

WEST WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

25 MARCH 2019, 10.30AM

Room 1, Pembrokeshire Archives
Prendergast
Haverfordwest, SA61 2PE

Minutes

Present

Cllr Jane Tremlett (CllrJT), Carmarthenshire County Council (Chair)
Jake Morgan (JM), Carmarthenshire County Council
Cllr Tessa Hodgson (TH), Pembrokeshire County Council
Cllr Alun Williams, (CllrAW), Ceredigion County Council
Hazel Lloyd-Lubran (HL), Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations
Judith Hardisty (JH), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Sarah Jennings (SJ), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Margaret Allen (MA), Carer representative (Part)
Joanne Silverthorne (JS), Carer representative
Steven Griffiths (SG), Carer representative
Jonathan Griffiths (JG), Pembrokeshire County Council
Carys James (CJ), Ceredigion County Council
Melanie Minty (MM), Care Forum Wales

Also in attendance:

Jason Bennett (JB), Pembrokeshire County Council (Part)
Kim Neyland (KN), West Wales Care Partnership
Martyn Palfreman (MP), West Wales Care Partnership
Jessica Rees (JR), (Minutes), West Wales Care Partnership
Karen Chandler (KC), Pembrokeshire People First

Apologies

Jill Paterson (JP), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Alan Thomas (AT), User representative
James Tyler (JT), User representative
Cathryn Thomas (CT), Social Care Wales

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. Round table introductions followed.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted.

3. Minutes of previous meeting held on 8 November 2018 and Matters Arising

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

Matters arising:

Item 3:

Amendments to Partnership Regulations under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act: Welsh Government consultation

MP advised that following recent consultation revised regulations would be laid before the Assembly in March and be formally adopted on 1 April. The main changes included a shift in the deadline for RPB annual reports to 30 June each year and the requirement for representatives of education and housing to sit on the Board (ref Item 5). It was noted that the 2018-19 Annual Report would be brought for sign-off to the meeting on 16 May.

Rotation of RPB meetings

This would now be effected as agreed, although it was noted that the meeting on 16 May would be in Carmarthen to accommodate a visit by the Minister for Health and Social Services later that day.

Item 6- Autism Spectrum Disorders: National update and Implementation of Integrated Autism Service in West Wales

MP advised that regular updates on the Integrated Autism Service (operational in West Wales from 1 March 2019) and autism issues generally would be provided periodically at future meetings by JS as RPB Autism Champion.

Item 10- Meetings protocol for people with Learning Disabilities

Members were advised the protocol would be adopted from the next meeting.

4. 'A Healthier West Wales' Transformation Programme

MP confirmed that, following in-principle approval by the RPB in November, a final regional bid against the Transformation Fund entitled 'A Healthier West Wales' had been submitted to Welsh Government on 1 December 2018. This had been considered by the national panel on 15 December and notice received in mid-January of funding having been approved for 3 of the 8 programmes – Programme 1 (Proactive, technology-enabled care), Programme 2 (Fast-tracked, consistent integration) and Programme 3 (Creating connections for all). This initial funding, amounting to just under £12 million, had been confirmed by the Minister for Health and Social Services on 19 March. Revision and resubmission of Programmes 4, 5, 6 and 8 had been invited. Working groups had been established to revise those proposals and plan for implementation of the approved programmes. Programme 2

(A shared digital framework) would also be revised and resubmitted along with the other outstanding programmes, in mid April.

JG stressed the need for succinct communication on approved programmes and progress with implementation. MP advised that a draft communication plan submitted with the proposal was being revised and that regular updates on approved programmes would be provided moving forward.

JH emphasised the significance of the initial award to the region and stressed the importance of progressing implementation at pace, given the relatively short funding period. She also argued that effective engagement with a wide range of citizens would be vitally important moving forward.

MM asked about the extent to which care home staff would be engaged in delivery of the programmes, and it was agreed that all appropriate opportunities would be taken.

KC enquired as to whether an easy read version of 'A Healthier West Wales' would be produced and MP advised that this would be looked in to once revised proposals had been submitted and the total allocation confirmed.

SG asked whether user and carer representatives on the RPB could be involved in the planned work on establishing a citizen panel as part of Programme 5. MP confirmed that opportunities would be provided for this.

A number of concerns were raised regarding the role of user and carer representatives on the RPB. These were as follows:

- Whilst it was acknowledged that considerable time was invested in providing briefings prior to meetings, representatives felt that there was currently insufficient opportunity for them to shape the agenda, bring specific items for consideration and contribute to the drafting of papers
- Opportunities for bringing reflections and experience of current services into the discussion were also felt to be insufficient, although it was recognised that operational issues should be referred appropriately for resolution outside meetings.
- The lack of carer representation on the regional Carers' Development Group was raised as a concern.

It was agreed that various improvement options could be explored, including a regular slot for users and carers on each agenda and/ or user and carer led meetings at regular intervals. These would be discussed in more depth and an options paper brought to the next meeting for consideration. **ACTION:**

MP/KN/JT/AW/JS/MA/SG

MM raised the issue of provider engagement. MP advised that work was underway to establish the regional Innovations Forum as previously agreed by the Board. This would provide a mechanism for strategic engagement with providers on a regional basis, with a focus on social value. This would complement the work of

local provider forums which were the mechanism for discussions on contracts, fees etc.

It was agreed to revisit carer representation on the Carers' Development Group.

ACTION: SJ

5. Review of Regional Governance

MP advised the Board of ongoing work to review regional governance in the light of significantly increased expectations on regional partnerships within 'A Healthier Wales', increased amounts of funding allocated to the region, adoption by HDUHB of the health and care strategy and commencement of the 'Healthier West Wales' programme. Chief Executives of the four statutory partner agencies had been involved in the discussion. As a result of these discussions a series of enhancements to strengthen governance were proposed; these were outlined in the paper provided to the Board. Proposals would also be taken to Hywel Dda University Health Board on 28 March.

Members agreed the following:

1. Revised terms of reference for the RPB
2. Appointment of additional members to the RPB to meet new statutory requirements
3. That Heads of Housing and Directors of Education in the three local authorities would be approached to nominate representatives to sit on the Board and advise on an appropriate process to secure a representative from a Registered Social Landlord operating in the region **ACTION: MP**

Proposals to strengthen regional governance and delivery infrastructure and draft terms of reference for the new Regional Leadership Group were noted. The latter would need to be formally approved by statutory partners. **ACTION: MP**

SJ advised that either the Chair or Vice Chair of the University Health Board would sit on the Regional Leadership Group,

AW questioned whether Councillor Catherine Hughes should also continue to sit on the RPB given her responsibility for children's services. He was advised that where the social services portfolio was split in other counties, the convention had been for one Member to be identified as the representative on the RPB and for the other to substitute when required.

6. Integrated Care Fund 2018-19 and 2019-20

The contents of the report and regional Revenue Investment Plan were approved. MP advised that following submission to Welsh Government, a response was promised within 15 days. Plans did not require formal approval; however Welsh Government would challenge where it was felt that conditions of funding were not being met within proposals.

The current over-commitment within the revenue programme was noted and members requested information at future meetings on how this would be mitigated. **ACTION: MP**

7. Regional Programme Highlights:

7.1 Housing Needs Assessments for Older People and Learning Disabilities

JG updated the Board on the housing needs assessments for older people and people with learning disabilities which had been undertaken by the Housing LIN. These predicted accommodation needs up to 2035 and would be instrumental in informing new models over that period, commensurate with broader strategic objectives. It was noted that the reports did not include financial implications. JG advised that these would be considered as remodelling work progressed.

7.2 Regional Care Homes Placement Website

CllrJT introduced Jason Bennett, Head of Adult Services with Pembrokeshire County Council who gave a demonstration on the Regional Care Homes Placement Website that had been developed as part of the Service Integration and pooled Funds workstream. Available for both the public and staff, this would provide real-time, bi-lingual information on vacancies in residential and nursing homes, helping facilitate timely discharge. Information would include details of vacancies and other relevant information on homes, including inspection reports etc. Information would be updated by homes; this would become a condition within the new regional Pre-Placement Agreement. The system, which would go live over coming months, had been developed by Gwe Cambrian – A Ceredigion firm. It had been demonstrated to Welsh Government recently and attracted considerable interest in terms of possible adoption across Wales. Intellectual ownership would reside with Carmarthenshire County Council on behalf of the West Wales Care Partnership.

The website was commended and it was suggested that a demonstration should be provided to the Minister during his visit on 16 May. **ACTION: MP**

8. Tackling Out of County placements

CllrAW expressed his concern around expensive out of county placements for children and adults which had considerable implications in terms of cost and impact on individuals. This had been the subject of discussion recently at the WLGA Social Services Policy Group of Cabinet Members from across Wales. He queried whether the full extent of the problem and its implications in West Wales had been analysed. Colleagues indicated that this was regularly monitored and that a number of initiatives, including programmes for supported living for adults with Learning Disabilities and regional facilities for children with complex needs were designed to address the problem. It was agreed that a paper providing details on these and other relevant schemes would be prepared for the next meeting of the RPB. **ACTION: MP**

9. Next meeting:

16 May 2019, 10.30AM. Venue to be confirmed

10. Any Other Business

MP advised that on 7 June 2019 a Regional meeting for the 3 public service boards will be held at the Halliwell centre Carmarthen. The RPB had been asked to attend. Further information would be provided in due course. **ACTION: MP**

Regional Conference 23 May 2019, Parc Y Scarlets Llanelli

MP advised that the annual Conference would include updates on 'A Healthier West Wales' and all were encouraged to attend. Further information would be provided shortly. **ACTION: MP**

DRAFT