase the pace of diagnosis for patients,

and improve equity of access and reduce health inequalities. The Innovation Hub is working with the CDC partners across South Yorkshire to undertake an independent evaluation to assess the impact of the model for the public, for staff, and to help achieve the overall strategic goals of the ICB. This will enable evidence based future commissioning decisions.

Harnessing the power of AI in cancer diagnostics

Case study: Pinpoint in West Yorkshire

[PinPoint Data Science](#) is a Leeds-based SME who has developed a game-changing AI-driven blood test for cancer, designed to optimise NHS 'two week wait' urgent referral pathways. The test is designed as a decision support tool to provide doctors with the information they need to triage patients more effectively when they first present with symptoms. The PinPoint Test allows those at highest risk to be prioritised for faster access to hospital care and those at minimal risk to be ruled out of urgent referral pathways altogether.

The PinPoint Test is now fully regulated and CE marked for use in the NHS in the nine main cancer groups: breast, gynaecological, haematological, head and neck, lower gastro-intestinal (GI), lung, skin, upper GI and urological, which cover over 98 per cent of all 'two week wait' referrals. The West Yorkshire Innovation Hub is now supporting PinPoint in identifying further grant funding to support wider spread and scale of the technology across West Yorkshire.

Building system capability

Case study: Innovation Labs in South Yorkshire

The Innovation Hub delivered a series of innovation labs in South Yorkshire that brought together more than 140 health and care professionals to explore the role of innovation in addressing their challenges. The labs helped participants

to develop the skills and equipped them with a methodology to identify unmet needs, identify innovative evidence-based solutions and/or to develop their own novel approach, and evaluate the impact of the innovation.

Case study: Digital Ambassadors in Primary Care in West Yorkshire

West Yorkshire's Primary Care Hub has delivered a nine-week programme supporting two cohorts of primary care staff with baseline fundamental knowledge in delivering digital transformation.

The programme, born from a partnership between the West Yorkshire Digital Primary Care Collaborative and Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber, on behalf of the West Yorkshire ICB, provides a blend of real-world insights and theoretical knowledge on how to

drive and facilitate the adoption of digital innovation and transformation within the realm of primary care.

The programme is designed to strengthen the digital innovation, transformation, and improvement skills of the primary care workforce, covering a wide array of topics and features guest speakers who are experts in their respective fields. It also champions the vital importance of patient and public involvement and reducing health inequalities.

Case study: Building the system leadership capacity and capability for innovation

In South and West Yorkshire, our Innovation Hubs facilitate system leadership groups that bring together senior representatives from NHS organisations and research and innovation partners to advance innovation, improvement and digital transformation. In both cases, these governance boards are chaired by the chief medical officer, demonstrating

ICB sponsorship at an executive level. These system leadership groups help to ensure that innovation has a senior level of visibility and accountability within our health and care partnerships, that there are strong and open relationships between partners and there is a route to showcase innovation and address system challenges.

The outcomes of our approach

South Yorkshire



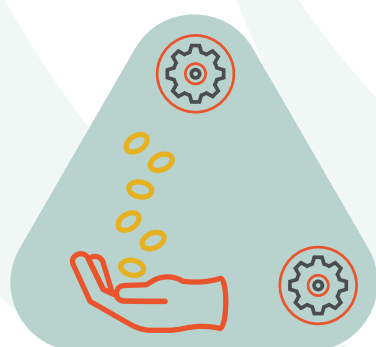
142 attendees across **4** Innovation Lab workshops, representing **41** individual health and care organisations in the region.



The establishment of the South Yorkshire Research & Innovation Forum, with more than **200** attendees to date across **6** forum events.



Supporting the ICB to deliver innovation grant programmes across Urgent & Emergency Care (UEC) and cancer services, with a total of **£440,000** distributed to innovative projects in South Yorkshire by the end of 23/24.



Supported successful funding bids that have brought over **£1,000,000** into South Yorkshire to implement digital health technology and support inclusive research.

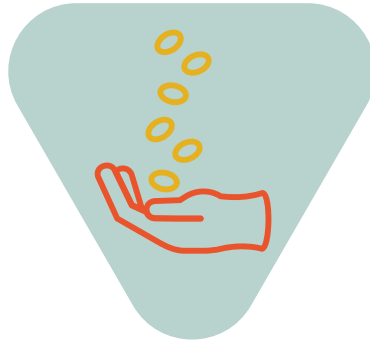


The development of a first series of **6** South Yorkshire Innovation podcasts, covering key topics such as remote monitoring technologies, innovative stroke services and the threat of misinformation in healthcare.

West Yorkshire



127 attendees across **2** Innovation Showcase events in West Yorkshire as part of the Inclusive Innovation and Improvement Programme Board



Supported successful funding bids, including the West Yorkshire Innovation Launchpad which brought **£7.5 million** into the local West Yorkshire economy to support HealthTech SMEs



Successfully secured grant funding to support the Healthy Hearts programme through strategic industry partnerships.



Supported Huddersfield University's successful System Prosperity Funding for the National Innovation Campus worth **£3.8 million**.



Supported the ICB to be recognised at a cross party policy day in collaboration with the Department of Health and Social Care with over **180 attendees** on work relating to areas of high deprivation and increased ambulance call outs.



Annex A:

The Innovation Hub approach is nested within the overall Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber approach to regional and local relationships

As a result, we are able to take in information about what is needed, work with our partners to find solutions, implement and feed the learning back into our ICSs and regional and national policy making.

1

Our Strategic Advisory Board meet 3 times a year to provide strategic input to our existing and emerging programmes.

2

We attend, and contribute to, the NHSEI Management Executive Committee which provides an understanding of national and regional priorities and we feed in local innovation issues.

3

Our SLT has a seat at the senior leadership executive group or health executive group in each ICS. This provides insight into main challenges and allows us to offer strategic support.

4

Further engagement on senior level board such as ICS Partnership / Transformation boards and Clinical / Programme Director forums. This gives us a deep understanding of local issues and priorities.

5

Our embedded staff within our hubs have day to day conversations with delivery and frontline staff, allowing co-production of relevant solutions and support for spread.



Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber

 www.healthinnovationyh.org.uk

 @HealthInnovYH

 Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber