



AT A GLANCE

CHALLENGES

- Three merging organisations
- Different service pathways
- Understanding Health Inequalities

BENEFITS

- Single point of reference
- Informed strategic planning
- Improved overall data quality

WHAT WAS THE CHALLENGE?

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (ICB) commissioned a strategic review to baseline the demand and capacity of community and inpatient mental health services across children, adolescent, and adult care pathways. This initiative was driven by the forthcoming merger of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, Solent NHS Trust, and Isle of Wight NHS Trust into a unified entity: the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The overarching aim was to improve access, care experience, and clinical outcomes by addressing regional health inequalities and ensuring a consistent, equitable service offer across the area.

HOW DID WE HELP?

In partnership with system stakeholders, the NHS Benchmarking Network conducted a comprehensive benchmarking review. The process leveraged existing data sets from the 2023/24 annual mental health submissions and publicly available information via the NHSBN National Indicators platform. By utilising these data sources, the review was able to establish a robust baseline of current service delivery across the system without imposing additional reporting demands on providers. The analysis focused on highlighting service variation, enabling a shared understanding of current performance, and aligning stakeholders around common priorities and evidence-based improvement opportunities.

WHAT WAS THE IMPACT?

The review has provided a critical reference point to inform the strategic planning of the new Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. It has empowered system leaders and operational teams with the insights needed to identify and address service variation, target health inequalities, and improve data quality. The findings serve not only as a diagnostic tool but also as a foundation for future transformation efforts, supporting the design and delivery of integrated, high-quality mental health services for all age groups across the region.