



Minutes of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board Meeting

11 December 2020

9:00 am to 11:30 am

Via M S Teams

Present:	Teresa Owen (chair), Bethan Jones Edwards, Morwena Edwards, Catherine Elaine Jones, Cllr Bobby Feeley, Cllr Christine Jones, Cllr Joan Lowe, Cllr Louise Emery, Cllr Dilwyn Morgan (DMo) (attending for Cllr Dafydd Meurig), Ffion Johnstone (attended until 10:00 am), Fon Roberts (attended until 10:00 am), Helen Corcoran, Jenny Williams, John Gallanders (JGa), John Gladston (JGI), Judith Greenhalgh (JGr attended until 10:00 am), Cllr Llinos Medi Huws, Lucy Reid, Mary Wimbury (MWim), Neil Ayling, Nicola Stubbins, Peter Williams, Shan Lloyd Williams
Apologies:	Alwyn Jones, Bethan E Jones, Clare Budden, Chris Stockport, Dr Lowri Brown, Estelle Hitchon, Kevin Roberts, Lynda Colwell, Mark Wilkinson, Rob Smith, Roma Hooper, Sam Parry, Steve Gadd
In attendance:	Bethan Roberts, Audit Wales (for agenda item 3 only)

1 Welcome, introductions and apologies

The chair welcomed everyone to the last meeting of 2020 and thanked everyone for their support and commitment through an extremely challenging 2020.

The chair welcome Bethan Roberts, Audit Wales, who is observing today's meeting, specifically agenda item 3.

The chair informed board members of CB recent resignation from the NWRPB and took the opportunity to thank CB for the support and contribution to the RPB over the last 2 years.

The chair also thanked LC for her support and work on the Board for the last 2 terms as one of the third Sector representatives. Unfortunately LC is unable to attend her last meeting today.

Action: Formal letters of thanks will be sent to CB and LC.

BJE informed the recent Carer Eol has been unsuccessful in recruiting new carer representatives on to the RPB. The RPB are grateful to PW, who has agreed to continue as a Carer representative on the RPB until a new representative has been recruited. The Carer Expression of Interest will be circulated once again.

Actions

- Send letters to LC and CB – RW
- Circulate Carer Eol – RW

2 Notes and actions of last meetings

The minutes of meeting 13.11.2020 were agreed as a correct record with all actions completed.

3 Health & Care Recovery Group (H&CRG) update

The board received a verbal update from JG on the work of the H&CRG.

The work of the H&CRG focusses predominantly on the Covid-19 pandemic and winter planning across H&SC and the output from the Data and Intelligence Cells, providing both local and national updates.

The group has also started to discuss the WG Rehabilitation: A framework for Continuity and Recovery. The H&CRG will lead on this piece of work which will be developed by considering all work completed to date across the 4 population groups, identifying gaps and any further work to be considered. The work will be completed by existing sub-groups, collated and presented to the RPB in the New Year.

Cllr LIMH raised concern regarding the use of terminology, in particular the use of 'recovery' being misleading considering public bodies are continuing to respond to the pandemic crisis. In particular it was questioned whether the Health & Care Recovery Group's title was appropriate given that Covid figures are currently increasing across Wales, as well as whether Audit Wales (in attendance) would be critical of this.

BR (AW) agreed to take this enquiry back to the team and will report back via e-mail.

JG informed the group was set up to consider the interface between H&SC and the title was agreed when the overall Recovery Board was taking place, a legacy from the structure put in place during the summer.

ME was also in agreement noting CllrLIMH having a valid point. The surge in Covid feeling particularly severer than the first wave and also having to deal concurrently with winter pressures. ME also proposed it may be beneficial for the H&CRG to clarify its' work, to avoid giving an impression that the board solely undertook work on recovery and also supported further clarity on the title.

JG agreed to take these comments away for consideration with Chair of the Strategic Co-ordination Group.

Actions

- BR (AW) to report back on the use of terminology

4 Mass Vaccination Plan

The board received a verbal update from FJ on the ongoing work of the mass vaccination plan.

FJ informed that work plans are now in place and have been received by WG and scrutinized, receiving positive feedback from the military. The plans have also been shared with other Health Boards and externally to the Strategic Coordination Group.

FJ is the chair of the Technical Group, with further groups responsible for other aspects of the plan; clinical model, workforce, logistics group and security and transport group which also includes communication and appointments and bookings group.

The need to be flexible is especially important for all groups as the planning guidelines received from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) change frequently. Daily SIT REP meetings are held with WG and vaccinations in Wales have already started with each Health Board receiving one tray of vaccinations containing 975 doses. BCUHB rollout has started in the North East as this area has seen the most significant outbreaks of positive Covid-19 numbers to date.

NHS and care workers and people over 80 are the first to receive the vaccination. A pilot of care homes is being explored. Regular updates will be provided to all Leaders and the Assembly.

MWim noted there are lots of questions in relation to how the HB propose to vaccinate care home workers, and the more communication with the sector the better. Although informed of a further announcement expected today re care homes pilot, there are significant logistical difficulties, and concern, in particular as vaccinating the care sector in North Wales has not started.

FJ noted the valid points concerning keeping care homes informed and hopefully the impending arrangements due next week will appease the sector.

JGal asked if there was a demand for volunteers to be supporting at vaccination centres. The third sector would appreciate an update as soon as possible.

FJ informed the Covid vaccination process is an appointment and pre-booking process only available through BCU at the moment, not within the community and GP settings. FJ noted the Tactical Group would pick up the query re third sector in the meeting this afternoon.

Cllr LE requested colleagues to be realistic with timings on the eligibility list and advocated for front line and health workers to be prioritised. Cllr LE asked on the numbers involved and in terms of accountability queried where the control of decisions are made.

TO confirmed that the JCVI, a national UK wide committee have the overall control, not only for Covid guidance, but all UK vaccinations, and advise the Health Board on all health related aspect of guidance.

CllrJL proposed regular communication is circulated wide, explaining everyone need to wait their turn and asked when subsequent batches are expected to be received.

FJ agreed a weekly bulleting will be essential, to be agreed at the Tactical group this afternoon. The Medical Registration Association release the batches of vaccination, although currently restricted on the number of batches, owing to adapting systems and processes a reasonable amount is expected in the region.

Cllr BF noted the importance of linking with GP's being the main link with residents, and understood that other individuals apart from GP's could administer the vaccinations. It also needs to be clear the vaccination is not suitable for people with allergies and individuals should wait for another brand of vaccine to become available.

FJ replied that BCUHB work to a legal framework and only registered professionals are able to administer the vaccination. An immense training programme has ensured all staff are competent to deliver vaccinations. BCU Clinical lead has already ensured links with Pharmacies and Community Pharmacies. As per the allergies, with guidelines changing from day to day, the paperwork is continually changing as a result of contra indicators received.

JGI informed from the recent Disability Wales AGM a figure of 70% was quoted as a mortality rate within the disabled community and agreed to forward the source of this information to FJ who will share with BCU colleagues.

Several RPB members noted the importance of having clear information available for the population and FJ agreed on a

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers sheet to be available for wide circulation.

TO thanked FJ and her team on all the excellent work done on the vaccination programme.

Actions

- JGI to forward info from the Disability Wales AGM to FJ
- FAQ's for wide circulation – FJ

5 Social Service and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 Codes and Guidance: Part 9 Statutory Guidance (Partnership Arrangements)

5.1 Co-opted Members - Update from meeting between RPB Chair and Co-opted RPB members - 11.09.2020

BJE and TO presented an update following the discussion at the RPB 7.8.2020, agenda item 'Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 – updated Codes and Guidance: Part 9 Statutory Guidance (Partnership Arrangements)', an action was taken to continue the discussion and options concerning NWRPB co-opted members outside RPB with an outcome paper to be presented to a future RPB.

BJE informed following discussion the outcome and decision at the meeting 11.09.2020 was Option 5: Co-opted member will continue to attend the NWRPB.

5.2 Updated NWRPB Terms of Reference for agreement – Bethan Jones Edwards

The board received the final draft of the ToR incorporating amendments made following discussions at past meetings and co-opted members meeting. The final draft ToR also takes into consideration the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 – updated Codes and Guidance: Part 9 Statutory Guidance (Partnership Arrangements) requirements.

BJE informed there are 2 highlighted sections in the document for agreement:

1. The regional Partnership Board may co-opt other persons to be members of the board as appropriate. The regulations refer to the minimum membership of the boards but the number of representatives and range of people involved is a matter for local determination. There will be a 2 year review of co-opted members.
2. The following representative will be selected to sit on the Regional Partnership Board through an Expression of Interest and peer selection process:

Person who represents the interests of care providers in the area covered by the regional partnership board

Apart from the agreement of the above, the ToR is regarded as being sufficient to safeguard the work of the board.

MWim experienced technical difficulties at this time and was unable to respond verbally, however included the following on the RPB chat bar:

I have been on the RPB since the start. Since CFW represent a significant proportion of members across north Wales and as the only employee in North Wales that does not seem unreasonable on an ongoing basis.

CllrJL pointed out the term for Elected Members should be changed to May 2022

ME noted Gwynedd Council have 2 Elected Cabinet Members, with a shared portfolio of adults and children. Due to the importance of having the right person attending, depending on the agenda Cllr Dilwyn Morgan (Cabinet responsibilities for Children & Family Support) is delegating today in place of Cllr Dafydd Meurig (Cabinet member for Adults and Community). ME also informed the chair that Cllr DMO will delegate for Cllr DME at times on the RPB.

It was noted that the following is noted within the ToR's.

Members of the Regional Partnership Board are permitted to send a nominated representative to attend in their place however, it is asked that this representative has been fully briefed about the work of the Board. When a nominated representative is to attend the Chair must be informed prior to the meeting.

The NWRPB were in agreement to endorse the Terms of Reference pending a discussion between BJE and Provider sector rep.

5.3 Focus and Priorities Final Document for agreement – Bethan Jones Edwards

BJE presented the final version of the Focus and Priorities paper, including an additional paragraph on Covid, as requested previously by the board. The document is a reminder of the work completed by the board and the work required in future, which everyone agreed will be very different.

The NWRPB were in agreement to endorse the final version of the Focus and Priorities document. The final version will be available for circulation and on the collaborative website.

Actions

- Update ToR - BJE

6 AHW – Transformation Programmes 2021/2022 WG grant allocation

The board received an update from BJE on the transformation Programmes 2021/2022 WG grant allocation.

BJE explained Welsh Government required the current transformation programmes to submit a business case to demonstrate progress to date, the amount of funding required and proposed use of funding for 2021/22. NWRPB

reports were submitted to WG with a total funding requirement of £11M across the 4 programmes.

In response WG offered a tentative allocation of £4.6M, a considerable financial gap, and RPB Elected Members wrote to the Minister to note their disappointment to the indicative allocation.

A meeting was arranged between WG, North Wales Head of Regional Collaboration and Programme Sponsors to discuss the queries and questions raised in relation to the 4 business cases. The maximum, optimum and minimum funding required to move forward with each programme was also discussed and the outcome of that meeting was that NWRPB would prepare one business case for 2021/22 bringing the elements of the current four programmes together to be taken forward as one programme, with one grant awarded to the region of the total allocation.

Following a great deal of work and negotiation, North Wales have negotiated a total of £6.7M of funding and work is progressing on confirmation of activity, outcomes and breakdown of spend, staffing requirements and timeline for delivery in 2021-22, required by WG by end of December.

TO thanked BJE for the huge amount of work involved securing the additional funding to a total of £6.7M to maximise the allocation for the region.

NA, Programme Sponsor for the LD Transformation Programme also acknowledged the huge amount of work done by BJE to secure the North Wales allocation and was also noted being in support of prioritising the Children & Young People Programme with £3.8M, both Learning Disability Transformation and Mental Health Transformation programmes will receive £750K respectively and £1.28 allocated to the CST Programme and the remainder of the funding for evaluation.

NS, Programme Sponsor for Children and Young People noted the region were very ambitious with the first request for transformation funding and the 4 priority areas still remain with everyone committed to all 4 programmes. Unfortunately whilst negotiating a significantly higher amount, this remained insufficient to deliver on all 4 programmes to the minimal level, resulting in exploring various ways of sharing and distribution of the allocation.

TO, Programme Sponsor for Together for Mental Health also noted being in support of the proposal and the importance of early prevention work, working as one programme to maximise the funding to secure a better future for everyone.

BJE informed next steps will focus on the detail of the single business case, confirm the activity outcomes, breakdown of spending, staffing required and timeline for delivery of activities. A great deal of this information is already available and Programme Sponsors will progress the completion of this

information at pace as the information will need to be submitted to Welsh Government by the end of December 2020.

NWRPB members were all in agreement and supportive of the proposal around the funding of different elements of the 2021/22 programme.

Members also pointed out to also keep in mind how the transformation work will be incorporated into future core budgets

JGal asked having identified a number of priorities that have not been funded what are we going to do with the unfunded priorities?

NS replied that when RPB determined its' priorities, the work also continued within all other areas i.e. Carers. The priority areas chosen where those considered where most impact could be made. This additional funding is a bonus, and work will continue to focus once the transformation funding has ended, not committed at exclusion of other work.

BJE also informed communication is in the pipeline and will be forwarded following the agreement of the NWRPB today and followed with regular communication updates in the New Year to ensure everyone are informed and updated on progress.

Actions

- The programme for 2021/22 will be shared at next RPB meeting.

7 Any Other Business

No other business from members

8 The following documents have been included for information:

- Funding for delivery of Discharge to Recover and Assess (D2RA) pathways
- Welsh Government Transformation Programme Fund 2021-22 Research, Innovation & Improvement Co-ordination (RI&IC) Hubs: Guidance

9 Date of the next meeting:

Friday 15th January 2021 10:30 – 12:30 pm