

Strand patient record technology is the 'perfect' solution

## Forward-thinking I.T. plan pays dividends for Trust

**CHESHIRE and Wirral NHS Trust has been held up as a 'shining example' of successfully implementing cutting edge patient record technology.**

The Trust, which employs 2,700 staff in hospitals and community based services, has implemented Strand Technology's leading CareNotes electronic care record system over the last two years and is now reaping the rewards of its forward-thinking I.T. strategy.

Graham Phillips, Managing Director of Strand Technology, said: "The Trust decided not to 'stand still' while waiting for the National Programme to focus on mental health services.

"Instead it opted for an interim solution and seven-year support agreement with the potential to be part of the National Programme in the future.

"This has allowed the Trust to enjoy the huge benefits of early implementation of the national Connecting for Health agenda, achieving targets for data and information standards."

Changing to CareNotes has been a significant undertaking for the Trust –



I.T. experts at Strand Technology.

### Report by **NICOLA DUFTY**

which has hospitals and community based services across 70 sites over a 60 mile radius.

The Trust's mental health services are comprehensive including adult, older people, as well as CAMHs, forensic mental health services and Prison In-Reach at Styal Prison.

Its work involves close co-operation with social services, six primary care trusts, as well as other NHS organisations, statutory and voluntary agencies.

David Hannam, Sales Director for Strand Technology, said: "In effect, Cheshire and Wirral has implemented its own mini Connecting for Health information system – on time, and on budget.

"The Trust can now access full patient information 24/7, via internet explorer, and has a centralised system for records and information management.

"Now other Trusts are showing interest in Cheshire and Wirral's success which has placed it 'ahead of the game' in its approach to the I.T. challenges facing the National Health Service."

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Julian Fifield

## Increasing demand for new software solution

NHS software developer Strand Technology has appointed another Business Development Manager to deal with the increasing demand for its solutions.

Julian Fifield, who spent

17 years as an NHS manager, will be responsible for the innovative CareNotes Substance Misuse, Harm Reduction and Risk Management software solutions.

These solutions were unveiled in March 2006 and have attracted huge interest from NHS Trusts throughout the UK and Canada.

**Continued overleaf**

## Substance Misuse Solution is years ahead

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The software functions include:

- A prescribing module for Class A Controlled Drugs.
- Batch printing of prescriptions.
- Comprehensive assessments and treatment planning.
- Anonymous Needle Exchange.
- Complete clinical and business risk management.

Julian, who is based in Oxford, said: "I am delighted to be joining Strand Technology at such an important time.

"The company has worked hard developing these solutions and the feedback from clinicians has been extremely positive.

"The mental health sector is focusing on improving and developing its services – and this critically depends on having the best I.T. solutions in place.

"You cannot develop a better service, report on it, or communicate it to a network of professional carers and staff without a good I.T. solution.

"Up until now no supplier has offered an effective solution to Substance Misuse or Harm Reduction services, but Strand Technology is now offering solutions that are years ahead of anything else on the market, and as a company we are prepared to put that to the test.

"So the message I'm getting across to Service managers is: You strive to improve the services delivered to your clients – Strand Technology has the solutions that can help deliver those improvements."



Chris Tyler, a Director of Strand Technology, who led the development of the new software.

# CareNotes solution will improve Trust's efficiency Bedfordshire and Luton choose 'CareNotes'

**BEDFORDSHIRE and Luton Mental Health and Social Care Partnership NHS Trust has signed a contract to use CareNotes electronic care record solution.**

The news underlines CareNotes' rapid expansion within the NHS mental health sector.

Strand Technology, developers of the CareNotes electronic care record solution, was awarded the contract following a tender process that began last summer.

Lizzy Smith, Senior Clinical Governance for CAMHs at Bedfordshire and Luton, said the Trust had undergone a full, comprehensive and transparent consultation process before selecting CareNotes.

"We have taken everything into account and involved staff from all professions of our organisation – management, administration and clinicians. "CareNotes has proven to be the most appropriate system, as it meets all of the Service's requirements," said Mrs Smith. "We are already in the forefront of these developments with Dr Samuel Stein and Miranda Wolpert, from the Service, both



David Hannam, Sales Director of Strand Technology.

### Report by NICOLA DUFTY

taking a lead in the CAMHs Outcomes Research Consortium (CORC).

"This solution will help us continue to make the best use of new technology and will make a big difference to the Service.

### Efficiency

"At the moment we are running two separate databases.

"CareNotes will allow us to bring all of the data together into one solution and improve our efficiency."

CareNotes CAMHs will provide a complete integrated care record system including –

Planning of Care, Outcomes monitoring, and Data mapping. The CareNotes solution has also been developed in line with the CAMHs Outcomes Research Consortium (CORC) requirements – the influential NHS group that is improving services for children with mental health problems. CareNotes provides CORC outcomes measuring, and helps create reports to ensure Trusts keep up with new guidelines from government and within the NHS itself. CareNotes will be deployed to all users via the NHSnet, with users accessing CareNotes through Microsoft Explorer, no CareNotes software being installed locally. The contract also involves full and detailed staff training.

## NEW

# Sunderland PCT signs up for CareNotes Substance Misuse

**SUNDERLAND Teaching Primary Care Trust has signed a contract to use the recently launched CareNotes Substance Misuse solution.**

The software, which became available for the NHS earlier this year, will be used by 30 staff at the three-star rated PCT.

It is expected to be in full use by clinicians within months.

Strand Technology's innovative software is the first I.T. solution to combine both electronic

patient care records with a prescribing module. This will allow clinicians working within Substance Misuse services to use pioneering new technology to improve patient care.

Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust serves a total population of around 283,000 people and latest NHS Performance Indicators show that its primary healthcare services for patients continue to be among the best in the country.

