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| WEST WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD | Item 8 |

# 27 OCTOBER 2017

**Regional Workforce Strategy**

**Background**

1. The RPB has recognised the importance of an appropriately-skilled workforce fit for new ways of working and able to support integrated service arrangements. Workforce has therefore been seen as a key enabler for the strategic priorities identified by the Board.
2. The newly-created Social Care Wales places a significant emphasis on regional working in relation to workforce and has:

* Rebranded the former Social Care in Partnership (SCiP) funding as the Facilitation Grant, requiring a regional approach to delivering against national priorities such as care at home and the designation of named individuals in each region as strategic and operational workforce leads
* Indicated that the Social Care Workforce Development Programme (SCWDP) will be further regionalised from 2018-19, with funding awarded on a regional basis and an expectation that programmes are developed on the wider footprint

**For consideration**

1. In West Wales, foundations are in place for this regional approach, with a significant element of the current SCWDP being allocated to regional initiatives and some funding being identified to support RPB priorities.
2. To develop this further the Institute of Public Care (IPC) was commissioned in early 2017 to engage with a range of stakeholders to assess the potential benefits of an integrated workforce strategy for the region. There was strong support for the development of such a strategy. A facilitated planning session was held on 16 October 2017, bringing together senior workforce leads from the region and Social Care Wales, to begin to shape elements of a workforce strategy. It was agreed to commence with foundational work in relation to 3 areas:

* Regional workforce planning and data analysis
* Regional workforce development in key priority areas
* Consideration of the benefits of a regional workforce function

1. Appendix 1 provides further details of the outcomes from this session and proposed activity up to 31 March 2018.

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| **Recommendation:**  That the RPB:   1. Notes the contents of the report and considers the proposed components of the Regional Workforce Strategy |