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NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

Minutes of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board Meeting

9th July 2021

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Via Zoom

Present:	Mary Wimbury (Chair), Alwyn Jones, Barry Argent, Bethan E Jones, Catrin Roberts, Cllr Bobby Feeley, Cllr Cheryl Carlisle, Cllr Christine Jones (attended until 10:30 am), Cllr Llinos Medi Huws (attended until 10:40 am), Delyth Lloyd-Williams, Estelle Hitchon, Fôn Roberts, Jenny Williams, John Gallanders, John Gladston, Lucy Reid, Mark Wilkinson, Meinir Williams-Jones, Neil Ayling (attended until 10:30 am), Nicola Stubbins, Rob Smith (attended until 11:15 am), Roma Hooper, Shan Lloyd Williams
Apologies:	Chris Stockport, Cllr Dafydd Meurig, Ffion Johnstone, Helen Corcoran, Jo Whitehead, Morwena Edwards, Paul Scott, Sam Parry, Steve Gadd, Teresa Owen, Dr Lowri Brown
In Attendance:	<p>For agenda item 2:</p> <p>Sally Holland, Children’s Commissioner for Wales (CCfW) Rachel Thomas, Head of Policy & Public Affairs (CCfW) Kirrin Davidson, Policy Officer (CCfW) Craig Macleod, Head of Children Services, Flintshire County Council Marian Parry Hughes, Head of Children Services, Gwynedd Council Rhiain Morrille, Head of Children Services, Denbighshire County Council Mark Parry, Head of Children Services, Wrexham County Borough Council Anne Flanagan, Service Manager Family Support & Intervention, Conwy County Borough Council Sharon Hinchcliffe, Regional Business Manager, Improving Outcomes for Children, Regional Collaboration Team Marilyn Wells, Regional CAMHS Clinical Lead, Head of Nursing – East Area for CAMHS, Neuro-developmental & Learning Disability Services Angela Wilson, Programme Manager, North Wales Together: Seamless Services for People with Learning Disabilities, Flintshire County Council Louise Bell, Interim Assistant Area Director Childers Services, Central Area, BCUHB Sara Hammond-Rowley, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, North Wales Head of Child Psychology and Psychological Therapies, BCUHB</p> <p>For agenda item 3: Alwen Williams, Director of North Wales Economic Ambition Board</p>

Item		Actions
1.	<u>Welcome, Introductions & Apologies</u> The chair extended a warm welcome to everyone. Introductions were made and apologies noted as above.	

2.	<p><u>Children’s Commissioner for Wales</u> Sally Holland, Children’s Commissioner for Wales attended to discuss how the NWRPB are implementing the recommendations within the No Wrong Door report and to discuss any ongoing challenges the region may be facing. The NWRPB had already provided written response to each of the recommendation in advance of the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p><u>North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) update</u> The board received an update from AW on the progress of the NWEAB Growth Deal for North Wales.</p> <p>The Growth Deal has been developed through close collaboration and commitment from partners across all sectors, including the UK and Welsh Governments, to deliver long-lasting positive investment and change that will enable economic and employment growth for the long-term.</p> <p>The Growth Deal, with an investment of £240M over the next 10/15 years aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build a more vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy in North Wales • To build on our strengths, to boost productivity while tackling long-term challenges and economic barriers to deliver inclusive growth. • The approach is to promote growth in a scalable, inclusive and sustainable way, in line with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. • To create between 3,400 - 4,200 net additional jobs • Generate £2.0 - £2.5 billion net additional GVA <p>AW detailed how the Growth Deal will be delivered across 5 programmes:</p> <p><u>Digital Programme</u> – aims to address the areas difficult to invest in commercially and unlock growth for priority areas and key sites in North Wales</p> <p><u>Land and Property Programme</u> – aims to address the shortage of land and property for key growth, preparing key sites to the market for investors and developers</p> <p><u>Low Carbon Energy Programme</u> – aims to unlock the economic benefits of transformational low carbon energy through various projects in North Wales.</p> <p><u>Innovation in High Value Manufacturing</u> - aims to consolidate North Wales position as a powerful and innovative high value manufacturing sector by building on existing specialisms and expertise in the region through targeted investment in research and development supporting long-standing and emerging business needs.</p> <p><u>Agri-food and Tourism Programme</u> – aims to build a more sustainable, vibrant and resilient foundation economy within the region, optimising opportunities for employment and prosperity through the environment and landscape.</p> <p>Members were interested to understand how the Growth Deal proposes to promote the foundation economy within Health and Social Care.</p>	

	<p>North Wales continues to have significant workforce issues, failing to attract to BCU high paid posts and challenged the NWEAB to question the impact of the initiatives on public sector services.</p> <p>The board were asked to note the need to be realistic what can be achieved under the Growth Deal with the £240M financial offer not sufficient to deliver on all issues in the region and to transform the economy. The NWEAB will continue to voice concern, as a region, on the additional investment required in the health and social care sector, and promote all opportunities in all fields of work.</p> <p>It is also important to note the £240M is earmarked for capital investment only. Revenue funding would be required to drive the impact within the skills and employment arena. The NWEAB are working closely to the North Wales Skills Board to link skills and future demand into capital investment. Quality and impact assessment are completed at every level of the portfolio, supporting diversity into the workplace. The impact of Brexit and Covid has also been considered on all individual projects, and the situation continues to be fluid with continuous revaluation of the investments being made.</p> <p>The chair thanked AW for the update on the NWEAB Growth Deal.</p>	
4.	<p><u>North Wales Population Needs Assessment (PNA)/Market Stability Report (MSR)</u></p> <p>The board received a progress report from CR on the preparation of the Population Needs Assessment (PNA) and Market Stability Report (MSR) documents.</p> <p>Welsh Government have requested local authorities and health boards to assess the demand of care and support needs of their local populations via a Population Needs Assessment, by April 2022; and for local authorities and health boards to consider the sufficiency and stability of supply in meeting that demand through the Market Stability Report by June 2022; via the Regional Partnership Board.</p> <p>The Regional Collaboration Team is providing project management support for the regional elements of the project, developing templates, organising regional groups to provide peer support to local leads, reviewing and identifying data which can be used for the local reports and pulling together the overarching population needs assessment and regional market stability report for the Regional Partnership Board footprint. Each local authority will prepare a local population needs assessment and market stability report.</p> <p>Work completed March to May 2021 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established steering group with membership from the 6 local authorities, BCUHB and Public Health Wales with the first meeting held on 11th May. • Established local project teams including local authority staff and BCUHB representatives. • Developed templates for the local Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Reports for use by the local project teams. • Set up regional file sharing system using SharePoint and begun to collate a library of information and data which can be use by the 	

	<p>local teams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started regional work to support the assessments including updating regional data and collating findings from engagement activity. • Made links with teams developing the PSB Well-being Assessments, including working together on collating engagement findings and use of data, sourcing reports and other key information. <p>Priorities for June – August 2021 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support local teams in gathering data, reports and information • Facilitate information sharing between the local teams as they develop their reports and facilitate peer-to-peer support • Co-ordinate the engagement work with citizens, service users and providers to identify regional engagement opportunities and engagement that will take place sub-regionally and locally • Continue to co-ordinate the links between the PNA & MSR work and the work of the PSB teams preparing the Wellbeing Assessments <p>CR informed the scoping work, understanding the provisions already in place and drawing on the requirements across the region is a significant piece of work, and regional colleagues will be readily available to provide support for the whole process. The intention is to complete local reports by November 2021, to allow sufficient time for partners to take the report through their governance process.</p> <p>Once documents are finalised, there will be a programme in place to ensure regular review of data and factor in any omitted information not taken into consideration during the first scoping stage.</p> <p>The Chair thanked CR on the progress report of the PNA/MSR.</p>	
5.	<p><u>North Wales Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub (RIIC) 2020-21 Annual Report</u></p> <p>CR presented the board with the first RIIC Hub Annual Report, covering the first full year in service.</p> <p>The RIIC Hub Team launched in May 2020 at the start of the pandemic and as a result the team were deployed to directly support Covid-19. The team have achieved considerable amount of work in the last 12 months and the highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid review of the impact of COVID 19 on people who need care and support, including innovation in services • Supporting transformation projects and Integrated Care Fund (ICF) projects to use evidence by carrying out literature searches, provided advice and support with setting up on line surveys, data analysis and story-telling research methods • Working with Social Care Wales to look at evidence use within social care • Organising a Social Care Innovation Lab with Bangor University with a focus on digital technology and Living Labs with the Innovation Agency • Promoted events, funding opportunities and the work of the team through the website, Twitter account and regular email newsletters. This include live tweeting key regional events 	

	<p>Work planned for 2021-2022 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the work on the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report. • Continue to map research, innovation and improvement activity across north Wales and assess how well it aligns with regional and national priorities. • Develop a research, innovation and improvement strategy • Continue to support the transformation programme and other partners to develop their research, innovation and improvement activity. • Continue with the development of the website to ensure all resources are accessible to the wider community • Develop a report considering the long term and sustainability of the RIIC Hub service. <p>The chair thanked CR for the comprehensive update on the RIIC Hub Annual Report.</p>	
6.	<p><u>BCUHB recovery work update</u> MWil provided a brief update on BCUHB recovery work. BCU colleagues noted the complexity in focusing on recovery whilst also dealing with the increase in Covid, seen within community settings.</p> <p>MWil focused the update on the 4 Harms of Covid: Harm from Covid itself – the recent increase of Covid in the community remains a concern for the Health & Social Care system, impacting on staff absences and primary care. Although a relatively small number, this will have a bigger impact on the ability to deliver other services within the system. Concern also noted involving the significant influx of visitors expected into North Wales during the next few months and how this will place undue pressure on the system.</p> <p>Harm from overwhelmed NHS and Social Care system – in relation to the anticipated flu/virus over winter 21/22. Whilst Enfys Bangor and Llandudno are in the process of being decommissioned, Enfys Deeside will be retained until March 2022, and utilised to administer the booster vaccination over the coming months and as a contingency venue for a potential surge over the winter period.</p> <p>Harm from reduction in non-Covid activity – waiting lists have increased significantly over the last 18 months, and whilst waiting times are broadly static, the current limiting factor is recruiting to the workforce.</p> <p>Harm from wider non-societal activity/lockdown – early planning stage for MH funding, with increase seen in adult mental health referrals combined with capacity constraints, is having an impact on timely assessments. CAMHS and neuro development is prioritised, performance is a challenge within the 28 days of assessment</p> <p>LR noted concern with the expected influx of visitors expected into the region from areas who will have already relaxed their restrictions, visitors will need to understand restrictions are still in place within North Wales. The major of patients in hospital with Covid currently are predominantly individuals who have not been vaccinated, reinforcing the value of the vaccination programme, with BCU continuing to reinforce</p>	

	<p>the message to the wider hard to reach communities, everyone required to be vaccinated for a successful recovery.</p> <p>Cllr BF noted concern in relation to the 3 issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The backlog of referrals within CAMHS, in relation to the recent increase in children and young people presenting with behavioral and mental health issues as a result of lockdown and the pandemic. BEJ provided assurance re CAMHS referral backlog, and confirmed all urgent referrals are seen immediately. The list waiting over 28 days continues to increase, with plans in place to commission an external contract to support this work-stream and achieve the MH measure. North Wales have seen a significant increase in referrals since children returned to school, particularly over the last 2 months, with an increase presenting in ED with self-harm as a result of placement breakdown. In addition, the procurement of the workforce, with a shortage of specialist individuals is also having an adverse effect on the service. BCU are working with LA to source staff who have made significant progress on working with children and young people and to develop and support the improvement journey. 2. It has been noted that 25% of the population became infected with Covid during hospital stay and enquired how NHS sector would strive to make every effort to prevent future infection. MWil acknowledged, some patients unfortunately did become infected with Covid while in the hospital setting, MWil could not comment on a BCUB figure, and believed the 25% figure to be for the whole of Wales. Whilst the outbreak within each of the 3 main hospital sites is concerning, with lessons learned, additional infection control and prevention measures have been taken across all sites to mitigate and restrict the spread of Covid. 3. What are BCUHB proposals for communicating with the public to reassure BCUHB services are resuming and to ease anxieties of presenting with health issues. MWil informed BCUHB are proactive in communicating to patients, validating waiting lists and working through primary care, being aware further work requires to be done around communication. <p>EH informed the board of WG 'Help Us Help You' campaign. The pandemic has provided significant opportunities to streamline NHS services and the 'Help Us Help You' campaign will start the behavioral change required in relation to future NHS services.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Notes and actions of last meeting – June 2021</u></p> <p>The minutes of meeting 11.6.2021 were agreed as a correct record with all actions completed.</p> <p>The chair took the opportunity to formally thank Cllr Joan Lowe, who has recently stepped down from WCBC, for giving time to be a long-standing member of the NWRPB. The chair also thanked JGI for his contributing to the board for the last 2 years.</p> <p>JGI wished the board well in the work taking place across North Wales.</p>	

8.	Any other business – nothing to report	
9.	The following document was included for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="209 174 608 208">• NWRPB June Newsletter	
	Date of next meeting: Friday 10 th September 2021, 9:00 – 12:00	