

**Question from a member of the public for Bath and North East Somerset,
Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board meeting in Public, 12 January
2023**

Question:

The contract with HCRG Care Group to provide community health and care services in Bath & NE Somerset ends on 31 March 2024. Bath & NE Somerset Council is considering bringing Adult Social Care services and services for Adults with Learning Disabilities back under its direct control.

Is the ICB also considering the option of bringing community health services (including wards and services at Paulton Hospital and St Martin's Hospital) back under direct NHS control?

Answer:

Following the decision taken in May 2022 by the Governing Body of Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG, now BSW Integrated Care Board) and Bath and North east Somerset Council not to extend the contract for health and social care services operated by HCRG Care Group, Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board is continuing to look at the way health and care services will need to operate in the future.

Since the decision taken by the CCG in May 2022, the BSW Integrated Care Board have worked with legal and procurement experts to create a robust and legally compliant process for assessing the most appropriate way for services to be delivered in the future. This has included assessing any changes to procurement rules that are proposed to be introduced as part of the legislation associated with the Health and Care Act 2022.

This process will assess a range of different options for the provision of services.

BSW Integrated Care Board would like to assure local residents that, while this process progresses, we are continuing to work with HCRG Care Group to provide high quality services that meet the needs of our local communities and ensure we make the best use of public money.