

Who we are

We are experts in healthcare services. Dedicated to improving the health of our population, we provide joined-up services with partners that meet everyone's needs, nearer to home.

Why we exist

Our Purpose

Helping people to live healthier, more fulfilling lives

What we do every day

Our Mission

Being the best team we can be for our patients, each other and our partners

Where we want to get to

Our Vision

Everyone is proud of the difference we make. We are more than a hospital, we bring care together for people

How we will get there

Strategic Priorities

By being better connected with what matters



People

Nurturing a culture people want to be a part of



Patients

Meeting the needs of our patients and communities



Collaboration

Building strong connections and pathways



Excellence

Focusing on continuous improvement



Effectiveness

Enhancing our efficiency and effectiveness

Guided by our Values

Being open and honest • Ensuring people feel cared for • Showing respect to everyone

Our Strategy 2025-30



Report to	Foundation Group Boards	Agenda Item	7.3
Date of Meeting	7 May 2025		
Title of Report	Foundation Group Strategy Committee Report from the Meeting held on 18 March 2025		
Status of report: (Consideration, position statement, information, discussion)	For information		
Author:	Chelsea Ireland, Foundation Group Executive Assistant (EA)		
Lead Executive Director:	Russell Hardy, Foundation Group Chair		
1. Purpose of the Report	To provide the Foundation Group Boards with an update on the discussions at the last Foundation Group Strategy Committee meeting.		
2. Recommendations	The Foundation Group Boards are asked to receive and note the Foundation Group Strategy Committee report for the meeting held on 18 March 2025.		
3. Executive Assurance	N/A		

**South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust
Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust
Wye Valley NHS Trust**

Report to Foundation Group Boards – 7 May 2025

Foundation Group Strategy Committee Report from the Meeting held on 18 March 2025

The agenda for this meeting was focused on the following key items:

1. Digital Update – What is the Group Approach to Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

The Chief Executive for Innovate presented an update on AI strategy within the Foundation Group, highlighting its early but rapidly advancing role in healthcare. He emphasised the importance of hospitals staying current with AI developments and adopting a safe, experimental approach. Low-cost tools like Copilot and ChatGPT were being trialled and had shown positive productivity impacts. More advanced and costly AI applications, such as chatbots and imaging automation, are also being explored.

Ongoing AI initiatives include tools like the Lola chatbot, a fracture analysis system, and automated service desk management, with plans to expand into radiology, pathology, and further Copilot rollout. A group-wide AI Steering Group has been set up to guide implementation with a focus on safety, ethics, and control.

In the discussion, Managing Directors supported quick adoption of AI tools like Copilot but stressed the need for clear delivery models to support cost-saving measures at Trust level. The Group Chief Executive reinforced AI's role in cost and service improvements.

2. Supporting Research Across the Foundation Group

The Group Chief Executive provided an overview of current research support across the Foundation Group, highlighting that Professor Simon Brake had been supporting research through a shared role across SWFT, GEH, and WVT, though WAHT was not initially part of the agreement. With WAHT now part of the Group and Professor Brake also supporting them, a decision was needed on whether to formalise his role or consider a new approach amid financial pressures. It was agreed that there was a need for a strong leadership approach to Research, potentially Managing Director led however the Committee recommended extending Professor Simon Brake's role for at least twelve months with clear targets.

3. Procurement – How are organisations benefiting from the Group approach and what are the next steps?

The Chief Finance Officer for WVT presented an update on the Procurement Shared Service to the Committee, which had shifted to a more strategic view. The Shared Service had worked on improving collaboration but also refocused the workplan to drive greater opportunities. A task and finish group had been set up across the Foundation Group to identify and realise procurement savings, and this had strong Non-Executive Director (NED) engagement. The work was being approached under two pillars, Value for Money (VFM) and the Service Model with both pillars having short and long-term goals. This included commissioned spend analytics, opportunity reviews and managed service scoping.

4. WAHT Trust Strategy Update

The Chief Clinical Strategy Officer for WAHT provided the Committee with a position update on their Trust Strategy, highlighting that the Trust was working towards a strategy that would guide staff to where the organisation wanted to be. WAHT had partnered with a company called Morgan to support with the development of the Trust Strategy by undertaking internal and external engagement with partners. This involved explaining the purpose, mission and how to get there which enabled a fully collaborative approach to the Trusts Strategy.

5. NHS Strategic Developments Update

The Group Chief Executive updated the Committee on the current strategic developments within the wider NHS. This included the 10 Year Plan, his new responsibilities as National Financial Reset and Accountability Director within the NHS Transition Team, and the changes to NHS England (NHSE). The Group Chief Executive also briefly updated the Committee on the financial changes, including aligning financial incentives with performance, and ensuring Trust-level accountability for financial management.

6. Foundation Group Boards Overview and Agenda Planning

The Committee reviewed the draft agenda for the May 2025 Foundation Group Boards meeting, which was approved.

Recommendation

The Foundation Group Boards are asked to receive and note the Foundation Group Strategy Committee report for the meeting held on 18 March 2025.

Chelsea Ireland
Foundation Group EA