

## **Technology in healthcare – the shape of things to come**

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### **About this session**

Technology is playing an increasingly greater role in our everyday lives – from seemingly futuristic appliances making lighter work of household chores, to online systems that allow us to do our banking, or which connect us to the world via the internet.

Healthcare is no exception. Over the past few years there have been a great many technological advances that are helping to improve the way healthcare is delivered. Advanced techniques to support micro surgery and robotic limb technology are examples of this.

Whilst it will be many years before some of these advanced technologies become commonplace across the NHS, Sefton residents are already benefiting from a number of innovations to better manage their care and treatment.

This includes telehealth systems to provide quick, expert medical assessment of care home patients, booking online appointments and digital x-ray systems so patients can be scanned in one place and their results analysed elsewhere.

### **What does technology offer healthcare?**

Technology has the potential to support people to better manage and monitor their own health conditions, or for them to get quick medical help. Advanced information systems can enable health professionals to share data about your health and your treatment so they can make better, informed decisions about your care. These systems also allow patients to have more control and say in their treatment.

### **Your views**

We would like to know what you think about these examples below:

- Online services for GP practices – booking appointments, online consultations etc
- Self-monitoring – using technological devices to help people with long term conditions to manage their health at home
- Data sharing – so doctors and other professionals can see your health records to provide you with better and sometimes faster treatment

**You will have the opportunity to share your views as part of the group discussion, but please share your views here if you prefer**