

WPCN Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2026

WANDLE PCN

Earlsfield Practice
Elborough Street Surgery
Southfields Group Practice
Triangle Surgery
Wandsworth Medical Centre

Partnerships for better health

Welcome to issue 2 of the Wandle PCN Quarterly Newsletter! Learn more about Wandle PCN services available to you and how we work behind the scenes to strengthen local care.

In our previous edition, we featured our Social Prescribing Service, which connects individuals with local community groups, activities and services that support health and wellbeing. This provision—including our GP practices' flagship community initiative, the Wandle Wellbeing Hub—is a strong example of collaborative working. Delivered in partnership with Surrey Physio, it also draws on the expertise and support of the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector.

Building on the theme of cross-sector collaboration at the heart of social prescribing, this edition explores the pivotal role partnerships play in delivering integrated, joined-up care for our patients.

Partnership working

Partnership working in primary care is not new. For many years, it has described the way GP practices work alongside hospitals, community healthcare teams, social care services and patients to provide joined-up, high-quality care. This approach is supported through frameworks such as Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), Multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs), and Patient Partnership

(patient participation groups), all helping to ensure care is coordinated, efficient and centred around patient needs.

In 2019, collaboration between GP practices was formalised through the introduction of Primary Care Networks (PCNs), which were created to expand services and bring a multi-disciplinary workforce into primary care. As part of this model, Wandle PCN has worked closely with organisations including St George's Hospital, the London Ambulance Service and Surrey Physio to provide patients with access to physiotherapists, pharmacists, paramedics and social prescribing link workers directly through their GP practice.

Deeper collaboration: Neighbourhood Health

These partnerships are assuming increasing significance as the NHS places greater emphasis on delivering community-focused, personalised, preventative and more equitable healthcare through the emerging 'Neighbourhood Health' approach. This model promotes deeper collaboration across organisational and sectoral boundaries, bringing together the NHS, healthcare providers, public health, social care and the VCFSE sector to work in a more integrated way around the needs of local communities.

As part of the emerging Earlsfield, Southfields and

Central Wandsworth Neighbourhood, Wandle PCN has been working closely with Brocklebank PCN and a range of local partners, including St George's Hospital, community healthcare services (CLCH), local authority social care teams and VCFSE organisations, to strengthen mutual understanding of services and improve patient care pathways. Regular neighbourhood meetings have provided structured opportunities to share information, build relationships and coordinate work on priority areas such as frailty care.

Working alongside Brocklebank PCN and local VCFSE partners, we are also delivering health events in our neighbourhood. 'Beat the Blues', a major community mental health event at the Tara Theatre and the Earlsfield Library in February this year attracted some 200 attendees, and we are now developing a new initiative, 'Ageing Well', with support from independent healthcare champion, Healthwatch Wandsworth, and the Wandsworth Older People's Forum. The Ageing Well event aims to provide health awareness talks and Q&A sessions, while also creating opportunities to engage directly with patients, carers, and family members. By listening to the experiences and perspectives of older people living with frailty and those who support them, we hope to better understand their needs and co-produce improvements to the services and support available.

Enjoy our newsletter!

Wandle PCN Team

Partnership spotlight: SURREY PHYSIO

BY LUKE WOODWARD, CEO SURREY PHYSIO

Working together for better patient care

Surrey Physio is a healthcare organisation with a preventative and innovative ethos. We have worked with Wandle PCN since 2019 and specialise in providing physiotherapy and social/community services to PCNs, supporting patients not only with physical health concerns but also with the wider factors that can affect wellbeing.

Within Wandle PCN, we support patients in two complementary ways. Our Musculoskeletal First Contact Practitioners (FCPs) are expert physiotherapists who assess problems such as joint, muscle, back, neck, or soft-tissue pain. Seeing an FCP can help patients access specialist assessment more quickly, receive advice and exercises, and be directed to the right treatment or investigations where needed. Patients may benefit from seeing an FCP if they have a new or ongoing muscle, joint, or back problem, or need advice on movement, pain, or function.

Alongside this, our Social Prescribing Link Workers support patients whose health and wellbeing may be affected by non-medical factors such as loneliness, low confidence, stress, housing or financial worries, caring responsibilities, or difficulty accessing local activities and support. Social prescribing gives patients time to talk through what matters to them and helps connect them with practical support in the community. Social prescribing may help if wider life circumstances are affecting health, confidence, mood or independence and can be accessed by speaking to your GP practice team.

Bringing care closer to home

Our partnership with Wandle PCN helps improve access by bringing these services closer to patients through GP practices and community settings. By working closely with GPs, practice teams, community partners and local voluntary organisations, we can offer better care. For patients, this means increased access to healthcare professionals, support beyond clinical treatment, and the option of a more community-driven approach.

A good example of this integrated approach is the Wandle Wellbeing Hub, where physiotherapy and wellbeing services link together in a welcoming

community setting. The Hub offers patient the opportunity to:

- Connect with others and build supportive social networks
- Join local walking groups
- Take part in strength and balance chair-based exercise sessions
- Access physiotherapy advice and guidance
- Speak with social prescribers about wider wellbeing needs and community resources available to patients

Making a difference

The impact of this approach can be seen in the experiences of patients who have benefitted from these services. One patient with ongoing knee pain was assessed by an FCP and given tailored exercises and advice. They were also introduced to the Wandle Wellbeing Hub and a local walking group, helping them build confidence, increase activity levels and manage their condition more effectively.

Another patient who felt isolated after a period of ill health was supported by a social prescribing link worker to attend the Wandle Wellbeing Hub. Through regular participation, they were able to reconnect with others and feel supported and seen.

Our mission is to continue providing common-sense, face-to-face, human care that patients tell us they truly value, while delivering this in thoughtful and innovative ways. With more community-based support, stronger local partnerships, and services like the Wandle Wellbeing Hub, Surrey Physio and Wandle PCN are working together to do more for patients—differently.



Photo: Our **Surrey Physio partners**, CEO Luke Woodward (3rd from right), SPLW & Neighbourhood Manager Simona Leonetti (end right) and Social Prescriber Lynne Capocciama (4th from right), with our Clinical Director Dr Laura Quinton (3rd from left), Brocklebank PCN Clinical Directors Dr Caroline Scott (2nd from right) and Dr Farahnaz Jamil (2nd from left), Wandsworth Care Alliance's Hillary Bell (end left) and Councillor Graeme Henderson (4th from left) at our neighbourhood mental health event, Beat the Blues in Feb. 2026.

Focus on: VCFSE partnerships

VCFSE organisations: important partners in health and wellbeing

When people think about healthcare, they often picture GP practices, hospitals and community health services. Yet some of the most important support available to people comes from local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) organisations.

Sometimes referred to as the 'third sector', the VCFSE sector includes a diverse range of organisations, from large national charities to small grassroots community groups. With their deep neighbourhood knowledge and expertise, and close connection, trust and understanding of local people, VCFSE organisations are a vital component of our broader health and care ecosystem. Evidence from public health and health inequalities research consistently shows that these organisations play a key role in addressing the wider determinants of health—such as social connection, physical activity, emotional wellbeing, income security, and access to practical support, factors that are strongly associated with long-term health outcomes, life expectancy, and recovery from illness.

VCFSEs improve health outcomes and tackle health inequalities not only by delivering key services that support the health and wellbeing of the population, but also by shaping their design and advocating for, representing and amplifying the voice of service users, patients and carers.

Working Together in Neighbourhoods

Across Wandsworth and beyond, VCFSE

organisations already work closely with GP practices, social prescribing teams, and wider health and care partners. This collaborative approach aligns with the emerging Neighbourhood Health model, which is designed to integrate NHS, local authority, and community-based services around defined local populations. The aim is to improve coordination, reduce fragmentation, and provide care that is more proactive, preventative and person-centred. In this context, VCFSE organisations are not peripheral but central to effective neighbourhood-based care. Their role complements primary care by supporting prevention, early intervention, and recovery, while also helping to reduce pressure on statutory services by addressing needs earlier and closer to home.

Looking Ahead

By working in increasingly closer partnership with VCFSE organisations, Wandle PCN is well-positioned to respond to these priority areas, building more connected neighbourhoods that support people not only when they are unwell, but also to stay well, connected, and independent for longer. Opportunities for co-location—where statutory health services are delivered in community spaces and quality working relationships are better facilitated—are also moving beyond clear aspiration, with Wandle PCN pilots planned in faith (St John the Divine, Earlsfield) and community (Southfields Library) spaces to deliver cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention and other health awareness events.





VCFSE partnership spotlight: Wandsworth Community Transport

Wandsworth Community Transport X Wandle PCN

On 20 April 2026, 72 people (52 attending in person and 20 online) joined a talk and Q&A at the Wandle Wellbeing Hub, led by the then Managing Director of Wandsworth Community Transport (WCT), Manuel Button.

The session introduced attendees to the charity's work, its history, and the range of accessible transport services available to local residents. However, it was the WCT member experiences Manuel shared that had the greatest impact. Their stories illustrated how everyday activities can become significant challenges for older people and those living with reduced mobility. These barriers can affect not only independence but also physical health, mental wellbeing and quality of life.



Photo: Wandsworth Community Transport event at the Wandle Wellbeing Hub, Brathway Hall on 20th April 2026.

More than transport

Transport is about far more than getting from one place to another. It enables people to access healthcare, nutritious food, social activities and the support networks that help them stay well. When these opportunities become difficult to reach, the risks of loneliness, isolation and declining health increase.

For more than 40 years, Wandsworth Community Transport has helped residents overcome these challenges. As a registered

charity, WCT provides accessible transport for older adults (60+) and people of any age experiencing mobility issues.

Services that support independence

WCT offers a range of practical services designed to make everyday life easier, including:

- Door-to-door **Shopping Shuttle** services.
- **Shophmobility**, providing mobility scooters, wheelchairs and volunteer assistance.
- **Social Outings** and day trips that promote friendship and reduce isolation.
- **Accessible transport** for local charities and community organisations.

Membership is free, with options ensuring that people receive the level of support most appropriate to their needs, whether they require fully accessible door-to-door transport or simply wish to take part in organised outings.

Many services are supported by dedicated volunteers who do much more than help people travel safely. Their friendly conversation, encouragement and companionship often transform what could be an isolating journey into an enjoyable social experience. Manuel's presentation was a powerful reminder that transport is not simply a practical service—it is a vital enabler of health, dignity and wellbeing.

Supporting health beyond the consulting room

The event ultimately provided an opportunity for attendees to become Wandsworth Community Transport members free of charge. For many, joining WCT was the first step towards greater independence, stronger community connections and improved quality of life.

You can view Manuel's presentation at the Wandle Wellbeing Hub [HERE](#).

Neighbourhood Event

Ageing well: tackling physical resilience in older people



NEIGHBOURHOOD

EARLSFIELD, SOUTHFIELDS & CENTRAL WANDSWORTH

Ageing Well: Helping you stay well and independent

As people live longer, supporting healthy ageing and maintaining independence has become an increasingly important part of healthcare. Wandle PCN and Brocklebank PCN are therefore delighted to announce Ageing Well—a free event designed to help older people, their families and carers learn more about ageing well and share their experiences.

The event will take place in person at Brathway Hall and online via Microsoft Teams, making it accessible to as many people as possible.

What to expect

The event will comprise two parts:

Part 1 Health talks and Q&A

The first part will feature practical talks from healthcare professionals, including a GP, an Occupational Therapist and a Personal Independence Coordinator. They will share advice on staying independent, preventing frailty, reducing the risk of falls, and accessing local support services. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Part 2 Listening to your experiences

The second part of the event will be a discussion with older people living with frailty, as well as carers and family members. We want to hear about the challenges you face, what is working well, and where services could be improved. Your experiences will help shape future health and care services across our Neighbourhood, ensuring they better meet the needs of local people.

Why it matters

Frailty is not an inevitable part of ageing. With the right advice, support and community services, many people can maintain their independence and continue doing the things that matter most to them for longer. Ageing Well is an opportunity to learn, ask questions, connect with local services and help influence how care is developed in our community.

Event details

- 26 October 2026 (10.00 am–12.00 noon)
- Brathway Hall, Brathway Road, London SW18 5BE and online via Microsoft Teams.

BROCKLEBANK PCN

Brocklebank Practice
Haider Practice
St Paul's Cottage Surgery

WANDLE PCN

Earlsfield Practice
Elborough Street Surgery
Southfields Group Practice
Triangle Surgery
Wandsworth Medical Centre

Ageing

Well

tackling physical resilience
in older people

2026

Talks / Q&A

GP, Personal
Independence
Coordinator,
Occupational
Therapist

Focus Groups

65+? Living with frailty?
What matters? What
gets in the way? What
could make a difference?
Who could change it?



26 Oct

10:00-12:00
Brathway Hall
SW18 4BE



For more details and how to book, visit:
wandleprimarycarenetwork.co.uk/events



Upcoming events at the Wandle Wellbeing Hub

Sept 2 @ 1:30—3:30 **Walk & Talk**

Meet at: Brathway Hall, Brathway Road, London SW18 4BE

Join Social Prescriber Lynne for a chat, meet new people and enjoy a leisurely local walk.

Sept 7 @ 10:00—1:00 **Tenancy Advice Session**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road London SW18 4BE

Holly Matthews, Wandsworth Tenancy Sustainment Officer, will be joining us to provide support and advice for Wandsworth Council tenants on: rent arrears, benefits, domestic budgeting, signposting to debt services and more...

Sept 9 @ 1:30—3:30 **Places Leisure**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road London SW18 4BE

A Places Leisure practitioner will join us to lead a gentle, chair-based exercise session. Complimentary tea and coffee, as always!

Sept 14 @ 10:00—1:00 **Surrey Physio**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road, London SW18 4BE

Our Surrey Physio practitioner Glen joins us at the Wandle Wellbeing Hub for an advice and guidance session. He can provide support across the following areas:

- All soft tissue injuries, sprains, strains or sports injuries
- Arthritis – any joint
- Possible problems with muscles, ligaments, tendons or bone, e.g. tennis elbow, carpal tunnel syndrome, ankle sprains
- Spinal pain including lower back pain, mid-back pain and neck pain
- Changes to walking
- Post-orthopaedic surgery

Sept 16 @ 1:30—3:30 **Macmillan Cancer Support (TBC)**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road London SW18 4BE

Join Michael from Macmillan for a community afternoon tea/coffee.

Sept 21 @ 10:30—12:00 **Blood Pressure Event**

St John the Divine, Garratt Lane Earlsfield, SW18 4EH

Take the first step towards protecting your heart and living a longer, healthier life. Join our Healthcare Assistant Goska for a simple blood pressure check and advice on how to look after your numbers.

Sept 23 @ 1:30—3:30 **Wandsworth Talking Therapies**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road London SW18 4BE

Anxious? Stressed? Feeling low? Join us for a session with Wandsworth Talking Therapies. Free tea and coffee available.

Sept 28 @ 10:00—1:00 **Coffee & a Chat/ Walk & Talk**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road London SW18 4BE

With Social Prescriber Lynne.

Sept 30 @ 1:30—3:30 **Surrey Physio**

Brathway Hall, Brathway Road London SW18 4BE

Join our Surrey Physio practitioner, Nergis, for a gentle exercise session.

For more information and to reserve a free place at an event, please scan the QR code or visit: wandleprimarycarenetwork.co.uk/events

For PCN information:
<https://wandleprimarycarenetwork.co.uk>

For PCN enquiries:
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Thank you for reading!