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**NORTH WALES** SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING  
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

## Notes of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board Meeting

8 November 2019

9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Optic, St Asaph

Present: Dave Worrall (Chair), Bethan Jones Edwards, Morwena Edwards, Bethan E Jones, Charlotte Walton, Cllr Bobby Feeley, Cllr Christine Jones, Cllr Joan Lowe (JLo), Cllr Louise Emery, Cllr Dafydd Meurig, Ffion Johnstone, Jennie Lewis (JLe), Jenny Williams, Kevin Roberts, Marian Wyn Jones, Mark Wilkinson (MWil), Neil Ayling, Peter Williams, Rob Smith, Helen Corcoran, John Gladston, Alwyn Jones, Geraint Davies (in attendance for Wendy Jones), Roma Hooper (in attendance for Lynda Colwell), Lesley Singleton

Apologies: Teresa Owen, Clare Budden, Wendy Jones, Lynda Colwell, Mary Wimbury, Nicola Stubbins, Judith Greenhalgh, Estelle Hitchon, Catherine Elaine Jones, Shan Lloyd Williams Chris Stockport, Llinos Medi Huws.

In attendance: Claire Brennan, BCUHB (for agenda item 3)  
Sally Holland, Children's Commissioner for Wales (for agenda item 6)  
Kirrin Davidson, Policy Advisor, Children's Commissioner for Wales (for agenda item 6)

### 1 Welcome, introductions and apologies

The chair extended a warm welcome to everyone.

Introductions were made and apologies noted as above. A warm welcome was extended the new North Wales Police representative attending the Board, Helen Corcoran (Community Safety Superintendent).

#### *Actions*

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### 2 Notes and actions of last meetings

Minutes of the meeting 11th October were accepted as a true record.

Actions Outstanding:

- Mid-point review of the AHW programme to be shared with the NWRPB.

Matters arising:

- BJE advised the WG RPB Learning event 05.12.2019 has been postponed and an alternative date in the New Year will be issued soon.

RPB members once again voiced their dissatisfaction to the lack of WG tele-conferencing/skype/vc facilities, leaving all North Wales representatives unable to participate in WG meetings and events without having to travel to Cardiff. North Wales RPB members are concerned about the time and cost of having to regularly travel to Cardiff but are eager to participate in all events but reluctant to travel to Cardiff for all meetings and the need for WG to be holding an equal share of these events in North Wales

*Actions*

- TO to write to WG.

### **3 Winter Plans**

The board received an update from LS on the proposal of the Winter Plan for North Wales, period from October 2019 to March 2020.

LS provide the context for the report, informing that WG requested BCU and RPB to develop a joint plan in collaboration across two separate funding streams, but WG having set two different submission dates for each proposal, BCUHB (23.10.2019) and the RPB submission (15.11.2019).

The North Wales RPB allocation plans have been developed and agreed locally via the Area Integrated Service Boards (AISB's) and split by population.

The North Wales BCUHB allocation has also been developed working closely with the three AISB's, and building on initiatives that have proved to be successful to date. A huge amount of work has been completed locally to align both sets of plans.

The WG allocation letter specifies the region are expected to comply with a number of key themes identified by learning from past winters and developed across Health and Social Care. The region are also expected to submit monthly monitoring data of both BCU and RPB plans of spend against activity data via the ICF process. This is not in line with ICF funding which requires quarterly reporting and will be additional work both locally and regionally.

Both the AISB and the Leadership Group will provide oversight of the RPB proposal and BCUHB and the Leadership Group will provide oversight of the BCUHB proposal to ensure an integrated approach and joint monitoring.

All BCUHB Area Directors gave assurance and concurred that numerous discussions have been held at local level regarding utilising the Winter Plan funding.

JLo raised concern to the number of additional workforce required to action the plans and FJ confirmed this will be done by using bank staff, overtime payments and employing additional staff on short term contracts.

DW also enquired to the reason WG have allocated two separate pots of funding and suggested in future WG should allocate one pot of money and one plan completed and submitted for the whole of North Wales.

ME suggested the cost and time related to submitting monthly report on this work is also included as part of the discussion with WG.

Claire Brennen confirmed a draft BCUHB plan has been submitted to WG 23.10.2019 as was required ahead of endorsement at RPB today.

Cllr BF welcomes the report and plan but questioned where GP's fitted into the plans and allocations. BEJ confirmed additional money has been provided for clusters which includes the GP's as a separate allocation.

Cllr JLo suggested a short update on the Winter Plan is provided at the January meeting.

The NWRPB were in agreement to endorse the Winter Plans for North Wales for formal submission to Welsh Government

#### *Actions*

- TO to write to WG proposing one funding allocation in future
- Agenda Winter Plan update in January

#### **4 ICF update**

The board received an update from NA on the ICF 6 monthly update which included activity on the work completed in this reporting period.

- The recruitment of project manager and project support officer has now been filled with both officers due in post by 11.11.2019.
- There are a number actions ongoing due to WG grant requirements:
  - DCC Legal colleague has identified a number of amendments that should be incorporated into the Partnership Agreement and recommends utilising the Variation clause in the agreement to manage the required changes and the extension of the term to end of March 2021.
  - A requirement for each region to develop a communication plan for its use of ICF and is currently being drafted to meet WG requirements.

- Revenue Investment Plan (RIP) to be public documents. North Wales ICF to date have published the ICF dashboard and will forward the RIP to anyone who requests this, due to website accessibility requirements and Welsh language requirements and WG are aware of this.
- ICF RIP has been finalised and submitted to WG and identified underspend for the areas has now been addressed and included in the updated RIP. The AISB's are charged with maintaining an active over-sight of the programme to ensure that underspend is managed locally.
- ICF Capital has been discussed at the WG scrutiny meeting and further documentation has been submitted on a number of schemes. The region continues to work with WG to progress the approvals required and all partners are asked to complete a changes form to be submitted to the regional team to maintain oversight of any changes, alternative use for the funding and provide an audit trail.

DW asked for clarification regarding the Variance clause and the ICF Partnership Agreement terms extended to March 2021. BJE clarified

the current agreement is binding until March 2020, and legal services has recommended incorporating all changes including the extension of the term of the agreement via the Variance clause to March 2021, as an alternative of creating a new full formal agreement.

ME asked regarding the WG requirement of publishing the RIP and the challenges that may be faced from WG. BJE informed that the RIP plan, in its' current format would be very difficult to transfer on to the website, in relation to the formatting and translating costs involved as it is a very detailed excel spreadsheet. We have however, published our dashboard on the website.

MWJ drew attention to the new guidance and requirement for ICF funding to be further aligned towards housing needs. MWJ also enquired how the Wrexham Well-being Centre proposes to work with the current homeless provision already in place in Wrexham Town Centre.

RS confirmed the new development will link in and not replace the homeless provision already in place in Wrexham. The Well-being Centre has a central location with good transport links, a range of activities for linking in to all adults and children's needs. The centre will provide an opportunity to support integration and transformation, linking ICF vision to the AHW.

JG informed that due to the duty of the charities commission, charities are not seen to be working in collaboration e.g. following 30 years the Mountain Rescue Team are existing and working in silo, as opposed to having all emergency services within one contact centre, and DW suggested this item to be discussed further at a future RPB meeting.

NWRPB members were in agreement to endorse the following recommendations:

- That partners note the extensive work that has happened to date to produce the various programmes funded through ICF within North Wales. ICF is now a significant funding stream and its management both regionally and locally to meet Welsh Government grant requirements is ever increasing.
- That partners agree to utilise the Variation clause in the ICF Partnership Agreement to manage the ICF guidance requirements and to manage the extension of this agreement by 1 year to end of March 2021.
- That partners note that some capital programmes are still not fully approved and arrangements will need to be put in place to manage any capital underspend this may create.
- That Area ISB's maintain an active oversight of delivery and spend to mitigate any underspend.
- The WCCIS Board maintains an active oversight of the spend to mitigate underspend.
- That IAS agree how their new on line data collection is brought through the regional governance before being submitted nationally

#### *Actions*

- DW/JG – Mountain Rescue on future agenda

## **5 Rural Conwy Community Car Scheme (RCCCS)**

The board received an update from Geraint Davies, Health & Well-being facilitator for CVSC and Cluster Lead in Conwy West, on the Rural Conwy Community Car Scheme.

GD shared how the scheme evolved to address transport issues to assist individuals in rural communities throughout Conwy to attend GP and secondary care appointments.

BCUHB provided assistance giving access to their cost effective leasing scheme to purchase a disabled accessible vehicle.

DW advised it would assist the third sector to have sight of the lottery bid for the scheme, as one of the biggest challenges in North Wales is community transport. GD informed the bid was community driven and linked into primary care.

CllrLE mentioned the Leader's project, an identical project that was refused lottery funding due to not being cost effective and enquired how cost effective and economic is the RCCC scheme.

GD confirmed the costings were worked out robustly, local taxi firms were consulted and informed not objection to the scheme. The figures provided at the end of the 3 years would move to a social enterprise membership scheme access with an annual fee and a nominal charge for hire, based on a successful model in Pembrokeshire.

CllrCJ also informed of a similar scheme in Flintshire giving door to door service with a £10 a year membership 45p per mile charge. This is an example of another successful scheme which does not affect local taxis, yet providing important lifeline services combatting loneliness and isolation.

AJ added there are numerous excellent similar schemes across North Wales and questioned how the role of the board could encourage more similar groups, with community transport being a regional rural issue.

JLe asked where the local information on these schemes can be found and if these schemes are made available to individuals who access direct payments as opposed to packages of support.

Cllr BF suggested an exercise to pull together the various flexible transport projects within each county to see what is available and bring back to the RPB to get an overview of all services available, including the number of electric vehicles.

DW and BJE to discuss how this can be brought back to the Board for discussion.

## **6 Children's Commissioner for Wales**

Sally Holland, Children's Commissioner for Wales attended to discuss the work of the RPB in delivering the priority to establish integrated services for 'children with complex needs due to disability or illness and for children and young people with mental health problems'.

The RPB provided a presentation focussing on:

- The Governance Arrangements
- Integrated Service Arrangements for LD transitions
- Emotional, behavioural and mental health needs
- Current and future effectiveness

Board members had a discussion on the various matters with Sally Holland.

## **7 AOB**

DW informed the Board today would be MWJ's last RPB meeting and took the opportunity to thank for her valuable contribution to the Board over the years.

MWJ thanked the Chair and took the opportunity to share her observations from the Board; stating it was heartening to see how the Board has progressed in the last few years, with significant innovation happening across North Wales. It has been a privilege to have been part of the NWRPB and the transformation taking place across North Wales at this time. MWJ wished the Board well in the future.

## **8 Date of next meeting: Friday 6th December 2019 9:00 – 11:30 am**