

EITEM AGENDA / AGENDA ITEM: 4.3

Cyd-bwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal y Canolbarth / Mid Wales Joint Committee for Health and Care								
Enw'r Is-Grŵp: Name of Sub-Group:	Rural Health and Care Wales Management and Steering Groups							
Cadeirydd y Is-Grŵp: Chair of Sub-Group:	Jack Evershed, Chair of Rural Health and Care Wales Management and Steering Groups							
Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Is-Grŵp diwethaf: Date of last Sub-Group Meeting:	27 th July 2020							
Cyfnod Adrodd: Reporting Period:	March – July 2020							
Y Penderfyniadau a'r Materion a Ystyriodd yr Is-Grŵp: Key Decisions and Matters Considered by the Sub-Group:								
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minutes of RHCW Steering Group meeting held on 27th November 2019 were approved</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matters Arising and Table of Actions were acknowledged (Steering Group 27/11/19)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minutes RHCW Management Group meeting held on 3rd March 2020 were approved</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matters Arising and Table of Actions were acknowledged (Management Group 03/03/20)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RHCW Progress Report was discussed and received – see <i>attached Minutes</i> a. The Ambulance research report was discussed and received</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RHCW Conference 2020 was agreed in virtual format, with elements of delivery and content discussed; to revert to next meeting on 29th September 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Long Term governance and funding options for RHCW were discussed</td> </tr> </table>		Minutes of RHCW Steering Group meeting held on 27 th November 2019 were approved	Matters Arising and Table of Actions were acknowledged (Steering Group 27/11/19)	Minutes RHCW Management Group meeting held on 3 rd March 2020 were approved	Matters Arising and Table of Actions were acknowledged (Management Group 03/03/20)	RHCW Progress Report was discussed and received – see <i>attached Minutes</i> a. The Ambulance research report was discussed and received	RHCW Conference 2020 was agreed in virtual format, with elements of delivery and content discussed; to revert to next meeting on 29 th September 2020	Long Term governance and funding options for RHCW were discussed
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Materion sydd angen eu cytuno new trafod ymhellach gan y Cyd-Bwyllgor: Items to be referred to the Joint Committee for agreement or discussion:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work of the RHCW Management and Steering Groups to be acknowledged • Minutes of the RHCW Management and Steering Groups meeting held on 27th July 2020 to be received and acknowledged • Information on the RHCW virtual Conference 2020 to be received • Ambulance research report received under Agenda item 5 • Future funding and long terms sustainability of RHCW to be discussed under Agenda item 5 								

Gwaith Cynlluniedig yr Is-Grŵp ar gyfer y cyfnod nesaf:**Planned Sub-Group work for the next period:**

Action	Lead
AP to contact Sam Horwill for an update on the Primary Care Academy proposed for Mid Wales (Swansea University).	AP
SB to liaise directly with TB with regard to the social prescribing of swimming lessons in BCUHB area.	SB
JE to meet with AG / continue to pursue long term funding for RHCW.	JE
KS to provide plan that focuses on collaborative working between SBUHB and HDdUHB.	KS
Minutes of the RHCW Management Group meeting on 3 rd March 2020 to be amended.	AJ
<p>Pt.2 (p3) AP to contact Estelle Hitchon regarding the use of the WAST logo.</p> <p>NRe to forward additional papers and inform of other research activities that WAST are currently involved with.</p> <p>AB / NRe to liaise with regard to possible collaboration in Powys (Social Care / WAST).</p> <p>AP to share NWWB report to Group members when it is made publicly available.</p>	<p>AP</p> <p>NRe</p> <p>AB / NRe</p> <p>AP</p>
<p>AP to trial the best platform to use to host the conference in order to decide on which is the most suitable.</p> <p>AP to send call for papers / posters out in August 2020.</p> <p>More details of RHCW Virtual Conference 2020 to be Agenda item for next meeting to be held in late September 2020.</p>	<p>AP</p> <p>AP</p> <p>AP</p>
<p>HP to keep Group members informed of impact of coronavirus on health and wellbeing of individuals.</p> <p>Group members to forward details of any coronavirus related research being undertaken by their organisations to AP, in order to identify gaps / prevent duplication.</p> <p>AP to develop proposal for RHCW research project (e.g. experiences in Mid Wales of changes to the delivery of health and care / impact of Covid-19 in rural areas) for September meeting.</p>	<p>HP</p> <p>All</p> <p>AP</p>

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Is-Grŵp Nesaf:**Date of Next Sub-Group Meeting:**29th September 2020

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
RURAL HEALTH AND CARE WALES MANAGEMENT AND STEERING GROUPS
MEETING**

Time and date of meeting:	2pm on Monday 27 th July 2020
Venue:	Virtual meeting via Microsoft TEAMS
Present (via MS TEAMS):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Evershed, Chair RHCW (JE) • Sally Baxter, BCUHB (SB) • Sue Fish (SF) • Rachel Rahman (RR) • Francis Gerrard (FG) • Alison Bulman (AB) • Tom Brooks (TB) • Andy Williams (AW) • Gabrielle Heathcote (GH) • Nigel Rees (NRe) • Heather Parry (HP) • Nicola Ruck (NRu)
In attendance (via MS TEAMS):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Prytherch, RHCW Project Manager (AP) • Angharad Jones, RHCW Development Officer (AJ)

Agenda item	Item	Action
SG (27)¹	<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>JE welcomed members to the RHCW Management and Steering Groups meeting and thanked everyone for attending. JE apologised for the length of time since the last meeting, due to the Covid-10 pandemic.</p> <p>In order assist with facilitating a virtual meeting, the following requests were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To turn video cameras off • To keep microphones on mute, unless speaking • To use the 'raise a hand' option when wishing to speak • To use chat activity for messaging / making comments 	

¹ It is acknowledged that Management and Steering Group meetings use different agenda item identifiers. These combined minutes will use the SG prefix as agenda item identifiers.

	<p>JE stated that whilst he would be chairing the meeting, he acknowledged that his internet connection could be an issue; it was therefore agreed that AP would step in if JEs internet connectivity became further problematic.</p>	
SG (28)	<p>2. Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Skitt – Hywel Dda University Health Board • Jason Killens – Welsh Ambulance Service Trust • Simon Dean – Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board • Karen Stapleton – Swansea Bay University Health Board • Mari Wynne Jones – Gwynedd County Council • Hayley Thomas – Powys Teaching Health Board • Mark Gleeson – Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training <p>Roger Maidment UWTSD has informed RHCW of his retirement and has requested that Dr Andy Williams takes his place as a representative from UWTSD on the Management Group meeting. Roger has enjoyed being a part of the group and attending the conferences in Builth Wells, and he sends RHCW best wishes for the future. Dr Andy Williams was welcomed to the Group.</p>	
SG (29)	<p>3. Minutes RHCW Steering Group meeting held on 27th November 2019</p> <p>JE asked if all were happy with the minutes from the last Steering Group. No comments were received, therefore the minutes were accepted as an accurate record.</p>	
SG (30)	<p>4. Matters Arising and Table of Action (Steering Group 27/11/2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG (19) SF informed the meeting that she was no longer involved with work relating to the Primary Care Academy, and was therefore unable to provide an update. A GP and Manager have been appointed, and it was suggested that an update could be received from Sam Horwill (new Manager). • SG (19) SB apologised she had not had an opportunity to follow up on TBs concern about the reduction of swimming sessions in Gwynedd, which feeds into the social prescribing agenda; however facilities within BCUHB areas are now beginning to re-open following the necessary Covid-19 restrictions put in place; SB will take this up and liaise directly with TB. • SG (24) JE informed the meeting that he had intended to meet with Andrew Goodall (AG) at an event in Aberystwyth on the 19th 	<p>AP</p> <p>SB</p>

	<p>December; however this event was cancelled. The event was rescheduled for January 2020, but AG didn't attend. Due to the current pandemic focus of work priorities, JE hasn't been able to meet with AG to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG (25) KS has yet to circulate the plan which focuses on collaborative working between SBUHB and HDdUHB. <p>All actions, otherwise had been completed.</p>	<p>JE</p> <p>KS</p>
SG (31)	<p>5. DRAFT Minutes RHCW Management Group meeting held on 3rd March 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MG (64) JE identified one error on page 6, and the sentence should read: <p><i>'JE informed members that he is currently working with Public Health Wales to expand the work being done in Dolgellau to support the health and mental and physical wellbeing of farmers. This work was presented at last year's conference.'</i></p> <p>No other comments were made with regard to the minutes and, subject to the above amendment (AJ to correct), the minutes were accepted as an accurate record.</p>	<p>AJ</p>
SG (32)	<p>6. Matters Arising and Table of Actions (Management Group 03/03/20)</p> <p>No comments were made on the actions / matters arising reported.</p>	
SG (33)	<p>7. RHCW Progress Report</p> <p>AP presented a report on the progress of RHCW with regard to delivery of the Work Programme 2020/21, and specific references and discussions were made on the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pt. 1 (p2): Social Prescribing pilot project SF confirmed that the North Ceredigion GP Cluster will be funding a Link Worker to deliver social prescribing solutions. • Pt.2 (p3): How do Response Times for Amber Ambulance Calls Compare in Rural verses Urban Areas of Wales? NRe acknowledged that WAST were initially concerned regarding this piece of work, especially in relation to factual accuracy; however he felt that the report was very comprehensive and congratulated the department on how they have dealt with the topic, which is a very sensitive subject. He felt that although time targets has historically been a focus of WAST data, the report also makes reference to the quality of 	

	<p>service provision now being measured, which is important, as was the development of research activities within the organisation. NRe though did highlighted that the use of the WAST logo in the report required permission, and AP agreed to contact Estelle Hitchon for confirmation of use.</p> <p>NRe suggested additional papers and other research activities that WAST are involved with that may be of interest and agreed to forward information to AP.</p> <p>TB noted that he was pleased that the report had been written, especially in view of the challenges that the pandemic had presented, but felt that more work could be done to it. The rural definition could be tightened and although the data in the report used collective Health Board (HB) data, these also contained urban data from within those HB areas, therefore not representing a true rural view. TB suggested that a better way to cleanse the data would be to link calls made to emergency services with the callers' postcodes, so that each call could be categorised as rural or urban, creating a new dataset. He also felt that whilst response times of up to 30 minutes favoured rural areas, response times of after 30 minutes did not, and the felt the report didn't explore this avenue, as he suspects that discontent experienced by rural residents are more in relation to this timeframe. TB also suggested linking incidents to morbidity could provide further insights.</p> <p>AP recognised the limitations of the report but responded by stating that the report had outlined its desktop research parameters and felt that it had addressed the relevant issues raised in the original request; the work suggested by TB was a step further and would require a different brief or more specific request.</p> <p>SB commented that the report made interesting reading, and whilst a perception of rural areas being disadvantaged in this area existed, responding to urban areas with deprived communities could be more challenging. The competence of individuals making a 999 call, could also be a factor.</p> <p>AB felt that further opportunities to work with WAST colleagues was possible in Powys with regard to social care, and requested to talk with NR. It was highlighted that more collaborations were possible, especially in relation to exploiting professional links, sharing data and research activities.</p> <p>NRe stated that the current climate was right for collaborations to occur, and that he had met with Health and Care Research Wales colleagues within Swansea University, who underlined the problem of getting people involved in research and becoming</p>	<p>AP</p> <p>NRe</p> <p>AB/NRe</p>
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	<p>Chief Investigators. It was felt support was needed to assist people to take responsibility and lead on research studies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pt.3 (p6): <i>Innovative ways to deliver care across the North Wales region (North Wales Workforce Board (NWWB))</i> The final report has been submitted to the NWWB (review of best models of care), but is not yet within the public domain. RHCW will share the report with members when this occurs in due course as it could have implications across all areas. • Pt. 4 (p1): <i>Bronglais Digital Project</i> RHCW agreed to pause the Bronglais Digital Project due to HDdUHB launching a new website; the new website addresses some but not all the issues and ideas identified during the consultation phase of the initial project; further consideration is therefore required on how best to proceed. 	AP
SG (34)	<p>8. Long term governance and funding options for RHCW</p> <p>JE informed the meeting that he had been seeking to secure long-term funding for RHCW as much as possible over the past few months and was able to share that BCUHB had confirmed its intention to continue funding on a '<i>recurrent basis</i>'; JE thanked SB and Mark Polin (Chairman, BCUHB) for their support. Steve Moore for HDdUHB has agreed funding up until March 2021 and further consideration to be given for permanency. PTHB have yet to make a decision, but acknowledged the good work being undertaken by RHCW.</p> <p>JE believed that permanent funding of the organisation will be resolved soon and felt positive regarding the future of RHCW.</p>	
SG (35)	<p>9. RHCW Conference 2020</p> <p>AP presented the concept of RHCW hosting a virtual conference for 2020, due to current restrictions. The timing of the conference had been highlighted as a concern, but whilst the future is unknown regarding the situation for November time - especially in light of winter pressures and concerns of a second wave - keeping to the same timeframe is important as people are aware that RHCW's conference is held during November and the momentum and routine must continue. AP suggested the 10th and 11th of November and, due to the online platform of the conference, for it to be offered free of charge to delegates. Group members agreed to these proposals.</p> <p>AP proposed that the conference would be hosted via Microsoft TEAMS, however, RR, SF, JE and FG believed that Zoom had better abilities to host a conference, especially as it accommodated</p>	

	<p>breakout facilities. It was acknowledged that NHS computers did have connection difficulties with Zoom and also it was questioned if the conference needed to have breakout sessions. Some sessions would be broadcasted live, others pre-recorded, with all presentations accessible on-line during and after the event.</p> <p>It was decided that AP should trial the different platforms and involve Group members in a test if necessary, in order to decide on the most suitable one to use for the Conference.</p> <p>AP proposed that posters be submitted in jpg / gif format and voted on via on-line survey sent to registered delegates. Delegates could score each poster against the usual criteria and a winner announced at the end of the Conference. RR suggested that whilst having live speakers is a good idea, enabling a live question and answer session, intermittent internet connections could be problematic, especially if it resulted in the live presentation not taking place. RR therefore suggested that as a backup, all live sessions could also be pre-recorded, so if a live presentation did not go ahead, then the pre-recorded session could be shown instead, meaning that all the delegates signed up for the conference would still have content to view, and not have a gap in the timetable. All felt that this was a good idea.</p> <p>JE highlighted that joining live events could be frustrating due to connectivity, and FG advised that live question and answer sessions needs to be managed carefully. TB had fed back that specific themes could be added to the conference timetable; however it was felt that themes should remain broad to capture a wide range of topic areas.</p> <p>It was agreed that the proposed virtual Conference go ahead as per the recommendations. AP will arrange for the call for papers to go out in August.</p> <p>A further meeting of the RHCW Management / Steering Groups will be held in late September, when AP can present more details on the Conference and its format.</p>	<p>AP</p> <p>AP</p>
<p>SG (37)</p>	<p>10. Any Other Business</p> <p>i. AP asked what the figures for the CARER students were in Mid Wales this year. FG informed the meeting that the numbers are disappointingly low for the Carers Project for 2020-21, with only three students signed up. However, she believes this is a glitch this year and may correspond to the opening of the Bangor Hub; but she is confident that the numbers will increase next year.</p>	

	<p>SF informed the meeting that the current cohort of Carer students had given very positive feedback regarding their year in Ceredigion; both SF and FG noted that when the lockdown was announced in March, all Ceredigion Carer students chose to stay in Aberystwyth and continue working – the only placement group within the whole of the third year cohort to do so.</p> <p>SF further informed the meeting that Swansea University (Primary Care Academy) are wanting to commence placing medical students in the Ceredigion area, with around four students to be accommodated initially.</p> <p>ii. HP noted that benefit payments had increased by 116.25% in Powys since Covid-19, with further increases expected in October when the furlough scheme ceases; the coronavirus situation had created a lot of anxiety and the health and wellbeing impact has been severe. She is working closely with DWP to monitor the situation and will keep in touch with AP.</p> <p>iii. SF highlighted that covid-19 has meant that new ways of working have had to be implemented, with massive changes in the way that Primary Care has been delivered; this presents possible research opportunities into how the change is being facilitated in rural areas, especially in view of the increased use of digital technologies and should be a subject of research for RHCW.</p> <p>RR informed the meeting that Aberystwyth University is working with HDdUHB to explore the mental health and wellbeing of NHS staff in response to the covid-19 pandemic and will follow staff up over the next 12 months. A funding application is currently in progress which would enable the research to be expanded to other health boards across Wales over a 6 month period, including Cardiff and Vale who have already agreed to collaborate. This would enable better consideration of rural versus urban distinctions in the coping and wellbeing of NHS staff.</p> <p>NRe added that WAST is also aware of the effects that Covid-19 is having on staff wellbeing and a colleague within Swansea University is exploring the effects of wellbeing; it might be beneficial for members to feed into that work.</p> <p>JE suggested that current research studies could be collated, so no overlaps occur, possible gaps can be identified and that a coordinated approach could be undertaken to ensure rural impact representation. All to send information on research projects to AP, who will present a proposed area of post Covid-19 research for RHCW (experiences in Mid Wales of changes</p>	<p>HP</p> <p>All</p>
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	to the delivery of health and care / impact of Covid-19 in rural areas) at its September meeting (Agenda item).	AP
SG (37)	Date and Time of Next Meeting TBC (late September 2020)	JE/AP