

**EITEM AGENDA / AGENDA ITEM: 6.2****Cyd-bwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal y Canolbarth ar gyfer Iechyd a Gofal /  
Mid Wales Joint Committee for Health and Care**

<b>Enw'r Is-Grŵp: Name of Sub-Group:</b>	Rural Health and Care Wales Stakeholder Group
<b>Cadeirydd y Is-Grŵp: Chair of Sub-Group:</b>	Peter Skitt, County Director Ceredigion and MWJC Programme Director
<b>Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Is-Grŵp diwethaf: Date of last Sub-Group Meeting:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
<b>Cyfnod Adrodd: Reporting Period:</b>	January – March 2023
<b>Y Penderfyniadau a'r Materion a Ystyriodd yr Is-Grŵp: Key Decisions and Matters Considered by the Sub-Group:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of the RHCW Stakeholder Group meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022</li> <li>• Matters Arising and Table of Actions</li> <li>• RHCW Progress Report</li> <li>• RHCW Work Programme and Budget 2023/24 [attached]</li> <li>• EMRTS Service Review presentation – <i>Stephen Harry, Chief Ambulance Services Commissioner, EASC (Emergency Ambulance Services Committee)</i></li> <li>• A presentation on the Development of a Nursing Workforce Plan for Wales – <i>Nicola Lewis, Nursing Workforce Design and Development Manager, HEIW</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Materion sydd angen eu cytuno new trafod ymhellach gan y Cyd-Bwyllgor: Items to be referred to the Joint Committee for agreement or discussion:</b>	
<p>Of note from the meeting, members of the RHCW Stakeholder Group raised concern regarding the perceived focus on clinical, hospital-based health in the proposed strategic priorities of the MWJC and wished to ensure that the broader issues relating to a Social Model of Health and Wellbeing are equally prioritised across Mid Wales; to include community-based and non-clinical interventions, addressing health inequalities relating to levels of education and homelessness etc.</p> <p>Members of the Group were circulated with details of the proposed Welsh Government Trusted Assessor model, the Primary and Community Nursing Survey and the Strategic Pharmacy Workforce Plan consultation for feedback and input.</p> <p>The MWJC is asked to acknowledge the work undertaken by the RHCW Stakeholder Group and to approve the proposed RHCW Work Programme and Budget for 2023/24.</p>	

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

To complete identified actions from the March meeting.  
To continue to monitor progress made against the approved RHCW Work Programme.

***Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Is-Grŵp Nesaf:***

**Date of Next Sub-Group Meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## **PROPOSED RHCW Work Programme 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Below is a proposed Work Programme for RHCW for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, aligned with the strategic priorities and aims of the Mid Wales Joint Committee for Health and Care\* (*\*subject to approval*).

### **1. Aim 1: Health, Wellbeing and Prevention**

- *Improve the health and wellbeing of the Mid Wales population*

- Develop and deliver rural health and care research proposals, based on identified needs, to include completion of delivery of the “On your Bike” project (Cynnal y Cardi / LEADER funded) and other projects that align with the RHCW / MWJC Aims and Objectives

*TARGET: active research phase of “On your Bike project” (research on usage) to be undertaken and research report completed by 31st October 2023; develop and submit at least two grant funding application for other interventions that will improve the health and care of people living in rural Mid Wales*

- Work to deliver the Macmillan Rural Cancer Patient Experience research to explore rural vs urban population experiences, employing a fixed term Macmillan Rural Cancer Patient Researcher to lead on the work.

*TARGET: Macmillan Rural Cancer Patient Experience Researcher to be employed by June 2023; research project to be completed by June 2025.*

- Continue to manage the Green Health in Practice Network database and distribute information, engage in consultations and work with academia and the third sector in the provision of green and social prescribing interventions, in alignment with the National Social Prescribing Framework, once produced.

*TARGET: Remain a member of the Wales School for Social Prescribing Research and actively engage in Social / Green Prescribing consultations, research and projects as appropriate.*

- Extend the Wellbeing Walks pilot to other areas across Mid Wales, to include at least one location in both Gwynedd and Powys, securing funding to fund the production of the leaflets and promote the initiative via the press and social media.

*TARGET: Wellbeing Walks leaflet in Powys (Machynlleth) to be produced by May 2023 and in Gwynedd (Tywyn) by August 2023; further regions to be considered as funds permit.*

- Submit proposals for work that research care pathways in rural areas and other pertinent areas that may identify ways to improve the delivery of health and care services in Mid Wales, for the benefit of the population

*TARGET: Develop and seek funding for research to support people suffering with Dementia in rural areas, looking at any inequalities that may exist for those living in rural areas as compared to urban locations; consider development of research that will support the mental health of people living in rural Mid Wales.*

### **2. Aim 2: Care Closer to Home**

- *create a sustainable health and social care system for the population of Mid Wales which has greater focus on care closer to home*

- Instigate research into community projects that support innovative health and care provision in rural areas, building on the work already undertaken on the Cardi Care project  
*TARGET: Complete final report on Cardi Care by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023; seek funding to pilot similar community resilience project in at least one other site in Mid Wales, with different demographics (e.g. Mid Wales Prosperity Fund grant application)*
- Conduct research into the GP provision across Mid Wales, exploring best practice examples of alternative models of delivering primary care interventions in rural areas (requested by RHCW Stakeholder Group: A review and Action Plan for GP / Primary Care provision across Mid Wales)  
*TARGET: Research to be conducted by September 2023*
- Work closely with the three Research, Innovation and Improvement Hubs across Mid, North and West Wales to develop and test the concept of a Virtual Rural Hospital in Mid Wales that will support the delivery of health and care services to people in their own homes / communities and alleviate pressure on primary and planned care services.  
*TARGET: to be completed by March 2024*
- Complete the research currently underway that is looking at the lessons learnt from COVID-19 and its impact on vulnerable clients in care and nursing homes in the Hywel Dda UHB and Powys Teaching Health Board regions  
*TARGET: to be completed by May 2024*
- Develop and submit grant / research proposals that will support the creation of sustainable health and social care systems for the populations of Mid Wales, supporting the MWJC with relevant research as required  
*TARGET: ongoing; at least two suitable grant / project submissions to be made during 2023/24*
- Support the piloting and adoption of digital health / telemedicine initiatives, working closely with TEC Cymru and Digital Health and Care Wales to take forward some of the themes identified in focus / discussion groups across Mid Wales.  
*TARGET: support further work on the themes identified at the TEC Cymru workshop in September 2021, including supervision of postgraduate student to take forward adoption of telehealth interventions by GPs.*

### **3. Aim 3: Rural Health and Care Workforce**

- *Create a flexible and sustainable rural health and care workforce for the delivery of high-quality services which support the healthcare needs of rural communities across Mid Wales*
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- Work to support and promote the Swansea University Graduate Entry Medicine route to mature / postgraduate students across Mid Wales.  
*TARGET: to see an improved cohort of applicants to the interview process from Mid Wales by 2024.*
- Support initiatives that provide education, training and CPD to health and care professionals working in rural areas of Wales  
*TARGET: continue to review the provision of education and training, taking an active role in the Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership board and other initiatives.*

- Work with all relevant stakeholders and policy decision makers to support the development of an increased provision of “local” training for health and care professionals in Mid Wales  
*TARGET: continue to actively engage with HEIW / WG to review “local” provision and any identified gaps, participating in consultations and meetings to represent the needs of rural Mid Wales.*
- Support Universities to provide rural graduate and postgraduate training for medical students and the wider healthcare professions, encouraging local applications / widening participation  
*TARGET: submit/support at least one application for funding for a PhD student in Mid Wales in 2023, to work on research that supports the priorities of RHCW / MWJC; support Cardiff University’s CARER programme through mentoring.*
- Support further education institutions and work-based organisations in their provision of apprenticeship schemes relevant to rural health and care in the Mid Wales area, participating in the Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership and contributing to the annual Skills Plan for the area (health and care).  
*TARGET: support Coleg Ceredigion’s new Rural Care Academy (ongoing) for further education students seeking careers in health and care*
- Support career events to holistically promote health and care careers in Mid Wales and support health boards / local authority recruitment campaigns  
*TARGET: to attend at least two career-related events by March 2024*
- Work closely with University across Wales to engage academic thinking into research and to work collaboratively on joint grant applications for research pertinent to rural health and care  
*TARGET: remain actively involved in relevant initiatives, such as the “One Health” framework under development, with academic partners; submit at least 2 grant applications with Universities for research project of relevant to Mid Wales by January 2024.*
- Participate in consultations and workshops relevant to the rural health and care workforce

#### **4. Aim 4: Hospital Based Care and Treatment**

- *Create a sustainable and accessible Hospital Based Care and Treatment service for the population of Mid Wales, with robust outreach services and clinical networks*
- Support the work of the MWJC in this area
- As above, explore and pilot a Virtual Rural Hospital that will enable health and care services to be accessed from home / the community and alleviate pressure on hospital-based care and treatments, whilst promoting greater adoption of digital virtual consultations  
*TARGET: to be completed by March 2024*

#### **5. Aim 5: Communications, Involvement and Engagement**

- *ensure there is a continuous and effective communication, involvement and engagement with the population of Mid Wales, staff and partners*

- Organise an annual Rural Health and Care Wales Conference in November 2023 (2-day event), following on from the success of previous conferences and taking on board feedback from the evaluations and proposals for improvement; to be held in hybrid format  
*TARGET: RHCW 2-day Conference to be held in November 2023*
- Organise a minimum of two on-line Webinars that enable the sharing of best practice in rural health and care, highlighting innovative practices and research results  
*TARGET: Webinars to be held in July 2023 and January 2024*
- Start broadcasting short monthly Podcasts on rural health and care issues  
*TARGET: Monthly Podcasts to commence in June 2023*
- Develop the RHCW YouTube channel and use as a resource for hosting Conference, Webinar and Podcast presentations, linking to the RHCW Social Media sites and main website  
*TARGET: ongoing*
- Attend at least 4 Conferences (rural health and care related) to present the work of RHCW in 2023/24  
*TARGET: by March 2024*
- Attend at least 3 suitable events to raise the profile of rural health and care issues / RHCW, e.g. the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show  
*TARGET: by March 2024*
- Influence policy on rural health and care matters by participating in consultations and disseminating research findings
- Establish and / or participate in networks of individuals and groups that support research, innovation and development in rural health and social care

**Proposed MWJC Priorities for 2023/24\*:**

1. Urology
2. Ophthalmology
3. Cancer Pathways
4. Dental
5. Clinical Strategy for Hospital Based Care and Treatment
6. Cross Border Workforce

*\*subject to approval*

## PROPOSED RHCW Budget 2023 / 2024

	<b>TOTAL - forecast</b>
<b>Income</b>	
PTHB Income	28,000
BCUHB Income	28,000
HDdUHB Income	28,000
Grants and other income	117,912
	<b>£201,912</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Staff	185,712
<i>Travel &amp; Subsistence</i>	2,000
Annual Conference	6,500
Website / Repository dev.	1,000
Attendance at Conferences and Events	1,200
IT & licences	1,000
Print and Design work	2,500
Other - stationery, promotional items, postage etc	2,000
	<b>£201,912</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£0</b>