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NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

Minutes of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board Meeting

11th June 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Via M S Teams

Present:	Mary Wimbury (Chair), Alwyn Jones, Barry Argent, Bethan E Jones, Chris Stockport, Cllr Bobby Feeley, Cllr Christine Jones (attended from 10:00 am), Cllr Joan Lowe, Cllr Cheryl Carlisle, Cllr Dafydd Meurig, Estelle Hitchon, Delyth Lloyd-Williams, Fôn Roberts, Helen Corcoran (attended from 9:20 am), Jenny Williams (attended from 9:45 am), John Gallanders (attended until check 10:30 am), John Gladston, Lucy Reid, Neil Ayling (attended from 10:00 am), Nicola Stubbins (attended until 10:00 am), Paul Scott, Rob Smith, Shan Lloyd Williams (attended from 9:30 am), Sian Tomos (in attendance for Roma Hooper and Meinir Williams-Jones), Teresa Owen
Apologies:	Cllr Llinos Medi Huws, Dr Lowri Brown, Ffion Johnstone, Jo Whitehead, Mark Wilkinson, Meinir Williams-Jones, Morwena Edwards, Roma Hooper, Sam Parry
In Attendance:	Amanda Lonsdale, Interim Deputy Director for MH&LD, BCUHB (agenda item 4) Einir Price, Autism Policy WG (agenda item 7) Wendy Thomas, National Professional Lead Autism, WLGA (agenda item 7) Christine Burn, Service Manager, North Wales IAS Team (agenda item 7) Sioned Thomas, National Autism Development Officer- North and Mid-Wales (agenda item 7) Professor Nicky Callow, Dean, College Human Sciences, Bangor University (agenda item 9)

Item		Actions
1.	<u>Welcome Introductions & Apologies</u> The chair extended a warm welcome to everyone. Introductions were made and apologies noted as above. The chair noted the changes within CCBC Cabinet positions and formally thanked Cllr Louise Emery for giving time to be a member of the Board. A warm welcome was extended to Cllr Cheryl Carlisle.	Letter to Cllr LE - RW
2.	<u>Notes and actions of last meeting – May 2021</u> The minutes of meeting 14.5.2021 were agreed as a correct record.	

	<p>Actions completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulated North Wales vaccination figures and number not taking up the vaccination split by cluster • Circulate VAWDASV regional annual update and forward contact names to RE • JGal to make contact with Dr GR. • BAHW WG report to be circulated to NWRPB members. • MTJW – on-line modules link to be circulated <p>Actions not yet completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate the PB letter and WG response letter when received – <i>WG response is still awaited</i> – RW <p>Translation Platform and NWP - HC informed discussions concerning security regarding Zoom platform are ongoing and have been discussed at the CEO's X-Sector meeting. HC will inform once clear guidance has been confirmed.</p> <p>NS informed CEO's have been informed Microsoft are currently updating the translation functionality platform and it is anticipated this option will be available January 2022.</p>	<p>CR to provide an update of progress at the next NWRPB</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>NWRPB Annual Report</u> The final English version of the NWRPB Annual Report 2020-2021 is being presented today for endorsement by the NWRPB. The Welsh report is currently in translation and due for completion next week.</p> <p>Endorsement from RPB members will also enable statutory partners to take the annual report through their own political process and the report will then be available on the public domain of the http://northwalescollaborative.wales website</p> <p>The NWRPB were in agreement to endorse the NWRPB Annual Report.</p>	<p>Forward to WG by 30.06.2021 – RW</p> <p>Final reports to be circulated for RPB members to take through their political process.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Dementia - Amanda Lonsdale</u> <u>Regional Dementia Steering Group Update Report</u> The board received an overview from AL on the progress of the Dementia Steering Group (DSG) and the implementation of the North Wales Dementia Strategy (NWDS).</p> <p>The report briefly outlines the activity which has taken place since January 2021 overseen by the DSG and details the 12-month action plan 2021-2022 overseen by the Regional DSG, also giving consideration to the financial implications and the implementation of the recently announced National Dementia Standards.</p> <p>The NWDS has been adopted by partners and shared widely for implementation. The Regional Project Manager started in post 1.1.2021, the DSG held its first North Wales Dementia Strategy implementation meeting in February, resulting in significant progress being seen across the region, to include:</p>	

- Amendment of the Terms of Reference and membership - to include the implementation of the regional Dementia Strategy and innovation. The group widened its membership to include Bangor University representation and the Dementia Nurse Consultants within BCUHB.
- Reviewed the impact of Covid-19 on the RPB Dementia Strategy – confirming the PNA remains fit for purpose
- Planning, Advertising and Recruitment to National Dementia Post - A second Project Manager has recently started in post 1.6.2021, to cover Powys county and this role will focus on the rural impacts and the offer of Welsh Language to those with dementia and their carers
- Slippage Application Process – a clear process has been put in place which reports on the ICF Dementia slippage and outcomes of funding
- Development of an Engagement Dementia Forum and Third Sector Forum – to fully engage with the DSG and to ensure a correct and impactful implementation of the strategy across the region
- Mapping Opportunities and Needs for Implementation of the Strategy – action plan created for the next 12 months, identifying opportunities within the region and a need to urgently address specific issues which are impacting upon those with dementia and their carers.

LR noted *Action Point 20: Introduce a user friendly service map/pathway that's co-produced and local and resources to support others following diagnosis*, and enquired if the Dementia Team were working with GP's on the best way to access the referral pathway into services.

AL informed this area requires a collective effort, engagement will be key and will be addressed in the future.

Cllr BF noted the issue of respite for unpaid carers who undertake tremendous work looking after family members with dementia, and enquired how the outcomes will be measured.

AL informed feedback will be gained from the voice of the carers as well as from the patient and this work will be done collectively across North Wales with partners in *Action 31: Joint commission services wherever possible (Carers Respite)*, continuing to develop and improve respite services as a result of feedback received from carers.

Cllr JL suggested regular update reports on the action plan, including lessons learned are provided to the RPB, as work progresses at different pace in each region.

PS noted NWFRS would be very keen to engage on any issues identified within *Action Point 27: Work with emergency services to support people affected by dementia*.

The NWRPB were in agreement to:

- Note the development and direction of the dementia steering group.

Include on the NWRPB Work Plan RW

Share contact details - RW

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the opportunities to address the implementation risks for the Dementia Strategy and Dementia Standards in 2022-23. <p><u>Dementia Standards Report</u> AL touched on the All Wales Dementia Standards, announced in March 2021, comprising of 20 standards which will make a positive difference to dementia care in Wales.</p>	
5.	<p><u>NWRPB Children's sub-group - Fôn Roberts/Bethan E Jones</u> The board received an update from FR on the RPB requirement under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014; local authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to, the local authorities for the purpose of their social service functions.</p> <p>The briefing paper explains the purpose and requests the NWRPB to endorse the 4 recommendations, to enable progression of the mapping exercise work.</p> <p>BEJ added that RPB members' views are also being sought on the membership of the Children's sub-group; asking if members agree with the suggested membership in the draft ToR, and welcome suggestions of other members on to the group.</p> <p>TO noted being in support of the sub-group and suggested that work already taking place is taken into consideration as part of the mapping work across the region i.e. obesity also being a theme of concern and also supportive of strengthening the voice of the child in this work.</p> <p>MW suggested having a representative from a Children's Provider Service and MW agreed to provide contact details.</p> <p>DL-W suggested a young carer representative to be involved in this group and agreed to provide a link outside of the meeting.</p> <p>RPB WAST and NWFRS members informed being in agreement to be called upon on an as and when basis on this group, if required.</p> <p>HC informed the NWP have recently recruited to a Young People Engagement and Interventions Officer role, and will forward the contact details once the officer has started in post 28th June 2021.</p> <p>The NWRPB were in agreement to endorse the recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An agreement to progress with an RPB subgroup for Children, Young People and their Families. 2. Existing meetings to be mapped out in order to avoid duplication 3. Membership to the subgroup to be agreed. 4. Agree the framework for engagement and co-production with children and young people, embedding a Children Rights approach. Clear governance and reporting structures to be developed. 	<p>MWim to provide details</p> <p>DL-W to provide details</p> <p>HC to provide details</p>

<p>6.</p>	<p><u>BCUHB recovery work update – Chris Stockport</u> CS provided a verbal update to the NWRPB, and took the opportunity to thank all regional colleagues who have assisted and collaborated to support each other throughout the pandemic.</p> <p>While there is an increasing focus on the return to ‘business as usual’ in line with NHS Wales, BCUHB are working to address the significant backlog whilst concurrently focusing on recovery. Covid continues to provide challenges i.e. PPE and reduced bed capacity, with added surveillance due to the Delta variant.</p> <p>Highlights of the work taking place on recovery focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand on USC – Emergency and Out Of Hours has returned to normal across the 3 main hospital sites. Concern is noted in terms of the huge number of expected summer staycations and the difficulty of predicting the level of USC throughout the summer/ no precedence set • Routine referrals to Secondary Care – seeing an increase in referrals, together with the backlog of activity to deal with. Although WG funding is available, the main concern remains the capacity issue re bed spaces and workforce, which cannot rapidly be increased to meet this demand • Recovery is being tackled on a phased basis – prioritising the areas of greatest concern: Diagnostic, Orthopedic, Cataracts, CAMHS/AMH (Covid related MH) • Primary Care – work continued throughout Covid and as a result of changes to managing the risk this service also has a backlog of activity. <p>Cllr BF took the opportunity to emphasise the importance of routine checkups for all regular conditions, although the virtual platform has been appreciated over the pandemic, the virtual platform is not always the best service for the individual, and stressed the importance of resuming normal face to face services.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Integrated Autism Service</u> <u>National Strategic Autism Update – Einir Price, Autism Policy WG and Wendy Thomas, National Professional Lead Autism</u></p> <p>WT firstly provided an update since November 2020 on the National IAS team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded by WG and hosted by the WLGA, with PHW, and works in close partnership with WG, LA and HB local Autism leads, key stakeholders and advisory groups, working across all ages and all aspects of people’s lives • Linking with the ALN Reform – Education is a key part of Autism in Wales • New website includes accessible and helpful resources for individuals with Autism, parents and carers, all free to download • Work during Covid focused on ensuring all up to date and accurate information on the website was accessible for individuals with Autism. 	

Einir Price provided an update on the IAS Statutory Code of Practice (CoP):

Following extensive engagement with stakeholders and people with autism, the CoP was presented to WG in March 2021. WG outcome is expected imminently, with the guidance expected to be published in July and implementation underway by September 2021.

EP informed that the key duties for the NWRPB was included within Section 4 of the CoP on the delivery of autism services - *Arrangements for Planning and Monitoring Services and Stakeholder Engagement*.

Draft duties of the Local Health Boards and Local Authorities include:

- To undertake a joint PNA and implement the area plans, with Autism as a stand-alone theme.
- Develop strategic and operational teams which include autistic people to inform service development.
- Ensure compliance with Welsh Government data collection and monitoring requirements.

EP informed a letter would be forwarded to NWRPB explaining the requirements and duties of the NWRPB in terms of the implementation of the CoP.

North Wales Integrated Autism Service update – Neil Ayling, Lead Sponsor and Christine Burns, Service Manager, North Wales IAS Team

CB noted the current Covid-19 pandemic has been a particularly challenging time for the regional IAS team. During this time a wide range of training, advice hubs, group work and directional therapy was delivered with clients on-line. Autism on-line assessments undertaken by team members proved to be very time consuming taking around 5 or 6 appointments to achieve the same outcome level as face to face meetings.

All applications into the service are now triaged through the weekly Multi-Disciplinary Team. There is no waiting list for support as all such requests received by the team are allocated to link workers who make contact via email, telephone and most importantly where possible via Video Conferencing.

The current waiting list is for diagnostic tests only. Individuals on the list are quality controlled with IAS staff providing a duty of care to ensure all individuals are accessing the right service.

NA acknowledged the work of the national and regional IAS teams which have provided a significant impact to the citizen's voice and working with people who have lived experiences

The NWRPB already have an Autism Champion (Cllr Christine Jones - East) and a request for a volunteer Champion for the West region has been proposed.

Forward names to NA

	<p>DL-W noted as a NWRPB carer representative, hearing from many families that awareness raising is extremely important, and is grateful to see the work currently taking place. However, there are still difficulties in the awareness of senior position professionals within BCU and LA, not having sufficient understanding of autism and carers are tired of having to explain what autism is.</p> <p>WT confirmed WG are working with LAs and HBs to raise awareness and working with many organisations to attain autism aware standard. WT informed of an ongoing pilot scheme between Hywel Dda HB and Primary Care working to inform professionals of this cohort.</p> <p>Cllr BF enquired around respite care, and although the IAS team do not handle respite care, EP informed that WG have recently established a task & finish group, as part of the WG recovery work, to consider respite care and autism have been invited to be part of looking at respite care for the future.</p> <p>WT also informed that WG have launched a grant for carers respite and will forward further details.</p>	<p>Forward Cllr BF e-mail to EP</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><u>ICF – Neil Ayling</u> <u>ICF Q4 Report 2020/21</u></p> <p>The board received a year-end report of the ICF funding streams. All funding streams were reported fully spent and highlights include:</p> <p>Revenue - 119 of the 120 revenue projects were either fully completed or progressing as planned. 24 projects were modified in order to be delivered safely during the pandemic and funding for 1 project was flexed to projects which had been modified and needed additional resource.</p> <p>Capital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70 projects were progressed last year, 17 main capital schemes and 53 discretionary capital schemes, 35 of which were Covid-19 pivot schemes. • Funding was used to support the establishment of 2 sub-regional children’s residential assessment centres, Meadow Lodge / Bwthyn Y Ddol in Colwyn Bay and Tŷ Nyth in Mold. • An integrated Dementia Centre was built on the Ysbyty Bryn Beryl site, and in Buckley, an extension to existing older people care home Marleyfield was built which will provide additional accommodation and multi-disciplinary services. • In Wrexham, a property was developed into bespoke living environments for 4 individuals with complex needs, challenging behaviour and/or autism. • In Llangefni, an extension to an existing supported living scheme (Bryn Meurig) was completed for an individual with very complex needs. <p>Covid Discharge Plan:</p>	

- Funding of £2.44m was made available in 2020/21 and this was fully spent across 17 schemes
- D2RA- Funding of £2.238m was made available as part of winter planning and supported 20 schemes across the region which included expansion of workforce, rapid response domiciliary care, providing additionality and a move to 7 day working for some services.

NA thanked all colleagues across the region for their continued work on the ICF work-stream.

ICF Evaluation Programme – Update Report

NA provided a brief update on the ICF Evaluation Programme:

- WG commissioned Old Bell 3 (OB3) to carry out a national independent evaluation programme
- OB3 have undertaken a desk top evaluation of approximately 15 projects for each region (stage 1) and is due to be completed at the end of May 2021.
- The Regional Team are carrying out evaluations of the remaining approximately 100 projects, due to be completed in June 2021.
- The Regional Team and OB3 have worked collaboratively to ensure a consistent approach across both strands of the evaluation programme, using both qualitative and quantitative data
- Stage 2 will take a deep dive into a small number of projects in each region including in-depth interviews with service users and staff providing the service. NASH and NWHoCS have been asked to consider which projects to put forward for the deep dive work and this will take place in June/July
- Individual project evaluation reports are being fed back to ICF Lead Officers as they are completed and it is anticipated that every project will have received a report by the end of July 2021
- Running alongside the evaluation work, is the Exit Strategy prioritisation work which is due to complete at end of June. It is anticipated that all projects will be:
 - (1) Sorted into one of three categories:
 1. Project is able to cease and safely close
 2. Continue project if new ICF/TP or other funding confirmed
 3. Project must continue as now core service
 - (2) RAG scored into one of three priorities:
 - Red: Exit Plan to be developed over next 3 months
 - Amber: Exit Plan to be developed over next 6 months
 - Green: Exit Plan in place / not required
- A summary of the exit strategy prioritisation work will be brought to the July 2021 NWRPB meeting

NA also emphasised ICF funding underpins the continuity of many LA core services

The NWRPB were in agreement to note the ongoing work and progress being made with evaluation of the ICF Revenue investment programme.

9. Progress update on the Intensive Learning Academy ALPHAcademy

and the Interprofessional School of Medicine and Health – Professor Nicky Callow, Dean, College Human Sciences, Bangor University

ILA ALPHAcademy

NC updated the RPB on the ILA since the last attendance in July 2020:

The ILA's full business case bid was submitted to WG in August, and following excellent feedback from the scrutiny panel a grant letter was awarded in December 2020. Six staff members have been appointed since January 2021, the MSc in Preventative Health and Equity was evaluated in March 2021 and the first Board meeting is planned for July 2021.

3 ILA's have been awarded funding; Alpha Academy in Bangor University, Value-Based Health and Care Academy at Swansea University and the All-Wales Intensive Learning Academy for Innovation in Health and Social Care (IHSC) at Swansea University, developed in collaboration with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Cardiff University and the Bevan Commission. All 3 ILA's will act as hubs for developing skills and sharing of knowledge, also having an all-Wales approach to preventative methods and scaling up of interventions, encourage creative thinking and support collaboration amongst leaders within health, social care, third sector and life sciences.

The MSc framework programme consists of micro credits which can be cashed in to upgrade to Stand-Alone Modules, resulting in a number of different access routes leading up to a MSc.

The ambition is to develop an internationally recognised Academy, develop leaders in Wales who are able to think with a cross sector and service perspective and deliver change, with firm knowledge and wide network and prevention at the core.

CS noted full support to this programme and acknowledged the significant work by BU and all partners on this excellent piece of work.

NC enquired on the best way of getting the programme recognised by key people within health network and to encourage people to attend the workshops.

RS suggested that the framework is discussed by the sub-regional AISB's, where health, local authority and third sector colleagues are given an opportunity to be involved, also including the Provider sector.

NC informed they are looking to start with a cohort of around 25 and funding for the flexible modules and scholarships are available. NC agreed to forward a flyer to circulate to RPB.

Circulate ILA workshop flyer - RW

North Wales Medical School

NC informed Bangor University and BCUHB support the development of a School of Medicine and Health for North Wales by 2025. The School will build on a foundation of intensive and applied research and will be industry focused delivering a transformational impact on the regional economy in North Wales. The development will inform education, skills portfolios and service development, improve health outcomes and drive economic ambition.

The rationale for North Wales includes:

- Difficulties recruiting and retaining medics and other staff
- Lower numbers of doctors in training than elsewhere in the UK
- Highest spend in Wales on agency staff and contracting care from across the border
- A highly uncertain economic context post Covid-19 with risks of health inequalities widening
- Growing population, with increasingly older age profile.
- Increasing prevalence of complex chronic health conditions.
- Shortage of Welsh speaking doctors.
- Older age profile of GPs in rural areas.
- Innovation adoption of new products, technologies, digital solutions and service development does not happen at the pace or scale needed.

In response to the proposal from Bangor University and BCUHB the Minister for Health and Social Services commissioned a Task and Finish Group to assess and progress consideration and the feasibility of the proposal. The T&G group also highlighted the need to explore the following areas in further detail:

- In-depth analysis for increasing the number of medical students in North Wales.
- Financial analysis of the revenue and capital required for the favored options.
- A review of the whole country's capacity for clinical placement.
- The need to develop both more F1/F2 training places as well as more specialist training places.

In February the Group recommended the need for additional medical students in North Wales and this has been accepted by the Minister. Further work will now be undertaken to complete the full business case with an anticipated target completion date of the end of the summer 2021.

Cllr BF enquired where social care featured in this programme and what were the timescales proposed.

NC noted the challenges to get accreditation through the GMC with the proposed changes to the medical curriculum. As of September 2021, two separate School are amalgamating to form one School of Social Science at Bangor University. The new curriculum will break with tradition and give more focus to inter professional functions, that will address improved outcomes within the medical sector i.e. bilingual aspect, awareness of autism, to name a few, and social

	<p>care as well as health will form an important part of this work. In terms of timescale, looking at 3 ½ years.</p> <p>MW thanked NC for the comprehensive update.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> <u>Developing a future Framework for Regional Partnership Boards</u> MW informed that the ‘Developing a Future Framework for RPB’s’ paper originated from a recent regional leads, chairs and vice-chairs forum in readiness for a pending meeting with the Minister.</p> <p>NWRPB members are been given an opportunity to note the themes and work undertaken and to also provide comments by 16.6.2021. The understanding at this time, is that the paper will be used to facilitate the discussion with ADSS Cymru WLGA and WG.</p> <p>Once the paper has been finalised, LA Lead Members will have an opportunity to take the agreed report through their political process.</p> <p>MW agreed to forward comments on the understanding that the report has not been considered by individual constituents.</p> <p>The NWRPB were in agreement to note the work that has been collaboratively undertaken and to endorse the general themes within the ‘Developing a future Framework for RPB’s’ paper.</p> <p><u>Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment – Statutory Consultation</u> Information from BCUHB, relating to the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment statutory on-line consultation.</p>	<p>Forward comments to RW by 16.6.21</p>
	<p>The following documents have been included for information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NWRPB Communication and Engagement Strategy 2021 – 2025 – Final Welsh/English JGI enquired if the section on the engagement within the ‘Equalities and protected characteristic groups’ within the document could be expanded to demonstrate the activity taken to cover each of the areas. 2. All Wales Dementia Care Pathway of Standards 	<p>CR to discuss with RPB Eng Officer and contact JGI</p>
	<p>Date of next meeting: Friday 9th July 2021, 9:00 – 12:00</p>	