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| WEST WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD | Item 7 |

# 16 FEBRUARY 2018

**Third sector contribution to care and support in West Wales**

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| **Summary of report and key issues**   1. The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act requires partnership working across the statutory, third and independent sectors in providing effective care and support 2. Work undertaken under the regional preventions workstream demonstrates the vital role of the third sector in providing care and support to people in West Wales 3. Opportunities for improving joint working and consolidating successful approaches have been identified, along with challenges faced by third sector organisations in terms of ongoing sustainability 4. Both need to be addressed moving forward as part of the emerging regional preventions framework   **Recommendations:**  That the RPB:   1. Notes the outcomes of work undertaken to map third sector capability and resilience across the region and assessing its role in prevention 2. Receives a further report later in the spring on the outcomes of the current evaluation of preventative services in West Wales being undertaken by Practice Solutions |

**Background**

1. A core principle of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act is partnership working between statutory agencies and the third and independent sectors to provide person-centred, preventative care and support that will deliver positive outcomes for individuals. The RPB provides a forum for collective consideration of how best this can be achieved.
2. As part of the regional preventions workstream, the three County Voluntary Councils (CVCs) have undertaken work in 2 areas:

* Mapping the capability and resilience of the third sector across the region
* Assessing the role of the sector in providing preventative support and the strategic role of the CVCs in coordinating activity

1. Interim reports from both exercises are attached as Appendices 1 and 2. These demonstrate:

* The key role of the sector in providing care and support in West Wales, frequently in collaboration with statutory agencies
* Effective partnership working at all stages of the care pathway, from low level, community-based support to providing for those with ongoing, complex needs
* Opportunities for consolidating successful models in place in parts of the region across the wider footprint
* The value of existing joint working by the CVCs and potential for the establishment of formalised regional arrangements in the future
* The need to work collaboratively to address a number of challenges faced by third sector organisations and threatening their sustainability, including the need for longer-term funding agreements, support with governance and business development and additional capacity to support strategic planning

1. The findings from this ongoing work will be fed into the wider evaluation of preventative services across West Wales commissioned recently from Practice Solutions. Outcomes from this exercise will be reported to the RPB later in the spring.