

EITEM AGENDA / AGENDA ITEM: 2

**Cyd-bwyllgor Canolbarth Cymru ar gyfer Iechyd a Gofal /
Mid Wales Joint Committee for Health and Care**

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod: Date of Meeting:	27 th June 2022		
Eitem ar yr Agenda: Title of Report:	Report of the Lead Chair		
Arweinydd: Lead:	Professor Vivienne Harpwood, Chair of Powys Teaching Health Board and Lead Chair for the Mid Wales Joint Committee (MWJC)		
Pwrpas yr adroddiad: Purpose of the Report:	To receive a written update from the MWJC Lead Chair regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant matters undertaken as Lead Chair • Provide an overview of the current key items of relevance to the MWJC. 	Ar gyfer cytundeb For Agreement	
		Ar gyfer trafodaeth For Discussion	
		Ar gyfer gwybodaeth For Information	✓

Crynodeb / Summary

This report provides the opportunity to present items to the Mid Wales Joint Committee (MWJC) in order to demonstrate areas of work that are being progressed and achievements that are being made, which may not be directly reported to the MWJC through the other reports presented to its meetings. This report is intended to ensure that the MWJC are kept up to date on work undertaken, both nationally and regionally, and provides an opportunity to highlight areas which can be brought back to future meetings of the Joint Committee.

Members of the Joint Committee will be acutely aware that the last winter period has once again been particularly challenging for health and social care services across Wales. I would like to pay tribute to health and social care staff for their on-going care, dedication, and commitment to ensure key services have been maintained during this extremely difficult time.

1. National developments

Launch of the new Health and Social Care Regional Integration Fund

In August 2021, the Minister for Health and Social Services approved a new five year regional integration fund to support the continued development of integrated health and social care services in Wales. Following this, in February 2022, further information was issued on the detail of the fund including guidance, co-produced by Welsh Government officials and Regional Partnership Boards, for the launch of the new fund on 1st April 2022 which will run until March 2027.

The new regional integration fund will support the good practice and partnership working that has developed across health, social care and the third sector over the past two years during the Covid-19 pandemic. The new fund will develop national integrated models of care around six thematic priorities as follows:

- Community-based care, prevention and community co-ordination.
- Place-based care, complex care closer to home.
- Promoting good emotional health and well-being.
- Supporting families to stay together safely and through providing therapeutic support for care-experienced children.

- Home from hospital.
- Accommodation-based solutions

The Minister has committed to an annual investment of £144 million for five years and this new fund is not a continuation of the previous funds. Regional Partnership Boards will need to demonstrate that the money is being used for integrated services that will help to develop the six stated national models of care. This will help to achieve the ambition set out in 'A Healthier Wales', namely for people to be able to access the right care and support in the right place at the right time, and for people to take control of their own health and well-being to prevent the escalation of needs. To ensure the objectives of the new fund are being met, a clear framework of outcomes will be implemented, with key outcomes and measures. Communities of practice will be established that will play an essential role in sharing learning and supporting partners with the development of the national models of integrated care.

The Health and Social Care Outcome Framework

On 10th May 2022 the Minister for Health and Social Services provided an update on the development of the outcome framework which fulfils the commitment in 'A Healthier Wales' to develop a shared outcome framework based on the quadruple aim, which is improved population health and well-being; better quality and more accessible health and social care services; higher value health and social care; and a motivated and sustainable health and social care workforce. The framework complements the outcomes framework for people who need care and support and for carers who need support, which is part of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. The framework together with the public health outcomes framework, will remain and will continue to provide a valuable focus for delivering improved outcomes.

The main aim of the new health and social care outcome framework is to measure the impact of health and social care, working together through the lens of citizens. It prioritises a small number of critical areas that, combined will improve the outcome for the whole population of Wales. The outcome framework provides the strategic context for the planning and delivery of health and social care services for the future. Its suite of indicators focuses on delivering integrated health and social care services that will make a positive difference to individuals in Wales. The framework has been developed based on three core values: prevention, to support the anticipated health needs to prevent illness and reduce the impact of poor health; equality, improving the lives of all and there is an equitable system that achieves equal health outcomes for all by closing the equality gaps in Wales; individual responsibility, supporting people to manage their own health and well-being, enabling people to be resilient and independent for longer in their own homes and localities which includes speeding up recovery after treatment and care and supporting self-management of long-term conditions.

The next stage of development will be to establish integrated actions for each of the indicators which will identify what needs to be done to achieve the biggest impact. Once the actions are agreed, performance measures will be developed to hold organisations to account for their respective roles in delivering against the population indicators. The Welsh Government will be engaging with stakeholders representing key population groups from across Wales over the Summer to test the chosen indicators to identify the right actions. A finalised framework will be published in October 2022 to support the NHS Wales Planning Framework for 2023-24.

Citizen Voice Body for Health and Social Care (CVB)

At the start of 2022 the Welsh Government undertook a recruitment exercise to the Citizen Voice Board for the Chair and Board members. These roles will help shape a new, independent body that will listen to the views and represent the interests of the public; working together with the NHS, Local Authorities and others to support the continuous improvement of person-centered services. Professor Medwin Hughes DL, has been appointed as Chair of the Citizen Voice Body for Health and Social Care, for four years until 31st March 2026. We are currently awaiting confirmation on the appointment of members.

Support for students to complete 'vital' Health and Social Care courses

In January 2022 the Welsh Government announced £1.8 million of funding to support health and social care students in Wales. There has been a decline in the number of students enrolled on Health and Social Care programmes at colleges, which can be explained by the impact Covid-19 has had on the delivery of courses. The funding will help students complete their studies and encourage progression into the sector, as well as helping colleges promote health and social care courses to attract more students, helping meet the high demand for qualified staff. The funding could also be used to support childcare costs or to enable buddying or mentoring to support career development.

Voluntary sector funding

In December 2021, the Finance Minister announced that £7 million a year has been allocated to support Wales's voluntary sector over the current Welsh Government's term, a commitment of over £21 million across the next 3 years.

The annual funding, which will begin in 2022, will be provided to the Third Sector Support Wales. This partnership comprises 20 organisations - 19 County Voluntary Councils supporting each county area and the national membership body for voluntary organisations, Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA).

These organisations provide an infrastructure to all of Wales' voluntary sector organisations under 4 pillars of activity identified in partnership with Welsh Government:

- volunteering
- good governance
- sustainable funding
- engagement and influencing.

Social Care staff to earn the Real Living Wage

In December 2021, the Deputy Minister for Social Services announced that social care staff will receive the Real Living Wage in Wales as part of a package to support the sector. The Real Living Wage will apply to registered workers in care homes and domiciliary care, in both adults and children's services. The uplift will also apply to Personal Assistants who provide care and support which is funded through a direct payment. The Welsh Government will provide Welsh Local Authorities and Health Boards with £43 million so they can implement the Real Living Wage from April 2022.

Liberty Protection Safeguards

The Welsh Government launched its consultation on Regulations for Wales to support the implementation of the new Liberty Protection Safeguards in March 2022. The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) is the existing scheme under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to protect those who lack the mental capacity to consent to their care and treatment where that

involves being deprived of their liberty. In 2019, the UK Government passed the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act which will repeal DoLS and replace it with the LPS. Unlike DoLS (which only applied to arrangements in care homes and hospitals and to people aged 18 and above), the LPS will apply in all settings and to anyone aged 16 and over. For the first time, the LPS will also extend to people's homes providing equivalent safeguards for individuals whilst respecting their private spaces. The new safeguards will embed and promote into practice Article 5 (right to liberty) and Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) of the European Convention on Human Rights.

National robotic assisted surgery programme to be established in Wales

The All-Wales Robotic Assisted Surgery Network, developed by Health Boards, the Life Sciences Hub Wales and the Moondance Cancer Initiative, will provide less invasive surgery for thousands of cancer patients across the country.

The surgery involves the use of highly advanced robotic surgical instruments under the control of a surgeon. It will initially be used in Wales for some Colorectal, Upper Gastrointestinal, Urological and Gynaecological cancers. It will initially be provided in the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board area, with the first patient expected to receive treatment in June. Once fully established, patients in north Wales will no longer need to travel to England to receive robotic-assisted surgery.

The Welsh Government will support the network with funding of £4.2m over five years, alongside £13.35m provided by health boards over 10 years.

Eye Care facilities

The NHS Wales University Eye Care Centre, established by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board working in partnership with Cardiff University, provides additional training to upskill Optometrists to allow them to see a wider variety of people who traditionally would have needed to be seen in hospital. The Centre, in collaboration with the School of Optometry and Vision Sciences at Cardiff University, is currently providing training for nine Optometrists to attain the higher qualifications in the delivery of Glaucoma. Attending the clinic one day per week the Optometrists undertaking the qualification see over 35 patients per week in a clinical setting as they work towards their award. Following the success of the training, a further twelve Optometrists are due to commence training to attain the Higher Certificate in Medical Retina in March 2022 and will be seeing over 50 patients per week.

In addition, two new surgical theatres dedicated to cataract treatment will be completed this month and operational in March 2022. Funded by £1 million from Welsh Government, the new theatres in Cardiff will increase cataract activity to 427 treatments per month from 60 per month on average. The increased capacity will result in eye care waiting lists falling by 227 people a month.

Singleton Hospital in Swansea has also announced a new operating theatre dedicated to ophthalmology procedures will open in the summer. The new modular theatre will enable the Health Board to carry out around 200 additional operations a month. Community clinics to reduce the need for some people to attend hospital and receive treatment closer to home have been set up in Cwm Taf Morgannwg, and Hywel Dda University Health Boards. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board has enabled more patients to be seen closer to home by supporting additional services within the community using the skills and expertise of staff within optometry practices.

£2.4m for projects to reduce NHS Wales emissions

The Welsh Government published its NHS Wales Decarbonisation Strategic Delivery Plan in 2021 which included 46 initiatives to help NHS Wales meet its contribution to the 2030 ambition. This will help Wales meet its total legislative target of Net Zero by 2050.

The strategy included electrifying fleet vehicles, using low carbon lighting in all NHS buildings, reducing the use of harmful gases and designing the future health and care social system to be as low carbon as possible.

In May 2022, the Health and Social Care Climate Emergency National Programme announced a £2.4m fund was available to fund projects from Health Boards and NHS organisations in a bid to reduce carbon emissions by more than a third by 2030. Eligible projects for the fund must deliver towards the ambition for the Welsh public sector to be collectively Net Zero by 2030 and/or increase resilience to the impacts of climate change.

NHS Executive for Wales

The decision to set up a national executive function was outlined in *A Healthier Wales* in 2018, and reconfirmed in the Programme for Government, and is based on the findings and recommendations of the OECD's Quality Review and the Parliamentary Review of the Long-term Future of Health and Social Care. Both of these reviews called for a stronger centre, additional transformational capacity and streamlining of current structures.

Work to establish the NHS Executive was paused in 2020 to focus on the pandemic response but has now resumed with the learning from the pandemic built into the development of the NHS Executive. The NHS Executive will be established as a hybrid model, rather than a standalone organisation. It will comprise a small, strengthened senior team within Welsh Government, bolstered and complemented by the bringing together of existing expertise and capacity from national bodies in the NHS, which will operate under a direct mandate from Welsh Government. Its central purpose will be to support the NHS to deliver improved quality of care to people throughout Wales, resulting in better and more equitable outcomes, access and patient experience, reduced variation and improvements in population health.

The NHS Executive will provide strong leadership and strategic direction – enabling, supporting and directing the NHS in Wales to transform clinical services in line with national priorities and standards by:

- Strengthening national leadership and support for quality improvement.
- Providing more central direction to ensure a consistent and equitable approach to national and regional planning based on outcomes.
- Enabling stronger performance management arrangements, including capacity to challenge and support organisations that are not operating as expected.

It will bring together existing national capacity into a single delivery and accountability structure, operating to a mandate agreed by Ministers.

Under these new arrangements statutory accountability mechanisms will not change. All NHS organisations will continue to be directly accountable to Ministers and the Welsh Government. The Minister for Health will continue to set priorities, targets and outcome measures for the NHS, which will feed into the mandate for the NHS Executive to deliver with the wider NHS. The NHS Executive will provide additional capacity at a national level to oversee and support delivery of these priorities.

An implementation programme to take forward the detailed work about how the NHS Executive will operate will be established. This will be led by the Chief Executive of NHS Wales and the Director General for Health and Social Services in the Welsh Government. As part of this programme there will be full engagement with NHS chairs and chief executives, the leads of national bodies, NHS and Welsh Government staff and wider stakeholders.

Planned Care Summit

The first planned care summit event in Wales was held in November 2021. This was organised and ran by a collaboration between the Planned Care Programme, Bevan Commission and Royal College of Surgeons England. All recording and presentations from the key speakers including Eluned Morgan, Minister for Health and Social Services can be found at the following website <https://planned-care-summit-2021.bevancommission.org>

2. Regional developments

Grow Mid Wales Partnership

On 13th January 2022 the Final Deal Agreement of the Mid Wales Growth Deal was signed by the Welsh Government, UK Government and the region's Local Authorities, Ceredigion County Council and Powys County Council.

This marks the commitment of all partners to deliver the Mid Wales Growth Deal, bringing a combined investment of £110 million from UK and Welsh Government, which is expected to lever in significant additional investment from other public and private sources maximising the impact in the Mid Wales region. In addition, the programmes and projects supported by the Growth Deal will be expected to produce wider social and economic benefits, such as enhanced quality of life, creating business opportunities following the impact of COVID-19, decarbonisation in industry and consideration of climate change impacts.

The agreement is made after the development and submission of the Portfolio Business Case on the basis of the current shortlisted set of programmes and projects which cover a range of investment proposals across a number of themes, digital, tourism, agriculture food and drink, research and innovation and supporting enterprise.

Funding for Broadband projects in Powys

A local broadband project in Powys is set to receive more than £900,000 worth of funding from the Welsh Government's Local Broadband Fund. The project will help deliver fast and reliable broadband to communities that need it through connecting 13 'hard to reach properties' in Powys with incidental benefits provided to an additional 139 properties across the county.

3. Mid Wales Joint Committee post COVID-19 review

In my report to the Joint Committee meeting in October 2021 I advised members that a review of the Mid Wales Joint Committee and how it currently operates was in progress. This included a programme of meetings with members to seek their feedback to inform the outputs of the review. A draft report on the outputs of this review was presented to members of the Mid Wales Clinical Advisory Group and the Mid Wales Planning and Delivery Executive Group with the final draft, Agenda Item 3. Future arrangements for the MWJC, included within the meeting papers for further discussion.

4. Mid Wales leadership roles

Mid Wales Public and Patient Engagement and Involvement Forum - Chair

The term of appointment for the current Chair of the Mid Wales Public and Patient Engagement and Involvement Forum ended on 31st March 2022. This role was established in 2018 to ensure there is on-going public and patient engagement and involvement in the Joint Committee's work programme and meaningful contribution to the Joint Committee's strategy and the development of its plans. Given the on-going challenges faced since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the need for stability to support the Mid Wales Joint Committee and its partner organisations through the recovery period over the coming years, I agreed that Jack Evershed should continue in this role for a further 4 months pending approval and implementation of the future arrangements for Mid Wales Joint Committee.

Powys Teaching Health Board – Director of Planning and Performance

Since the last meeting there has been one change to a key Mid Wales leadership role with Stephen Powell taking over as Director of Planning and Performance for Powys Teaching Health Board and the lead Director of Planning for the MWJC.

Local Authorities

On Thursday 5th May 2021 the Local Authority elections were held which resulted in changes to County Councillors across the three counties and also Leadership / Cabinet membership. This has resulted in a change to the membership for the Mid Wales Joint Committee and at the time of writing this report I was awaiting confirmation of membership from one Local Authority.

Morwena Edwards, Corporate Director, Gwynedd Council, will be leaving Gwynedd Council at the end of July 2022.

Alison Bulman, Corporate Director (Children and Adults) for Powys County Council has recently left the employment of the Council.

Powys Community Health Council

Frances Hunt has recently retired as Chair of Powys Community Health Council.

Welsh Government

Samia Saeed Edmonds, Planning Director for the Health Strategy and Planning Division, will no longer be attending Joint Committee meetings as the Welsh Government has now stood now its attendance at Regional Planning Committees. However, this remains a key Ministerial priority and should continue to be reflected as core business via the Health Boards' respective IMTPs. Samia has advised that she will stay in liaison with the Joint Committee Programme Director periodically to continue to keep her updated on progress.

5. Mid Wales Joint Scrutiny Committee

The Mid Wales Joint Scrutiny Group will not be meeting after the MWJC meeting as Local Authority representation on the group has not yet been confirmed following the Local Authority elections in May 2022.

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

For information - The Joint Committee are asked to note for information the written update from the MWJC Lead Chair regarding relevant matters undertaken as Lead Chair of the MWJC and the overview of the current key items of relevance to the MWJC.