

Joining up Care is a partnership initiative between NHSX, the Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and aims to improve joint working between health and social care through the improved use of technology and data.

This briefing summarises a new project as part of this wider partnership to support digital leadership capacity across the Midlands health and care landscape.

1. What is the project?

The Midlands Digital Leadership Project is a new project running between May and October 2021. It aims to test out a new approach to collaborative digital leadership across health and care by providing designated resource to lead engagement into and support co-ordination of key national and local digital activity.

The project forms part of the wider Joining up Care partnership between the LGA, ADASS and NHSX (as described above).

2. Why is the project taking place?

Digital activity across health and care has accelerated at pace and scale, particularly to support people in communities during COVID-19. Many of us are exploring new approaches to using digital and technology to transform the way we work and provide care and support and much of this includes learning from and collaborating with each other.

We have the opportunity through this work to build on the positive examples of partnership working across health and care, particularly from the last year, and move towards this being a more sustainable way of working. The project is intended to support with this and help bring some clarity to the complex digital landscape for those of us working in this area.

3. Who is involved?

The project is co-funded by NHSX, the LGA and ADASS West Midlands and is supported by NHSE/I Midlands and ADASS East Midlands. Funding is being used for a new regional Digital Lead post hosted by West Midlands ADASS. Abby Vella has been seconded to this role from the LGA.

4. What will the project include?

The project will involve a range of activities – like understanding and collating the Midlands digital offer, capturing examples of innovative practice and co-ordinating regional input into national initiatives. But we want the work programme to be shaped by you, so first and foremost we will be looking to speak to as many of you as possible over the next few weeks to talk about the project and get your input.

5. How can I get involved?

If you're interested and would like to find out more about the work, please feel free to contact Abby directly on abby.vella@wm-adass.org.uk.

Alternatively, find out more by popping into an informal **drop-in session** which Abby will host on MS Teams every last Friday of the month between 14.00 – 15.00. Join using the link below:

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

You can also sign up to fortnightly updates on the broader Joining up Care partnership by contacting socialcaredigital@local.gov.uk

6. Supported by:

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