

WEST WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

29 APRIL 2021, 2.30PM

Via Teams

Minutes

Present

Judith Hardisty (JH), Hywel Dda University Health Board (Chair)
Jill Paterson (JP), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Jonathan Griffiths, (JG) Pembrokeshire County Council
Donna Pritchard (DP), Ceredigion County Council
Joanne Silverthorne (JS) Carer Representative
Alun Williams (CllrW), Ceredigion County Council
Hazel Lloyd Lubran (HLL), Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations
Cllr Tessa Hodgson, (CllrTH), Pembrokeshire County Council
Anna Bird (AB), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Hilary Jones (HJ), Bro Myrddin Housing Association
Alan Thomas (AT), Service User Representative
Jake Morgan (JM), Carmarthenshire County Council
Ros Jervis (RJ), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Cllr. Jane Tremlett (CllrT), Carmarthenshire County Council
Cathryn Thomas (CT), Social Care Wales

Also in attendance:

Elin Brock (EB), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Martyn Palfreman (MJP), West Wales Care Partnership
Kim Neyland (KN), West Wales Care Partnership
Jessica Rees (JR), West Wales Care Partnership (Minutes)
Angharad Davies (AD), Opinion Research Services (Part)
Liz Puntan (LP), Opinion Research Services (Part)
Rebecca Llewellyn (RL), West Wales Care Partnership (Part)
Joff Lee (JL), West Wales Care Partnership (Part)
Jessica Svetz (JS), West Wales Care Partnership (Part)

Apologies

Estelle Hitchon (EH), Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust
Jonathan Morgan (JM), Carmarthenshire County Council
Malcolm Perrett (MP) Care Forum Wales
Gaynor Toft (GT), Pembrokeshire County Council
James Tyler (JT), Service User Representative
Karen Chandler (KC) Pembrokeshire People's First
Sian Howys (SH), Ceredigion County Council
Steve Moore (SM), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Maria Battle (MB), Hywel Dda University Health Board

Gareth Morgans (GM), Carmarthenshire County Council

1. Chair's welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. Apologies

These were noted.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 18 March 2021 and Actions

The minutes were agreed as accurate record of the meeting.

MJP updated on the Progress on the following actions, which is noted as follows:

Meeting with Chair and Vice Chair to discuss approach to Population Assessment

The Population Assessment would be covered later in the agenda.

Confirm regional position re Early Adopter bid for EHES Framework

MJP advised that West Wales has been approved as an early adopter, along with all other Regional Partnership Boards across Wales.

Report final amendments to governance structure and submit revised terms of reference for RPB for consideration

MJP advised that further updates on the governance structure (including revised RPB terms of reference) and the draft manifesto would be brought to the July board meeting for consideration.

White Paper consultation response submitted to Welsh Government

Following discussion at the previous meeting, RPB members had been given the opportunity to provide final comments on the White Paper consultation response, prior to submission. Feedback from Welsh Government was not anticipated until after the Senedd election.

4. Transformation Fund Update and Interim Evaluation

In providing a brief introduction, MJP advised that an allocation of £410K had been received through the Transformation Fund to the continued implementation of the Welsh Community Care Information System (WCCIS), which had previously been supported through the ICF. Alongside embedding of the system within Ceredigion and specific health teams across the region, a priority for the coming year would be working collaboratively to develop interfaces with other care management systems in health and social care, thereby generating shared data sets to facilitate integrated working at regional level and national analysis of trends. This programme will report on a regular basis to the regional Digital and TEC programme group.

The region had also been awarded £774,000 to support improvement of Discharge to Recover and Assess pathways, through a new Transformation Scaling Fund. Proposals had been submitted to Welsh Government earlier in April and provisional feedback had been received, as a result of which proposals were being refined.

MJP further reported that the newly convened Healthier West Wales (HWW) Programme Board had met twice and would monitor progress against the delivery plans on a monthly basis. The board would report regularly to the IEG with highlight reports provided to the RPB.

Opinion Research Services (ORS), had been appointed as independent evaluators of the HWW programme in the transitional funding year. An immediate priority had been the production of an Interim Evaluation Report, building on the findings and recommendations of the KPMG report of Autumn 2020. The interim report had been submitted to the IEG for approval on 26 April.

Angharad Davies and Liz Puntan from ORS were welcomed and to present key findings of the interim report, which had been informed by desk top review and focus groups held with relevant colleagues. Highlights included:

- That all programmes were now fully mobilised across the region
- The impact of Covid-19 which had necessitated the adaptation and acceleration of a number of the programmes, providing welcome additionality to core services
- Strong alignment between the programmes and national legislation (Social Services and Wellbeing and Wellbeing of Future Generations Acts)
- The view that transformation of services would be long-term and involve a range of complementary programmes rather than just the HWW initiatives
- Programme 1 (CONNECT) was demonstrating the willingness of people to access support through technology; the programme was seen as being a leader across the UK in relation to telecare and telehealth
- The learning from Programme 3 (Fast-tracked, Consistent Integration) needed to be used to inform wider system change
- Programme 7 (Creating Connections for All) had been instrumental in promoting and facilitating response within communities; delivery had continued virtually due to Covid-19 and although not without success, this had inevitably excluded some citizens from potential benefits
- Assessing the cost benefits of programmes was difficult due to an inability to identify clear causality between individual initiatives and wider system change, lack of data and the impact of the pandemic
- Priorities for action for the remaining delivery period should include:
 - Harnessing of learning to inform ongoing delivery
 - Improving and standardising output and outcomes measures to demonstrate impact
 - Ensuring effective roll-out of programmes across the region
 - Working to undertake meaningful cost benefit analysis
 - Explore the sustainability of funded staffing levels

JH commended the work the evaluators had done in a short space of time. MJP also thanked senior managers and members who had taken the time to engage with ORS in such a short timescale.

Comments and observations were invited and during discussion the importance of effective cost benefit analysis was emphasised. MJP advised that negotiations were continuing with Welsh Government to secure additional capacity to support this work across all regions.

5. Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub (RIICH) Update and Forward Programme

Elin Brock, Head of Research, Innovation and Improvement at the West Wales RIICH, provided an overview of the work the Hub had been undertaking since its establishment and an outline plan for its second year, which had been approved by IEG. A key deliverable in the first year of operation had been a comprehensive mapping exercise of RII capacity across health and social care in West Wales, which had been undertaken jointly by Hywel Dda UHB and Swansea University. Findings from this exercise would be presented at a virtual regional event on 12 May, to which RPB members had been invited. Key findings that would be shared included:

- That RII was currently a 'cluttered landscape' with a clear focus on clinical services
- There was a clear inequity in resources and investment across the system
- RII was not prioritised currently, with managers and practitioners not having time to invest properly in it
- There was currently very little integration / joint working on RII across partners

External consultants had been commissioned to lead on a co-produced RII model for the regional drawing on the findings of the mapping exercise.

Other work undertaken to date included:

- Working with other regional hubs as a national network, with an emphasis on driving the adoption and spread of activity
- Working with national bodies such as the Life Sciences Hub, Health Technology Wales and 1000 Lives Improvement
- Undertaking a review of staff experience in Hywel Dda UHB during Covid-19 to inform recovery activity
- Development on an 'Adopt & Spread' methodology to support upscaling of successful models of care and support
- Supporting evaluation of activity, with plans to review ICF programmes
- Development of an intern programme through the Hywel Dda UHB University Partnership

During discussion the following points were raised:

- The importance of linking the work of the RIICH and research functions of Social Care Wales – EB confirmed that discussions were ongoing
- Exploration of the benefits of integrated working should be a priority for the Hub
- The benefits of RII in supporting sustainable change and facilitating the input of service users and carers

The update was noted and it was agreed that the EB's presentation would be circulated to members.

6. West Wales Population Assessment 2022

MJP explained that Under Part 2 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act, regional partners are required to produce Population Assessments providing an assessment of need for care and support and the support needs of carers in their

area. The Population Assessment must be published once within each local government electoral cycle. West Wales had published its first Population Assessment in March 2017 and the next Assessment needed to be published by March 2022.

Following the publishing of the 2017 Population Assessment Data Cymru had been commissioned to develop an online data portal for the region which contained summary information from the Population Assessment and Area Plan, including core data sets which were updated on a regular basis. The latest refresh of this data had been undertaken in early 2021 and would provide a significant element of the evidence base for the next Assessment, alongside qualitative data gathered through engagement with relevant stakeholders.

Supplementary advice had been received from Welsh Government reiterating the legislative requirements and introducing new guidance, including having to pay specific attention within the Assessment to the needs of autistic people and people with dementia, and assessing the likely impact of long-Covid.

An additional requirement introduced by a new Code of Practice introduced in 2021 was for RPBs to produce Market Stability Reports, assessing the sufficiency of care and support against needs identified within the Population Assessment and the likely stability of regulated services over the coming 5 year period. This Report would inform commissioning activity across the partnership.

An outline plan for delivery of both the Population Assessment and the Market Stability Report was presented. A more detailed plan was being produced and appropriate resources would be identified to ensure delivery within the required timescales.

There would be close working with the Public Services Boards (PSBs) in the region to facilitate the sharing of relevant intelligence and allow opportunities to be taken for joint working for example in relation to engagement.

RJ emphasised the willingness of Public Health to help with this work, particularly in relation to the impact of Covid-19 and long Covid.

HLL suggested that the population assessment had greater significance this time round and needed to be a tool for the RPB rather than merely satisfying a Welsh Government requirement. She suggested it would be valuable for the RPB to receive further information on how the Population Assessment and Wellbeing Assessment processes were aligning and implications for future joint working. MJP agreed to action this.

The RPB noted the proposed approach and agreed that, rather than identifying a sole sponsor for the Population Assessment, all members should collectively oversee the work going forward.

7. Integrated Care Fund Update

KN firstly took members through the Revenue out-turn and year-end position for 2020-21. The variance between reported and invoiced spend noted at the previous meeting of the RPB had been addressed, and KN advised that full spend had been achieved across population groups, including within the Dementia programme. Members were then provided with the financial breakdown for each population group.

The RPB endorsed the out-turn and end year position.

The 2021-22 Revenue Investment Plan had been submitted to Welsh Government at the end of March. Provisional feedback from Welsh Government had been positive, although the apparently low level of investment to support unpaid carers within generic programmes had been highlighted as something which needed attention. It was noted that this was due to difficulties in measuring the investment rather than necessarily being an indicator that it was insufficient. KN advised that North Wales RPB had developed a methodology to measure this and that this would be considered via the regional ICF Forum with a view to possible adoption.

KN then advised on the position regarding the ICF Capital programme. She confirmed:

- That spend at the end of 2020-21 stood at £6,843,000
- That, as previously advised, Welsh Government had latterly permitted the programme management of 2020-21 underspend into 2021-22, enabling programmes delayed due to Covid-19 and other factors to be rolled over and completed in the new financial year
- The 2021-22 Capital programme was being reviewed accordingly and would be brought to the RPB for virtual approval.

A brief update on the national evaluation of ICF was provided. 14 West Wales programmes were included and fieldwork would commence shortly. Supplementary evaluation of other programmes would be undertaken by the RIICH.

8. West Wales Winter Plan 2020-21: End Year Position

MJP briefly presented the report which provided an end-year position in relation to the West Wales Integrated Winter Plan which had been approved by the RPB in October 2020. Members were asked to note:

- The financial outturn which showed an underspend of £1.257 across all funding streams, mainly due to specific programmes not progressing as a result of staff and capacity shortages emanating from the Covid-19 pandemic
- A slight overspend against the D2RA allocation (for which the RPB had direct responsibility); this reflected agreed adjustments to programmes to absorb slippage and balanced against an underspend in funding to address the 4 harms of the national Winter Protection Plan
- Proposed continuation of the multi-agency Winter Plan monitoring group to look in more detail at the impact of schemes and consider potential continuation of successful approaches through core budgets or external funding streams such as Urgent Primary Care and the Transformation Scaling Fund. Potential seasonal

schemes would be scoped in advance of the forthcoming winter period and possible new funding allocations from Welsh Government

All the above were noted.

9. Delivering Support for Carers' Update

AB provided members an update on work for carers in the region, overseen by the West Wales Carers' Development Group (WWCDG). She reported that:

- West Wales had received an allocation of £121,000 from Welsh Government to support delivery against the three national priorities for Carers, supplementing a wider programme of work also resourced through the Integrated Care Fund
- Welsh Government had published their national strategy for unpaid carers which aligned closely with the West Wales Regional strategy
- The Covid-19 pandemic and the decision to prioritise unpaid Carers for vaccination had increased the number of previously unknown or "hidden" Carers. Over 2,500 individuals not previously registered with their GP practice had self-identified themselves to the Health Board as a Carer In addition there had been a 141% increase in referrals to outreach services.

CllrT asked whether a breakdown by county of the level of unpaid carers who had come forward was available. AB advised that she would be in a position shortly to provide this information and to indicate whether they were parent carers or carers of older people.

RJ stressed the importance of addressing carers' issues through a prevention lens and advised that Group 6 of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) had included unpaid carers in the vaccination programme.

The RPB noted the update and also that services commissioned by the WWCDG ensured that 100% of available funding was allocated to third sector partner organisations, in turn contributing to the generation of additional social value.

10. RPB Forward Plan

MJP presented the provisional forward plan which would be adjusted as required due to developments through the year. It was further noted that the schedule of meetings meant that some RPB decisions would need to be taken virtually in order to meet externally set deadlines.

It was hoped that the forward plan would enable RPB members to have a view of upcoming business and to have the opportunity to feed into future meeting agendas.

CllrAW thanked MP for the forward plan and, noting the scheduled return visit in the autumn of the Children's Commissioner, asked whether it might be beneficial to invite the Older People's Commissioner to a future meeting? JG advised that in his ADSS capacity, he had been invited to a round-table discussion with the Older

People's Commissioner around supporting older people regain mental and physical health following the pandemic. MJP agreed to explore opportunities to invite the Commissioner to a future discussion.

It was further suggested that the possibility of inviting the Future Generations Commissioner should also be considered.

Members noted the forward plan and agreed to (1) identify additional items and (2) review the plan at future meetings.

11. Date of next meeting

29 July 2021, 2.30PM

12. Any Other Business (Agreed in advance)

The Chair advised that prior to the meeting she had received a letter from Maria Battle, Chair of Hywel Dda UHB, advising of her resignation from the RPB. The RPB was then asked to consider the nomination of Councillor Gareth John (Carmarthenshire County Council) as the new Independent Member for Local Government on the Health Board to join the RPB. This was agreed.

HLL advised members of an opportunity that may be arising through the Coproduction Wales network, who had secured National Lottery funding over 5 years to support coproduction. As an RPB we could take on some of the learning from this process if West Wales were selected as one of the pilot areas.

WEST WALES RPB: ACTIONS APRIL 2021

| ID | Action | Lead | Timescale | Progress | Status |
|---------|---|------|---------------|---|--------|
| 03/21/1 | Report final amendments to governance structure and submit revised terms of reference for RPB for consideration | MJP | 29 April 2021 | Verbal update on governance review to be provided at meeting on 29 July Revised terms of reference on agenda for 29 July | |
| 03/21/2 | Bring ICF Capital programme to RPB for endorsement | MJP | April 2021 | Update to be provided 29 July | |
| 03/21/3 | Bring updated manifesto to RPB for sign-off | MJP | July 2021 | Update to be provided 29 July | |
| 04/21/1 | Update to be provided on Transformation Scaling Fund | MJP | July 2021 | Verbal update to be provided 29 July | |
| 04/21/2 | Circulate RIICH update presentation | JR | May 2021 | COMPLETE | |
| 04/21/3 | Circulate ICF Capital Programme for virtual sign-off | KN | May 2021 | On agenda for 29 July | |
| 04/21/4 | Provide breakdown by County and type of unpaid carers self-identifying to the Health Board during the Covid-19 Pandemic | AB | Not stated | | |
| 04/21/5 | Pursue opportunities for inviting the Older People's Commissioner to a future RPB meeting | MJP | Not stated | Verbal update to be provided 29 July | |