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| WEST WALES INTEGRATED PROGRAMME DELIVERY BOARD | Item 10 |

# 7 APRIL 2017

**Social Care Workforce Development Programme (SCWDP)**

**Purpose**

1. To advise the Board on the draft Circular issued by Social Care Wales regarding the 2017-18 Social Care Workforce Development Programme (SCWDP) and key implications.

Background

1. The SCWDP was previously provided by the Care Council to support learning and development across the social care workforce. Responsibility for the programme transferred to Social Care Wales from 1 April. Minor changes have been made to the SCWDP conditions for 2017-18, with more significant changes likely to be introduced in 2018-19.
2. A draft Circular for the 2017-18 programme was issued on 31 March and is attached as Appendix 1. Comments on the draft are invited by 10 April.

**Summary of requirements**

1. The draft Circular sets out the following broad requirements for 2017-18:
* The purpose of the grant is to improve the quality and management of social care provision through a planned approach to learning and development and by seeking to increase the take-up of training across the social care sector. The grant should be used to support the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; Regulation and Inspection of Social Care Wales Act and regional priorities to support improvement of care and support across all providers and organisations. (paras 11 and 12)
* Funding will be allocated to the seven regions established under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act. Funding may be allocated to individual local authorities within the regional footprint or pooled regionally (para 1)
* Robust links must be in place with Regional Partnership Boards in relation to the focus of the SCWDP and governance, accountability, monitoring and reporting (paras 4, 41 and 42)
* Local resources will need to be provided to support the effectiveness of the funding and a regional lead to coordinate development of the learning and development plan and its alignment with wider transformation/ change programmes in the region (paras 6 and 8)
* Appropriate arrangements must be in place to engage stakeholders across sectors in the development and delivery of the programme (para 15)
* The programme is to be used to support qualification/ post qualification training of social workers, wider social work training and learning and development events and activities linked to implementation of the Act (paras 30 and 31)

**Implications**

1. Arrangements for 2017-18 are broadly in line with that for previous years. An increased emphasis is placed on the need for alignment between the SCWDP and wider change programmes being taken forward within the regional footprints by Regional Partnership Boards. The need for capacity at regional level to manage this is identified within the circular.
2. Recruitment to a new post of Regional Workforce Programme Manager will commence in the next few weeks. This will be located within the Regional Collaboration Unit and will be a consolidation of the previous Regional Workforce Coordinator post. The post will work with training managers and others to achieve the strategic alignment required in the Circular alongside additional responsibilities for managing a new regional Facilitation Grant which will be provided by Social Care Wales, replace the former Social Care in Partnership (SCiP) funding and complement the funding provided via the SCWDP.
3. The role of the Regional Partnership Board will be strengthened in relation to the SCWDP, to ensure appropriate oversight of delivery. It is anticipated that the IPDB will scrutinise delivery of the programme on behalf of the Regional Partnership Board, in line with its agreed role.

**Recommendations**

That the Board

1. Notes the draft SCWDP Circular and its implications
2. Identifies issues or comments for feedback to Social Care Wales by 10 April