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| WEST WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD | Item 5 |

# 19 MAY 2017

**West Wales Area Plan**

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| **Summary of report and key issues**1. Under Section 14A of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act partners must develop Area Plans which address the issues identified within Population Assessments.
2. RPBs are required to oversee the development of Area Plans and the Statutory Guidance sets out what the Plans must contain.
3. This report proposes an approach for the development of the West Wales Area Plan for approval by the RPB. The approach will ensure that statutory requirements are met, that the process is properly scrutinised and that partners are fully engaged throughout.

**Recommendations:**That the RPB:1. Notes statutory requirements in relation to the development and content of the Area Plan
2. Proposes an approach for West Wales for approval by the RPB
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**Purpose**

1. To advise the RPB of statutory requirements in relation to the development of an Area Plan and seek agreement of a suggested approach for West Wales.

**Background**

1. Section 14 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act requires Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) to publish a Population Assessment once every local electoral cycle. The Assessment must consider current and future care and support needs and the support needs of carers within the area of the RPB and the range and level of services required to meet those needs. The West Wales Population Assessment was submitted to the Minister for Social Services and Public Health on 31 March 2017, following agreement by the RPB in December 2016 and subsequent ratification by statutory partners. The Assessment can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.wwcp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/West-Wales-Population-Assessment-March-2017.pdf> . Welsh Government has confirmed that it will produce a national population assessment, based on each of the regional assessments, to inform policy and service development. Constructive feedback on each of the regional assessments will also be provided in due course (see Appendix 1).
2. Section 14A of the Act requires the development of Area Plans on RPB footprints which must focus on the integrated services planned in response to each core theme of the Population Assessment, namely:
* Carers
* Children and young people
* Health and physical disability
* Learning disability and autism
* Mental health
* Older people
* Sensory impairment
* Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV)
1. The first Area Plan must be published by 1 April 2018 and subsequent plans must be in place within a year after the publication of the corresponding Population Assessment.
2. Under the legislation Area Plans must:
* Be developed in partnership and be overseen by RPBs
* Be concise and accessible
* Be informed by reasonable levels of consultation and engagement with people who have or may have needs for care and support, carers who have or may have needs for support and with third and private sector organisations and public bodies that have an interest in the provision of care and support or preventative services
* Support the achievement of wellbeing in line with the National Outcomes Framework
* Signpost to other relevant plans, including local agency plans such as Integrated Medium Term Plans (IMTPs) prepared by LHBs and joint local strategies for VAWDSV
* Align with wellbeing plans being developed by Public Service Boards (PSBs) to meet the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act
* Identify where pooled funds will be established to meet identified care and support needs
* Describe services that local authorities and LHBs intend to arrange or procure as a result of needs identified, including preventative services
* Set out specific actions being taken by local authorities and other bodies in relation to the provision of Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA) services
* Include actions that will be taken to deliver the range and level of services identified as necessary through the medium of Welsh
* Set out what resources will be deployed in delivering the Plan

**Suggested approach for West Wales**

1. In order to meet the statutory requirements in relation to the development of the Area Plan, the following is proposed:
2. That actions included within the Area Plan are presented within the context of the RPB’s existing strategic priorities and supporting programmes with a clear articulation of the anticipated impact on specific population groups.
3. That carers are adopted as an additional strategic priority within the Area Plan.
4. That a partnership approach is adopted for the development of the Area Plan which mirrors that adopted for the Population Assessment, with Carmarthenshire County Council as the lead organisation and detailed overview of the process provided by the Integrated Programme Delivery Board.
5. That an Area Plan Development Group (APDG) is established as a time-limited Task and Finish Group. Membership would include a nominated lead officer from each partner organisation, together with representation from the Regional Collaboration Unit, which would chair and administer the meetings and provide programme management capacity to facilitate the project plan and milestones developed by the Group. The role of the nominated lead officers is to ensure appropriate input/representation of their organisation into work required to develop and publish the Area Plan; this is a proactive role but with time-limited input required.
6. That the thematic groups established for the purposes of the Population Assessment are reconvened and the membership of each group is reviewed/refreshed by the RPB and Integrated Programme Board to ensure that nominated representatives have the clear delegated authority to represent the organisation. These groups would consider issues relating to their population group which need to be explicitly addressed within the Area Plan and identify how other actions will be progressed and reported to the RPB.
7. That a lead senior officer is identified to act as the ‘thematic group co-ordinator’, the purpose being to act as the subject specialist, provide a main point of contact for the Regional Collaboration Unit programme manager, facilitate/co-ordinate the involvement of specialists from partner organisations and the development/drafting of the Area Plan.
8. That strong links are maintained with the individual strategic planning departments of partner agencies as well as with the three PSBs to ensure synergy between individual corporate plans, Well-being Plans and the West Wales Area Plan. This could be achieved through co-opted attendance at occasional APDG meetings.
9. That a stakeholder engagement advisory task and finish group is established to develop an engagement plan which builds on the principles of co-production and ensure that the diversity of people within our population are involved in a meaningful way in the development of the Area Plan.