

EITEM AGENDA / AGENDA ITEM: 4

Cyd-bwyllgor Canolbarth Cymru ar gyfer Iechyd a Gofal / Mid Wales Joint Committee for Health and Care	
Enw'r Is-Grŵp: Name of Sub-Group:	Mid Wales Clinical Advisory Group
Cadeirydd y Is-Grŵp: Chair of Sub-Group:	Dr Kate Wright, Lead Clinical Executive Director for the Mid Wales Joint Committee <u>and</u> Executive Medical Director for Powys Teaching Health Board
Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Is-Grŵp diwethaf: Date of last Sub-Group Meeting:	22 June 2025
Cyfnod Adrodd: Reporting Period:	November 2025 to July 2026
Y Penderfyniadau a'r Materion a Ystyriodd yr Is-Grŵp: Key Decisions and Matters Considered by the Sub-Group:	
The Mid Wales Clinical Advisory Group (MWCAG) has continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis to provide clinical oversight and advice in support of Mid Wales Joint Committee (MWJC) priorities and delivery plan. Whilst attendance has remained challenging, the Chair has undertaken a review of meeting arrangements and engaged with members to identify measures to support and improve participation. The feedback received from members has been used to revise future meeting dates and efforts continue to ensure appropriate representation, including from primary care. 1. Mid Wales Priorities and Delivery Plan MWCAG has received regular updates on the delivery of the Mid Wales Priorities and Delivery Plan for 2025/26 and 2026/27 including workstreams that are rated as amber or red. The group has also supported the development of the priorities and associated workstreams for 2026/27. Urology priority - Prostate PSA Pathway and Trial Without Catheter (TWOC) workstreams Updates were received on progress relating to the Urology priority and its two associated workstreams: Prostate PSA Pathway and Trial Without Catheter (TWOC). Both workstreams were completed in 2025/26, and end-of-workstream closure reports have been produced and approved by the MWCAG. The group recognised these workstreams as positive examples of collaborative working across Mid Wales and opportunities for shared learning between Health Boards.	

MWCAG has recommended that Health Boards continue to develop local solutions aligned to National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance and Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) recommendations pending any future national agreement.

- **Ophthalmology**

MWCAG reviewed progress on the Mid Wales Ophthalmology Clinical Leadership workstream. Following detailed discussions, the Mid Wales Ophthalmology Group has concluded that the original workstream was no longer required in its current form and a proposal for formal closure has been developed, which has been reviewed by MWCAG prior to consideration by Mid Wales Planning and Delivery Executive Group (MWPDEG).

Progress on the nurse-led wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD) service and the associated networking and pathway development workstreams have been delayed. These workstreams are interdependent, with implementation reliant on cross-organisational learning and pathway alignment. This includes planned visits by Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) staff to Hywel Dda University Health Board's (HDdUHB) North Road Clinic in Aberystwyth to gain a better understanding of existing pathways and service delivery models. These visits were delayed due to a review being undertaken of clinical protocols; however, following advice from the MWCAG, arrangements are now being made for the visits to proceed. Consequently, the original implementation timeline has been revised, with a realistic target date to be confirmed.

2. Mid Wales Stroke Services

Following a request from the MWPDEG, MWCAG established the Mid Wales Stroke Services Steering Group to consider the actual and proposed changes to stroke services across the region and assess their potential impact on the Mid Wales population.

The Steering Group produced a comprehensive report setting out its assessment of service changes, associated risks, challenges and potential impacts for patients. The report also highlighted opportunities for mitigation and informed engagement activity undertaken by partner organisations.

Following completion of its original remit, it was agreed that the Steering Group would transition to a more flexible Mid Wales Stroke Service Change Group, convened as required to respond to ongoing stroke service developments and consultations. Most recently, the group has supported engagement in relation to Phase 2 of HDdUHB's Stroke Services Consultation and has submitted collective feedback on the proposals which due to the consultation deadline date were approved by the Chair of MWCAG.

3. Strategic Service Change Programmes

MWCAG continues to receive regular updates on major strategic service change programmes across the region, including:

- **PTHB's Better Together Programme**, where engagement activity continues ahead of formal consideration of consultation proposals by the Board.
- **HDdUHB's Clinical Services Programme**, with implementation planning progressing for the eight service areas approved by the Board, whilst stroke services remain subject to a second phase of consultation.
- **Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's (BCUHB) Tywyn Hospital Review**, which remains within the pre-consultation and engagement phase, with formal consultation expected later in 2026.

4. North Powys Wellbeing Programme

MWCAG has received updates on the PTHB North Powys Wellbeing Programme throughout the year. The Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for Phase 1 has now been approved by Welsh Government, enabling progression to the development of the Outline Business Case (OBC), which is anticipated to be completed during Autumn 2026.

5. Aberystwyth University Healthcare Education Centre

MWCAG received an update from Aberystwyth University on the continued development of the Healthcare Education Centre. The update highlighted growing student numbers, successful nurse qualification and recruitment outcomes across Mid Wales, the expansion of professional development opportunities, and plans to develop a fully online Master's programme. The group welcomed the contribution of the Centre to supporting workforce sustainability across the region.

6. Rural Health and Care Wales - Virtual Rural Healthcare project

MWCAG received an update on the Virtual Rural Healthcare project, which is scoping a shared digital platform for accessing services and information for both patients and professionals across Mid Wales.

Whilst the concept continues to receive support from partner organisations, MWCAG agreed that further work is required to clearly articulate the problem the project seeks to address, the benefits it would deliver, and the expectations of partner organisations. Rural Health and Care Wales has therefore been asked to undertake further engagement and refinement work before returning with updated proposals.

7. Strategic Review of the Mid Wales Joint Committee

MWCAG has also been engaged in discussions relating to the wider strategic review of the MWJC. Health Board Medical Directors contributed to the review workshop held on 20 April 2026, which considered the continued relevance of the Mid Wales Healthcare Study, achievements to date, lessons learned, future challenges, and potential options for the future operating model of the MWJC.

Pending the outcome of the review, it has been agreed that existing priorities and workstreams that remain incomplete will continue into 2026/27 and that no significant new priorities will be initiated until future governance arrangements have been agreed.

Materion sydd angen eu cytuno neu trafod ymhellach gan y Cyd-Bwyllgor:

Items to be referred to the Joint Committee for agreement or discussion:

The MWJC are asked to **NOTE** the update on the work undertaken by the MWCAG.

Gwaith Cynlluniedig yr Is-Grŵp ar gyfer y cyfnod nesaf:

Planned Sub-Group work for the next period:

- Mid Wales priorities and delivery plan 2026/27.
- Southwest Wales Cancer (SWWC) Oncology Outpatients Modernisation Group proposed long term plan for Bronglais General Hospital oncology outpatient service.
- Strategic review of the MWJC.
- PTHB North Powys Wellbeing Programme.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic Service Change programmes of relevance to the Mid Wales population including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- PTHB Better Together programme.- HDdUHB Clinical Services Programme.- BCUHB Tywyn Hospital Review. |
| <p><i>Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Is-Grŵp nesaf:</i>
Date of Next Sub-Group Meeting:</p> <p>3.00pm, Wednesday 2 September 2026</p> |