

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:	25 th May 2021		
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	✓
<u>Crynodeb / Summary</u> 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.			
1. National developments A Healthier Wales: Our Plan for Health and Social Care 'A Healthier Wales: Our Plan for Health and Social Care' is the Welsh Government's plan in response to the Parliamentary Review of Health and Social Care report and was launched in June 2018. The plan, which sets out a long-term future vision of a 'whole system approach to health and social care', includes actions designed to focus activity through the A Healthier Wales Transformation Programme. In March 2021 a revised set of actions were published to support the stabilisation and recovery of services following Covid-19 as well as those elements of A Healthier Wales brought to the forefront by the pandemic. These new actions look to build resilient communities in Wales and focus on health inequities, prevention, mental health, children and young people and decarbonisation. The Integrated Care Fund and Transformation Fund has been extended for a further 12 months until April 2022 and this money has been made available through Regional Partnership Boards. Population Needs Assessments In March 2021 supplementary advice was issued to Regional Partnership Boards on Population Needs Assessments which was in addition to the statutory provisions within Part 2 of the Code of Practice supporting the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. One of the key messages of relevance to the Mid Wales region was that whilst assessments are focused on health and social care needs, they will link to wider policy areas that cut across			

partnership arrangements such as Public Service Boards, Regional Collaborative Committees (housing) and Primary Care Clusters. Also, the advice stated that Regional Partnership Boards should discuss with other partnership structures how they will collectively ensure a robust and comprehensive assessment of need for their shared population.

Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Act 2020

The Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Act 2020 became law on 1 June 2020. The purpose of the Act is to use legislation as a mechanism for improving and protecting the health, care and well-being of the current and future population of Wales. Due to Covid-19 the original 2-year timescale for full implementation of the Act has been delayed until Spring 2023. However, one element of the Act which is planned to be implemented in 2021 is the establishment of regulations to enable the appointment of statutory Vice-Chairs of NHS Trusts, in order to improve governance and decision-making processes and bring them in line with Local Health Boards.

The other key aims of the Act which will be implemented by Spring 2023 are:

- Imposing a new duty relating to improvement in the quality of health services on NHS bodies and the Welsh Ministers in relation to their health service functions;
- Placing a duty of candour on NHS providers in Wales and primary care providers who provide care under arrangements with a Health Board which require them to be open and honest when things go wrong;
- Creation of a new Citizen Voice Body to represent the views of people across health and social care.

Digital Health and Care Wales

A new Special Health Authority called Digital Health and Care Wales has now been established to take forward the digital transformation needed for better health and care in Wales, in order to make services more accessible and sustainable while supporting personal health and well-being. Building on recent digital investment, they will have a leading role in delivering the national programmes needed for modern technology-enabled healthcare.

Publication of the Evaluation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

In January 2021 a process report on the evaluation of the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 was published. The purpose of the evaluation was to understand how the legislation has been implemented at a national, regional and local level, looking particularly at the role that the wide range of organisations that are impacted by the Act have had in this implementation.

Improving social care arrangements and partnership working

From January to April 2021 the Welsh Government undertook a consultation (White Paper – Rebalancing care and support) to seek views on proposals to introduce new legislation to improve social care arrangements and strengthen partnership working to achieve the vision set out in the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 for people who need care and support and carers who need support. The proposals included setting out a clear national framework to support services to be planned regionally and delivered locally, and for the strengthening of partnership arrangements. Work is now being undertaken to review the responses to this consultation.

Socio-Economic Duty

The Socio-Economic Duty requires specified public bodies, when making strategic decisions such as deciding priorities and setting objectives, to consider how their decisions might help reduce the inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage. Due to the unprecedented nature of the Covid-19 pandemic and the need for the Welsh Government to reprioritise, the duty came into force on the revised date of 31st March 2021.

2. Regional developments

Grow Mid Wales Partnership

The Growing Mid Wales Partnership has supported the development of a Growth Deal for Mid Wales for which the UK Government announced in March 2020 that it would commit £55 million over 15 years. A report outlining the proposed plans for the Mid Wales Growth Deal was submitted to the UK and Welsh Governments by the end of March 2020. Ceredigion and Powys County Councils have established a Joint Committee and an Economy Strategy Group to ensure that the appropriate governance arrangements are in place for managing the Mid Wales Growth Deal and its related projects. The 'Vision for Growing Mid Wales: Strategic Economic Plan & Growth Deal Roadmap' was published in Summer 2020. Work is on-going on the portfolio of work and the high-level projects which has included conversations on broader economic portfolios. The Partnership, of which the MWJC is a member, is due meet on 24th May 2021.

3. Rural Health and Care Wales (RHCW)

Future arrangements

The three Health Boards for Mid Wales (Powys Teaching Health Board, Betsi Cadwaladr and Hywel Dda University Health Boards) confirmed their commitment to provide funding for Rural Health and Care Wales for 2021/22. A detailed report on the work of Rural Health and Care Wales is detailed at Agenda Item 5.

Rural Health and Care Wales Management Group – Interim Chair

The term of appointment for the current Interim Chair of the Rural Health and Care Wales was due to end on 31st March 2021. Following confirmation of funding for 2021/22, the appointment of the current Chair, Jack Evershed, has been extended for a further 12 months up until the end of March 2022.

4. Mid Wales Joint Scrutiny Working Group

The Mid Wales Scrutiny Group have decided not to hold a formal meeting and as such they have been invited to observe the Joint Committee meeting and submit any written feedback or questions after the meeting has concluded.

5. 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 was due to end on 31st March 2021. Given the challenges faced in 2020/21 due to Covid-19 and the need for some stability to support the Mid Wales Joint Committee and its partner organisations through the recovery period over the coming years, I have agreed that Jack Evershed should continue in this role for a further 12 months until March 2022.

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

In January 2021 Jo Whitehead assumed the role of Chief Executive for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. The MWJC Programme Director is due to meet with her this month to provide an introduction to the Joint Committee and its work.

Gwynedd Council

Dafydd Gibbard has recently been appointed as Gwynedd Council's Chief Executive and he will succeed the current Chief Executive, Dilwyn Williams, who is retiring in May 2021. Mr Gibbard is currently the Head of Housing and Property for Gwynedd Council. The MWJC will arrange to meet with Mr Gibbard in the next few months to discuss the role and work of the Joint Committee.

Hywel Dda University Health Board

In April 2021 Lee Davies commenced in post as the new Director of Planning for Hywel Dda University Health Board. The MWJC has met with him to discuss the Joint Committee's proposed work programme and priorities together with the importance of Hywel Dda's role as a commissioner of acute care services, from Bronglais General Hospital, for the population of Mid Wales.

6. Mid Wales political leadership

On Thursday 6th May 2021 the elections for Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament were held with the following elected to represent the constituencies and region which come under the Mid Wales area.

Constituency/Region	Name
Ceredigion	Elin Jones AM (also nominated as Presiding Officer for a 2 nd term)
Dwyfor Meirionnydd	Mabon ap Gwynfor AM
Montgomeryshire	Russell George AM
Brecon and Radnorshire	James Evans AM
Mid and West Wales	Eluned Morgan AM
Mid and West Wales	Cefin Campbell AM
Mid and West Wales	Jane Dodds AM
Mid and West Wales	Joyce Watson AM

We will now look to establish meetings with those newly elected members as well as continue to meet with those re-elected members in order to ensure they are fully sighted on the challenges and issues for health services across Mid and West Wales.

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.