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Hello all and welcome to this special edition of our newsletter, focusing on our newly published [Annual Report for 2022/23](#).

Our report covers the projects we have delivered with our partners over the previous year, in line with the strategic priorities we have set out in our [HIN Strategy 2021-26](#). These priorities are:

- Ensuring south London benefits from national innovation priorities which address health inequalities;
- Delivering health and care change programmes with a focus on long-term conditions and mental health to improve health outcomes;
- Supporting innovators and the workforce in the health and care system to achieve faster adoption of innovations and drive economic growth – with a focus on digitally-enabled business models;
- Evaluating the effectiveness of innovations in a real-world setting and generating evidence to identify which innovations should be adopted in health and care;
- Building a sustainable, resilient, diverse, and joyful organisation.

Below you can read more about the initiatives we have been involved in, including groundbreaking work across primary, secondary and social care.

I am proud of the commitment and expertise of HIN staff highlighted in the report, but none of what we do would be possible without collaboration across south London and beyond. Our work relies on working closely with clinicians, innovators, academics and, of course, experts by experience and service users. It is the shared power which comes from convening all these groups which helps us to deliver real change.

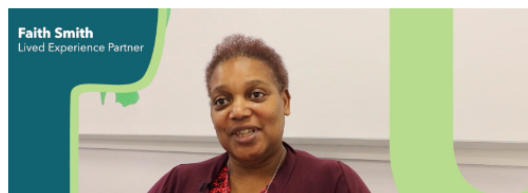
I am also delighted to share the news that the Government has now formally announced the [relicensing of AHSNs such as our own for a further five-year period](#), recognising our impact on a local, national and international scale.

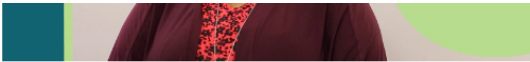
Thank you to everyone we have worked with over the past 12 months – I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in the future!

Dr Rishi Das-Gupta, Chief Executive

Introduction

Watch our welcome video to hear from our Lived Experience Partner Faith Smith, Chair Hitesh Thakrar and Chief Executive Rishi Das-Gupta.





[Watch the full video](#)

Section 1: Accessing Innovations

Our first strategic priority is to make sure that the local area can take advantage of national priorities that help to reduce health inequalities and improve access to care. This work has included our successful [Medication Safety Improvement Programme](#) and the [First Episode Rapid Early Intervention for Eating Disorders \(FREED\) programme](#).

FREED services have recruited 55 FREED Champions into specialised early intervention roles, and more than 2,000 patients have benefitted from faster access to diagnosis and treatment through the model since the programme began in 2020.

A video to support recruitment into FREED Champion roles has also been produced, which can be viewed in the report.



[Read more about improving access to innovations](#)

Section 2: Improving outcomes

Our second strategic priority is to execute health and care change programmes with a focus on long-term conditions, including paying particular attention to mental health.

Our [Mental Health Safety Improvement Programme](#) and its Patient Safety Network has been a great success, aiming to reduce restrictive practices by 25 per cent. Last year, more than 40 people from south London's mental health trusts attended the network to bring together their key learning.

Another noteworthy programme aligning with this priority has been the [Cardiovascular Disease \(CVD\) Prevention Fellowship](#), which successfully upskilled 85 primary care clinicians to better support people at risk of developing CVD. Through this programme, over 40 quality improvement projects were delivered, covering a population of more than 1.4 million.



[Read more about our projects improving outcomes](#)

Section 3: Supporting innovators

Our third strategic priority is to support health care teams to speed up the adoption of innovations and digital tools, and in turn boosting growth in the economy.

Our involvement in the [Graduates into Health](#) programme is an active example of this, helping to bring future talent into today's NHS workforce. Over the last year, 122 graduates have been recruited through the programme into digital, data and technology roles, contributing towards a world with faster and better healthcare innovation.

The [programmes run by DigitalHealth.London](#), including the Accelerator and Launchpad, have also gone from strength to strength. In particular, the [Horizon Fellowship](#), run in partnership with CW+, has this year supported 15 individuals with transformation project ideas to improve patient care, with an estimated reach of over 13,000 people.



[Read more about projects supporting innovators](#)

Section 4: Evaluating innovation

Our fourth strategic priority is to evaluate how effective innovations are in the real world, and use robust research to find which products and tools should be candidates for wider adoption across the health system.

Our Insights Team have worked hard to evaluate virtual wards across south west London. This proved to be very informative, identifying key statistics on adherence to technology, hospital readmission rates, standard of care and staff working experiences.

Our evaluation of mental health crisis hubs has been another landmark achievement, helping to gain an understanding of non-A&E models of urgent mental health care and their potential impact at service user, carer and practitioner levels within London.



[Read more about projects evaluating innovation](#)

Section 5: Finance and People

Our final strategic priority is to build a sustainable, resilient, diverse, and joyful organisation.

This year, we have had an especially strong focus on anti-racism. Our goal is to be an actively anti-racist organisation with a mission statement: overcoming racial inequality in our workplace and community.

Our annual report states that we included the stories of scientists that the roles of scientists

Our new [Involvement Strategy](#) included the aim of ensuring that the voice of people who live and work in south London is embedded in the selection of national innovation priority programmes. The appointment of our two [Lived Experience Partners](#), who started with us in February 2023, has been fundamental in helping us connect our work with wider communities of people living in south London.

In this section you can also read more about our financial position, an overview of staff diversity as well as the gender and ethnicity pay gaps.



[Read more about our finance and people](#)

If you have any questions or comments about the projects mentioned in our report, please [contact us](#).



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