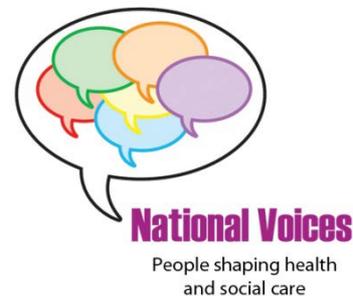


Member briefing

The six principles for engaging people and communities



A *Five Year Forward View* that sets out *three* gaps and is being implemented using *six* principles...

What are the '[six principles for engaging people and communities](#)' and how do they fit in to the NHS Five Year Forward View? Be warned: there is a lot of unavoidable Five Year Forward View jargon in this one (see jargon-buster at the end of this briefing).

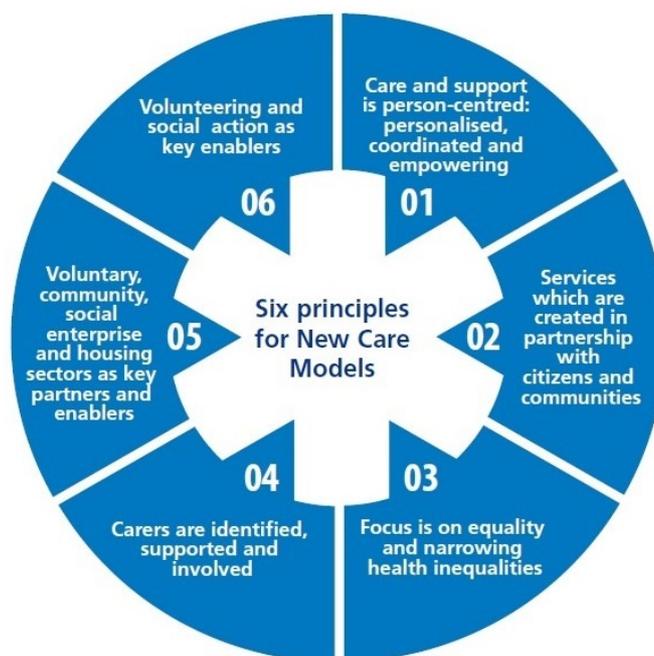
What are they?

The six principles for engaging people and communities set the basis for good, person centred, community-focussed health and care. They are part definition and part guide. Each of the principles is grounded in evidence and beyond the headline statements, all six comes with methodologies and measures of success. Together they summarise a very large part of National Voices' influencing agenda.

The six principles are:

- Care and support is person centred: personalised, coordinated, and empowering
- Services are created in partnership with citizens and communities
- Focus is on equality and narrowing inequalities
- Carers are identified, supported and involved
- Voluntary, community and social enterprise and housing sectors are involved as key partners and enablers
- Volunteering and social action are recognised as key enablers

Here they are in a diagram:



The [six principles document](#) contains information about what they mean in practice, and how organisations can measure success.

Why have they been developed?

The NHS Five Year Forward View aims to create a system that prevents ill health, coordinates and personalises services, engages patients and communities, and creates more integrated models of care. You can only do all of that by being person centred. The six principles explain how to provide services in a way that emphasises the needs of people and communities rather than the system.

Who are these six principles for?

Everyone. They were agreed by the Five Year Forward View Board, which means they should be used across the whole health and care system to frame how care is organised and provided. Not content with that, we also hope they will be a useful resource for the voluntary and community sector in strengthening our approach to person centred care.

Who developed the six principles?

The six principles were developed by the People and Communities Board. This is one of the governance boards overseeing implementation of the Five Year Forward View and championing the need for a 'new relationship' between the NHS, people and communities. It is chaired by National Voices' chief executive Jeremy Taylor and largely consists of voluntary sector and social care representatives.

The Board worked on the principles with the Vanguard sites: the first batch of areas attempting to implement the Five Year Forward View's new models of care.

How are they being used?

They are referenced in the [NHS Planning Guidance](#) published in December 2015. The guidance sets the expectations for the health service until 2021, so the six principles should be used across the NHS as part of the planning process. As part of that process, local areas have to submit a Sustainability and Transformation Plan by summer 2016, including actions in support of the six principles.

The principles are also being used by the NHS England New Care Models team in the support and evaluation processes for the Vanguard sites.

When will the six principles start to make a difference?

Soon, hopefully. Four 'roadmaps' (we warned you about the jargon) that describe the future of hospitals, CCGs, primary care, and local authorities are being produced by NHS England, Department of Health and other Arm's-Length Bodies. We expect the six principles to be reflected in each of these.

Beyond that, the People and Communities Board is working with the Arm's-Length Bodies to develop a plan for how they will embed the six principles, and is also developing more detailed information to help those drafting local area Sustainability and Transformation Plans. See our earlier [member briefing on Sustainability and Transformation Plans](#).

What can National Voices members do?

Use the six principles to hold trusts and commissioners to account and ask them how they will ensure that the six principles are embedded in their work.

It is a good time to be asking. Local areas have divided themselves into 44 'footprints' that are currently developing Sustainability and Transformation Plans for health and care for 2016–2021. This gives us all an opportunity to ask local planners what they're doing to reflect the six principles in their plans, as well as offering to support community and patient engagement.

Details of each footprint, including who is leading them, are yet to be published by NHS England. In the meantime, NHS England Regional Directors should be able to advise on who is leading the plans in each area.

Get in touch with us if you are involved in work that exemplifies one or all of the six principles by emailing membership@nationalvoices.org.uk. We want to build up case study examples that can help commissioners and providers understand how to change the way they work with people and communities.

Jargon buster

Arm's-Length Bodies	The Department of Health's Arm's-Length Bodies are: NHS England, Public Health England, NHS Improvement, the Care Quality Commission, Health Education England and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).
Five Year Forward View	A vision for how the NHS needs to change over the next five years, and what steps need to be taken in order to create a modern and sustainable NHS. It was published by the Arm's-Length Bodies in October 2014. Implementation is being led by a central Five Year Forward View team, supported by several governance boards.
New Models of Care Vanguard Sites	Areas developing new models of care in response to the Five Year Forward View.
People and Communities Board	The People and Communities Board is one of the Five Year Forward View Governance Boards. It sets the strategic direction for changing the relationship between people and communities. It is chaired by National Voices and made up of voluntary sector representatives, NHS England, the Cabinet Office, the Association of Adult Social Services and the Local Government Association.
Sustainability and Transformation Plans	Sustainability and Transformation Plans set out local areas' plans for delivering health and care services from 2016 to 2021.
The 'three gaps'	The Five Year Forward Views sets out three 'gaps' in healthcare; the health and wellbeing gap, the care and quality gap, and the funding and efficiency gap. National Voices believes there is a fourth gap; the engagement gap.

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