



# North Wales Population Needs Assessment

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CYDWEITHREDFA GWELLA GWASANAETHAU  
GŦFAL A LLESANT **GOGLEDD CYMRU**  
**NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING**  
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE



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**NHS**  
WALES  
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
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**sir ddinbych**  
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# Population needs assessment and market stability report priorities

## Children and young people

- Prevention and early intervention
- Children receiving care and support
- Disability and illness
- Children with learning disabilities and neuro-developmental disorders
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Young carers
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Safeguarding
- Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

## Older people

- Workforce: recruitment and retention (complex needs)
- Working together to support people at home
- Supporting people to live well with dementia
- Falls prevention
- Supporting people to be more active (active travel and inclusive leisure services)
- Digital inclusion
- Housing and accommodation: new and adapted homes suitable for changing needs.

## Learning disabilities

- Underpinned by co-production, voice and control for citizens, families and carers and their lived experience.
- Communities and cultural change
  - Accommodation
  - Assistive technology
  - Employment
  - Children and young people (health and early intervention)

## Disability and health

- Prevention and early intervention
- Accessibility of public services / spaces
- Accessible information
- Social model of disability
- Co-production of services

## Autism

- Implement code of practice for autism services
- Co-production of services
- Mental health and well-being
- Raising awareness
- Education and employment

## Unpaid carers

- Early identification and awareness raising
- Carer breaks (respite)
- Improving unpaid carer assessments
- Wider social care workforce recruitment and retention leading to additional demands on unpaid carers
- Digital inclusion

## Mental health (adults)

- Recovery from Covid-19 pandemic
- Early intervention
- Addressing inequalities
- Co-production

## Veterans

- Community and relationships
- Employment, education and skills
- Finance and debt
- Health and well-being
- Making a home in civilian society

## Refugees and asylum seekers

- Mental health support
- Partnership working between health, council departments, voluntary organisations and other public services

## Cross cutting themes

- Welsh language - 'Active Offer'
- Equality and human rights
- Socio-economic disadvantage
- Housing
- Homelessness
- Loneliness and isolation
- Social value
- Co-production and citizen voice
- Prevention
- Safeguarding
- Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Covid-19

## Market Stability Report

- Recruitment and retention of staff.
- Work together to commission for flexibility.
- Recognise the care sector's importance for keeping people well in their own homes.
- Work with care homes to provide low level residential care / respite.
- Micro-commissioning and direct payments.
- Increase support for unpaid carers
- Increase specialist care home placements in care homes for older people, adults with mental health needs, learning disability and people with dementia.
- Increase emergency and longer term accommodation for children and young people with complex needs.



# Approach and limitations

## Approach

Engagement-led / co-produced

## Limitations

- Short of time and capacity
- Data availability including Census 2021
- Light-touch consultation



## We looked at:

### Population groups

- Children and young people
- Older people
- Health, physical impairment and sensory loss
- Learning disabilities
- Autism
- Mental health (adults)
- Unpaid carers
- Veterans
- Refugees and asylum seekers

### Cross-cutting themes

- Welsh language - 'Active Offer'
- Equality and human rights
- Socio-economic disadvantage
- Housing
- Loneliness and isolation
- Social value
- Co-production and citizen voice
- Prevention
- Safeguarding
- Domestic abuse
- Covid-19



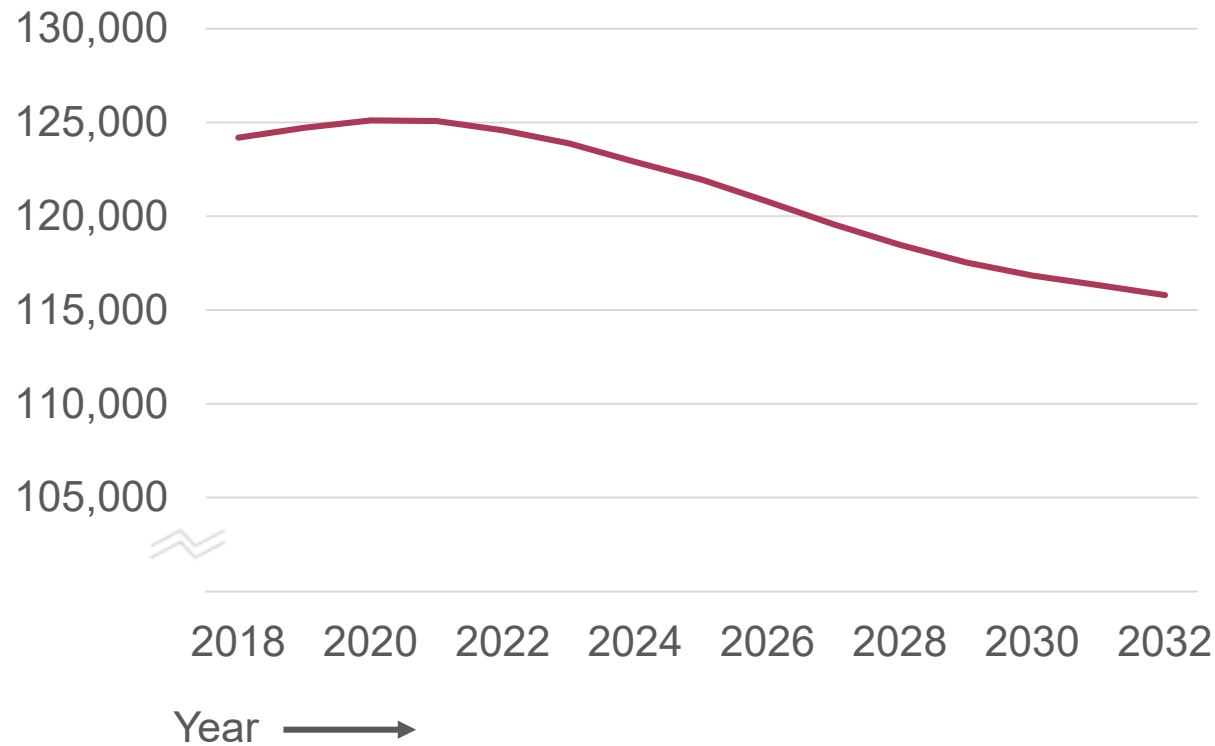
# Children and young people

# North Wales

## Priorities

- Prevention and early intervention
- Children receiving care and support
- Disability and illness
- Children with learning disabilities and neuro-developmental disorders
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Young carers
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Safeguarding
- Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

The total number of children aged 0 to 15 is expected to decrease over the next 15 years in North Wales



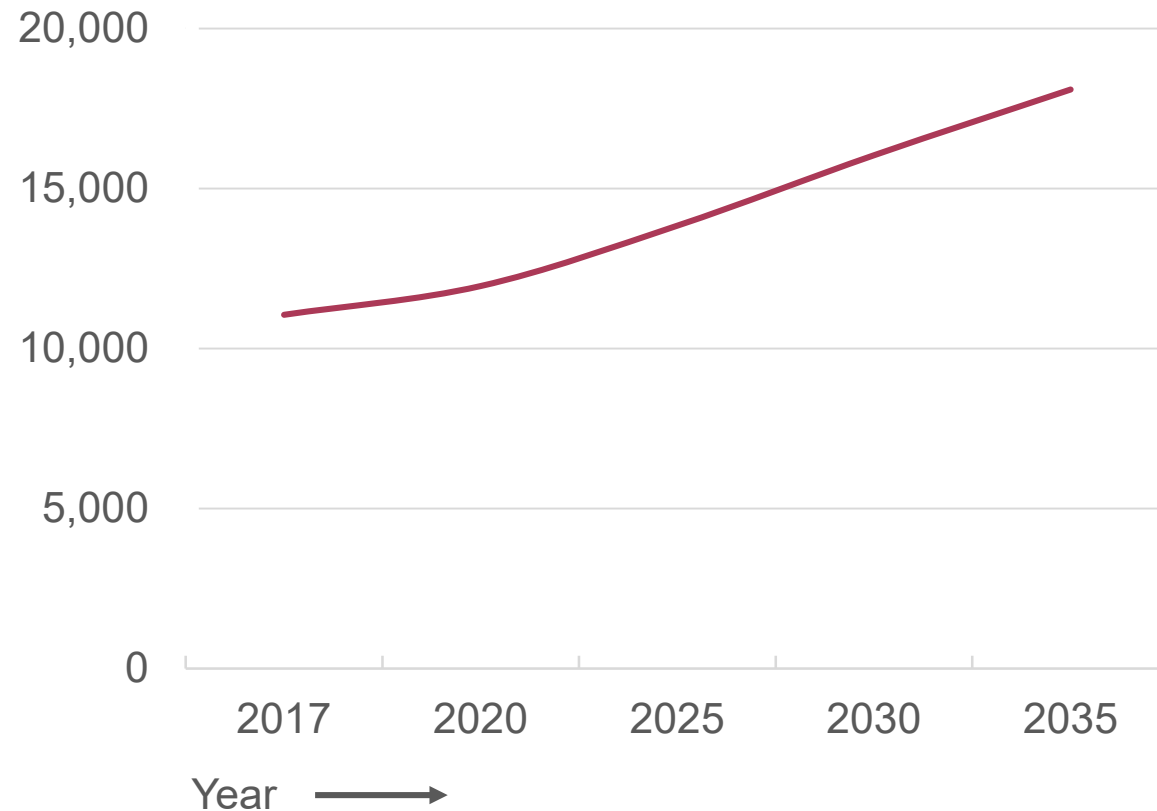
**123,700** children aged 0 to 15

Around **10%** have some kind of care and support need



# Older people

The number of people with dementia is projected to increase over the next 15 years in North Wales



## Priorities

- Workforce: recruitment and retention (complex needs)
- Working together to support people at home
- Supporting people to live well with dementia
- Falls prevention
- Supporting people to be more active (active travel and inclusive leisure services)
- Digital inclusion
- Housing and accommodation: new and adapted homes suitable for changing needs.

# North Wales

**155,000** people aged 65 and over (2020)

**46,000** people aged 65 and over struggle with activities of daily living (2020), expected to rise to

**61,000** by 2040.

Only **36%** of over 75s have basic digital skills



# Health and disability

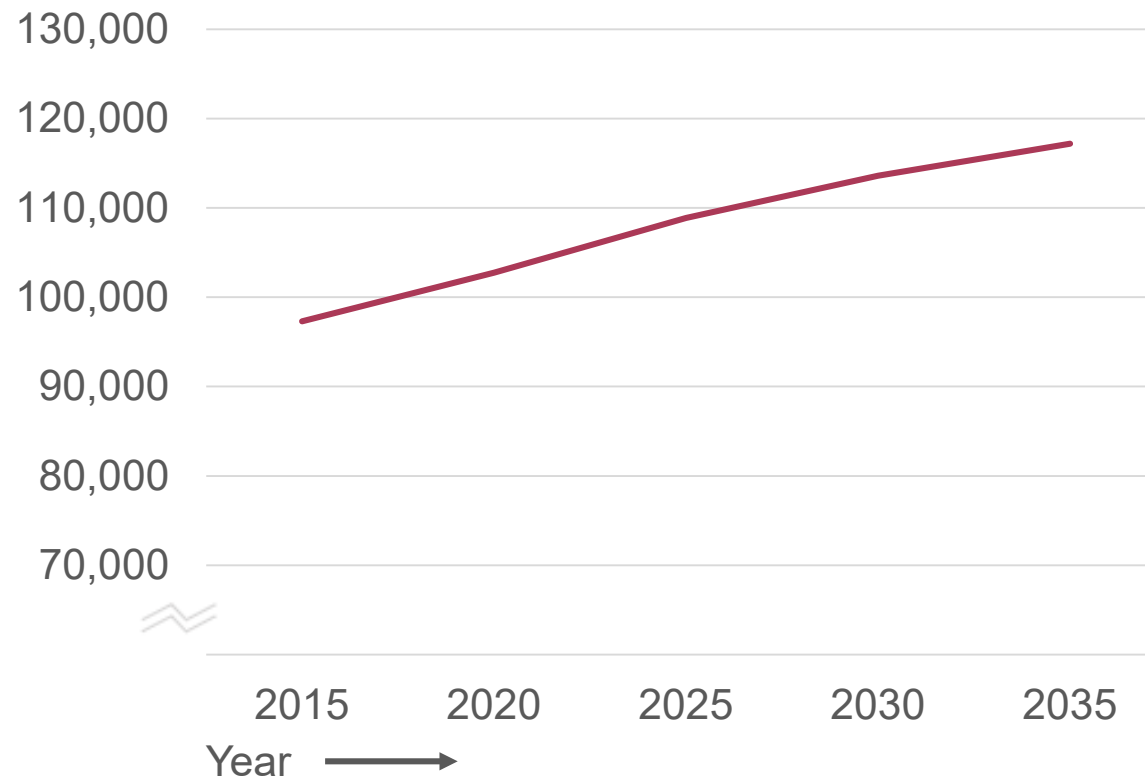
## North Wales

### Priorities

- Prevention and early intervention
- Accessibility of public services / spaces
- Accessible information
- Social model of disability
- Co-production of services

We need services and support for adults with physical disabilities, particularly those that are invisible, dynamic and more rare. Including people who are not 'full-time' wheelchair users.

The number of people over 18 with long-term limiting illness is projected to increase over the next 15 years in North Wales



**1,500** people registered blind

**27,000** living with sight loss

**88,000** with moderate or severe hearing impairment

**1,700** profoundly hearing impaired

**7,000** may acquire long-covid



# Learning disabilities

# North Wales

## Priorities

Underpinned by co-production, voice and control for citizens, families and carers and their lived experience.

- Communities and cultural change
- Accommodation
- Assistive technology
- Employment
- Children and young people (health and early intervention)

“I like to help people in the shop, I think people need more jobs”

“More hours for direct payments please so I can go to other places and more often”

“They’ve helped me a lot especially through lockdown. Quite a lot of fun was had – they’d ring, we’d play games, had a chat on the What’s App group. My support workers have all been wonderful.

**13,000** people with learning disabilities (all ages)

**300** people with learning disabilities over age 65







# Autism

North Wales

**6,000**

autistic people aged  
18 and over



## Priorities

- Code of practice for autism services (implementation)
- Co-production of services
- Mental health and well-being
- Raising awareness
- Education and employment

“Without over-egging the pudding, you have provided me with the first step on an entirely new path in my life, and I am sure I will be thanking you again in the future for the success I am sure I can achieve now that I have a greater understanding of who I am, and who I have always been.”

Person receiving support from  
the Integrated Autism Service



# Mental health (adults)

# North Wales

**94,000**

people aged 16 and over estimated to have common mental health problem

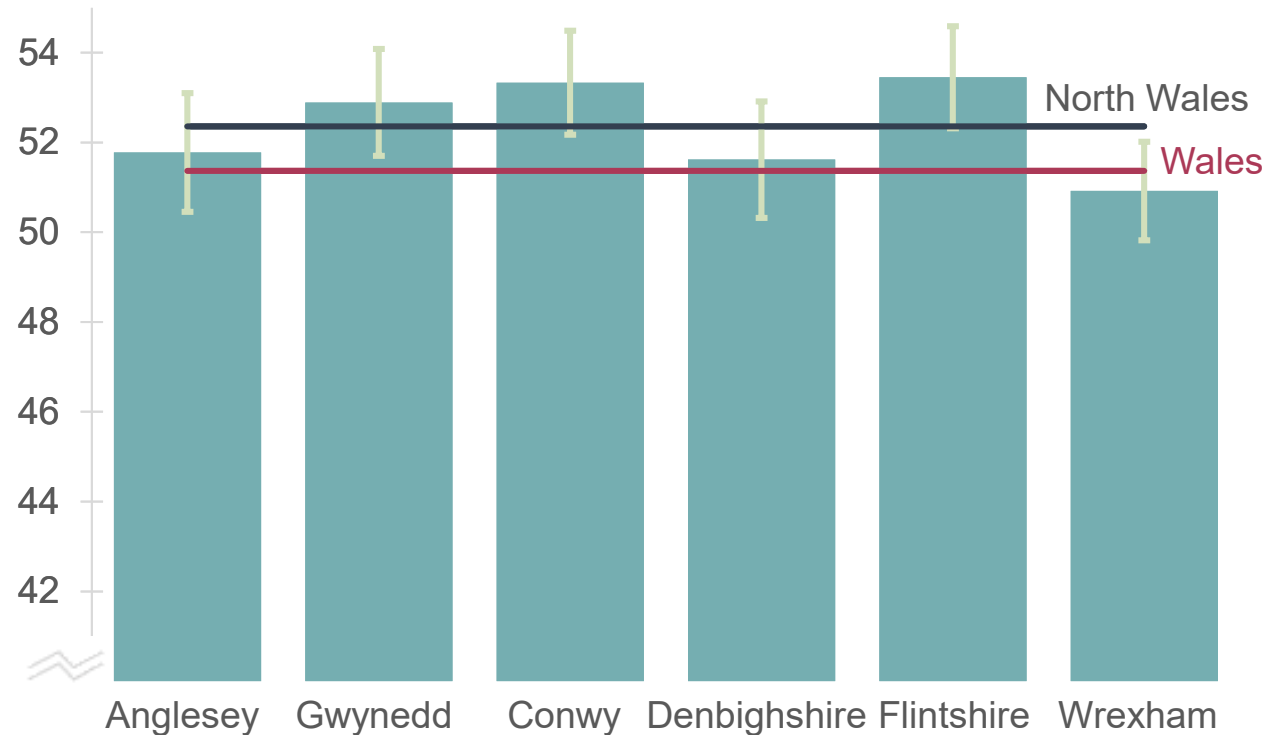
## Priorities

- Recovery from Covid-19 pandemic
- Early intervention
- Addressing inequalities
- Co-production

“I would prefer not to reach crisis. It should be less about having to be in crisis to receive support and more about preventative approaches to keeping me well at home.”

People in North Wales report slightly better mental well-being than in Wales as a whole

Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale Summary Score



Show error bars



# Unpaid carers

North Wales

**79,000**  
unpaid carers



## Priorities

- Early identification and awareness raising
- Carer breaks (respite)
- Improving unpaid carer assessments
- Wider social care workforce recruitment and retention leading to additional demands on unpaid carers
- Digital inclusion

“Unpaid carers are in crisis and this will always have an impact on those being cared for. With better support, I could probably keep my mum in her own home as I have done for ten years, but if the support level continues to deteriorate, against her will and mine, I will have to put her in a nursing home.”



# Veterans

# North Wales

## Priorities

- Community and relationships
- Employment, education and skills
- Finance and debt
- Health and well-being
- Making a home in civilian society

“Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services.

Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given the most such as the injured and the bereaved.”

Extract from the  
Armed Forces Covenant

**39,000**  
veterans

**46%** of veterans  
are aged over 75  
(2014)

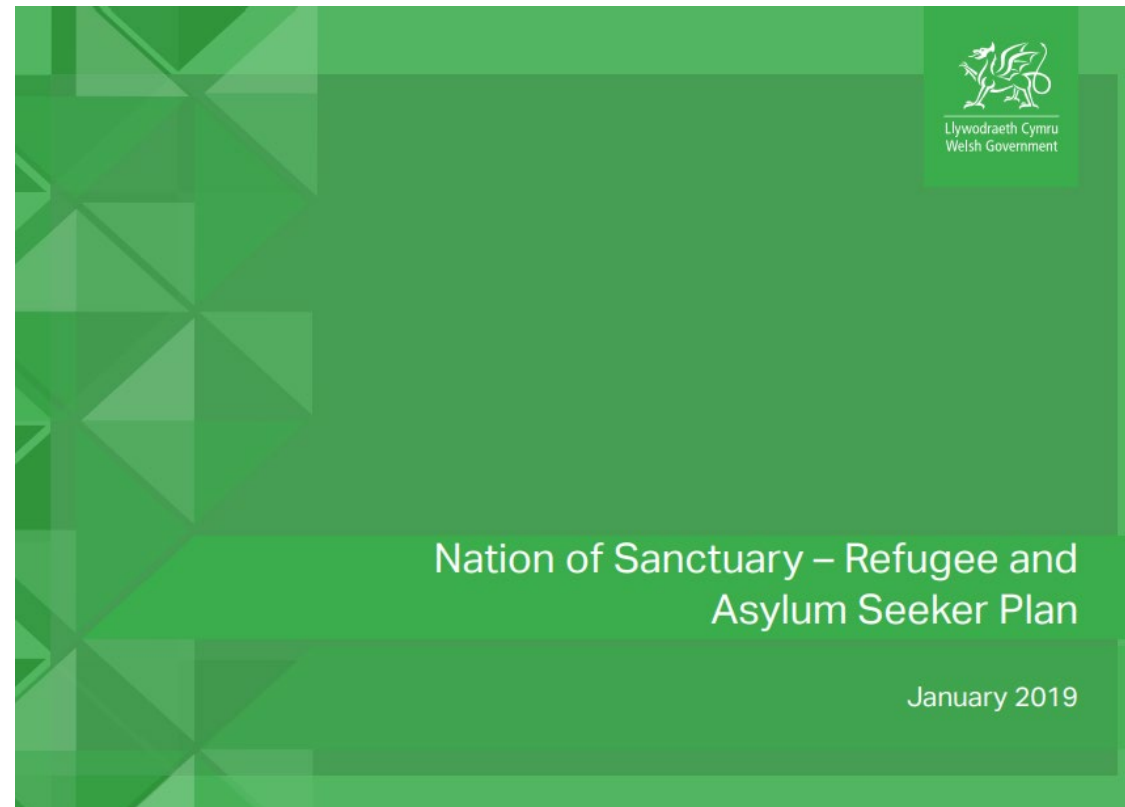


# Refugees and asylum seekers

Wales

## Priorities

- Mental health support
- Partnership working between health, various council departments, voluntary and community organisations and other public services



Around **2,300**  
asylum seekers

Around **10,000**  
refugees



# Conclusion

- Population changes increasing care needs, complexity of needs and support needs of carers.
- Impact of poverty and deprivation on health and well-being.
- Recruitment and retention of health and social care staff an ongoing issue.
- Emerging issues: Triple challenge (Brexit, climate change and Covid-19), increasing cost of living.