

CHESHIRE & MERSEYSIDE ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS & SOCIAL VALUE

Context:

- The [Cheshire & Merseyside All Together Fairer report \(2022\)](#), recognised the significant assets that public and private sector Anchor Institutions and social value approaches can have in reducing structural inequalities in health and wellbeing.
- Aqua were commissioned to support the Champs Public Health Collaborative's Anchor Institutions and All Together Fairer programme teams to identify opportunities to expand the Anchor work, bringing together public, private and third sector organisations with one shared aim: build a fairer, healthier Cheshire and Merseyside (C&M).

What We Did:

Aqua, the Anchor Institutions and All Together Fairer teams worked together on:

1. **Alignment Workshop** - delivery of a workshop for strategic system leaders to help them visually map the alignment of strategic programmes that support delivery of Anchors, social value and social determinants of health across C&M and to build connection between programme leaders.
2. **Opportunity Assessments** – Aqua undertook 17 insight discussions with public health leaders from all 9 local authorities and other voluntary and private sector Anchor Institutions in the region, to baseline Anchor activity and identify opportunities to grow the Anchor movement in C&M using the Anchor framework (see image).
3. **Final workshop** - The themes from the discussions were presented to participants in a workshop that helped form recommendations to the C&M Directors of Public Health.

Impact:

- The outputs gave the Anchor Institutions and All Together Fairer teams a clearer view of the strengths and development needs for each Place, to inform planning of next steps/any support needed.
- The recommendations from this work were approved by the C&M Directors of Public Health and are currently being implemented.
- Increased engagement in the Anchors work and connections created to enable sharing of good practice across C&M and continued expansion of the Anchors programme.



"Working with Aqua we have pushed the boundaries and challenged each others thinking around Anchors. I am proud to say we gained followers, collaboration and integration. The work opened doors for broader conversations and eased the way in a superb case for change"

**Dave Sweeney, AD Partnerships & Sustainability,
NHS Cheshire & Merseyside**

For further details about this piece of work, or to discuss how we can support you, please get in touch:



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