



# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Operations & Finance
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Huw George
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

### Estates, Facilities and Health & Safety

- Completed interviews for reception positions at Capital Quarter 2 and made two appointments.
- Continued support for several projects in relation to estates provision including staff in the NHS Executive and support for options appraisal process for Diabetic Eye Screening future accommodation requirements.

### Communications

- To mark Diabetes Week on our internal channels, we highlighted some of the work Public Health Wales has been leading on, including Tackling Diabetes Together, and a colleague shared his experience of living with Type 2 diabetes. Staff engagement was extremely high with 10 comments and 566 views.
- The Winter Respiratory Communications Campaign 23-24 evaluation report gave some positive findings – including a higher likelihood of accepting the COVID-19 vaccine amongst those who saw or heard the campaign materials.
- Communications, Digital and Strategy and Planning worked to deliver some significant milestones within the Web Transformation project technical workstream, including User Needs, Technical requirements, draft Minimum Viable Product, which will be received by project Board on 24 July.

### Strategy, Planning & Corporate Affairs

- Hosted the All-Wales NHS Planning Conference with the focus of *Making the Strategic Shift to Prevention*.



- Facilitated route map workshops for three strategic priorities.
- Coordinating organisational response to three Rule 9 requests for the Covid-19 Public Inquiry.
- Delivered a Programme Dashboard and 1<sup>st</sup> month of reporting for Tackling Diabetes Together Programme.
- Project and Programme Management Assurance plan for 24/25 finalised.

### Finance

- Co-ordinated and delivered the completion of the audit of the accounts by Audit Wales
- Members of the division attended a Finance Academy workshop event, providing the opportunity for learning and development in some key finance competency areas.
- Held our Joint Executive Team End of Year Review with Welsh Government.

### Digital Services

- Retrospective review of the development of DEWIS (breast screening cohort selection module) with HPSS (Health Protection and Screening Services) Directorate colleagues
- Transfer of demographic data feeds to the Welsh Demographics Service to address data quality issues seen on the MPI (Master Patient Index) feed
- Troubleshooting and testing the transfer of patient histories from the new Cervical Screening system in England
- Ongoing work to transfer IT support for staff in teams across NHS Wales to the NHS Executive
- Draft Information Security Policy and revised Cyber Incident Response Plan sent out for comments

### Successes

#### Estates, Facilities and Health & Safety

- Secured capital funding from Welsh Government backlog maintenance programme 2024-25 to undertake estates improvement works at Breast Test Wales, Swansea.
- Significantly increased compliance rates for **Working from Home Safely** training to support staff across the organisation hybrid working arrangements.

#### Communications

- Wales HIV Testing Week campaign (November 2023) won two prestigious awards at the PRCA Dare Awards Cymru. The campaign aimed to increase



HIV testing among sexually active people in Wales and led to 9,006 orders of the home testing kit in November 2023.

- June was Pride month, and we celebrated our LGBTQ+ colleagues by sharing very personal stories of 'what Pride means to me' on the intranet. We ended the month with a colourful photo montage of Public Health Wales staff taking part in the Pride parade. The feature story by Jim McManus was one of the most read articles with 28 comments and 1284 views.

**Finance**

- Achieved an unqualified audit report with only a few recommendations from Audit Wales

**Digital Services**

- Deployed the DESW GP referrals application to improve efficiencies and reduce error

**Any Concerns being managed:**

**Communications**

Reactive media statements were issued in June around the Withyhedge Landfill site, including the proactive communication of our Environmental Public Health team's health risk assessment based on air quality monitoring around the site. This issue remains sensitive.

**Digital Services**

Continued discussions with DHCW (Digital Health and Care Wales) about several digital projects including RISP, Canisc replacement, LIMS 2.0, and associated data flows.

**Forward Look of key activities for next month**

**Estates, Facilities and Health & Safety**

- Completing on the leasing of Mid Wales accommodation to provide an administrative Hub in Newtown Powys for Diabetic Screening services.
- Commencing recruitment of Events Manager to support the use of the reconfigured event space at Capital Quarter 2.

**Communications**

- We will host the next Leadership Forum event on 15 July, with a focus on quality and impact.
- Strategic narrative to describe the Climate Change strategic priority area will be submitted to Climate Change Programme Board for approval in July.
- In July we expect the public announcement of the new vaccination programme for RSV which will begin as a maternal vaccine and for the



over 75s in September in Wales, as part of a coordinated four nations approach.

- The Hapus website will be switched on to mark the official opening of the national conversation on mental wellbeing.
- July will also see the publication of the latest Time to Talk Public Health survey results.
- The Web Transformation project will move towards selection and procurement of a content management system to enable improvements to the whole of our web estate.

### **Strategy, Planning & Corporate Affairs**

- Cross-organisational workshop to review and refresh our PHW planning system map ahead of the 24/25 planning round.
- Carrying out assurance review for HIPAS.
- Implement phase 2 of Long-Term Strategy route map work.
- Development of a draft Project and Programme Management Standard to inform PMO discussions about implementation of the standard.

### **Finance**

- Approval and submission of final Annual Report and Accounts in line with Welsh Government deadlines.
- Supporting the delivery of a half-day session promoting NHS Finance as a career to year 12 students for the Social Mobility Business Partnership (SMBP).

### **Digital Services**

- Develop draft of digital assurance process and data access policy for comments and consultation
- Call recorder migration project
- The replacement of uninterrupted power supplies (UPS) in server and comms spaces at North Wales estates
- National Breast Screening System (NBSS) Discovery kick off workshop
- Draft of the Cloud Strategy for review in the Digital and Data Design Authority



# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Board Business Unit
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Paul Veysey
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

The Board Business Unit are focusing on a number of development areas, including

- Developing proposals and actions to review Business Executive Team and Leadership Team governance . This includes the development of a Governance hub to provide consistency.
- Further developments utilising Sharepoint functionality to support our governance processes including development of a Composit work plan to internally support work planning at Board, Committee, BET and LT level; this will streamline the process and have a single point of reference for Exec Directors to review their upcoming reporting cycle.
- Commencing the planning work to support the Governance Hub Pilot.
- NHSE reporting schedule in place, with the first reporting to ACGC in May and QSIC in July.

## Successes

- Cross committee work planning including development of a risk based approach to manage in year cross working which was reported to the Board in May and is now being embedded.
- Annual Report – Finalisation and reporting ACGC and Board in July, with final submission to Welsh Government on 13 July.  
A successful joint Board Development Session with Cwm Taff took place in June, with a focus on Diabetes.

## Any Concerns being managed:

None.

## Forward Look of key activities for next month

- Recruitment for the role of the Board Chair is underway, which will become vacant from 1 June. Interim arrangements to cover this role



whilst the recruitment is completed are in place.

- Review of the Declarations of Interest Policy and procedure underway, to be reported to Board in September for approval



# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Health Protection and Screening Services Directorate
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Meng Khaw
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	July 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

### Health Protection Division (HP)

- Incidents regarding Escherichia Coli (E.Coli) Shiga Toxin-producing Escherichia Coli (STEC) 0145 and Listeria Monocytogenes were acted on.
- Environmental incidents such as the Withyhedge Landfill site were responded too.
- Progress was made on the roll out of iPassport within Vaccine Preventable Disease Programme (VPDP), Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre (CDCS) and Operations teams.
- Progression was made on the discovery phase of the Sexual Health case Management system.

### Infection Services Division

- Proactive work has been undertaken on procurements within the division to ensure renewal of contracts are completed in a timely manner whilst ensuring service delivery.
- Recruitment has been initiated for the following roles; Medical Microbiology Consultant, Specialist Grade Doctor and Specialty Doctors across North and West Wales.

### Screening Division

- The implementation of cell-free DNA for Antenatal screening is on track and going to plan.
- Continuation of working collaboratively with NHS England regarding sharing of cervical screening and testing histories.
- The Radiology Informatics System Procurement (RISP) and Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACs) replacement work is progressing to plan.

### Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)

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- Three colleagues from Public Health Wales supported the delivery of the Wales Gold IV Course which was held in Dyfed Powys.
- Staff workshop under development to deliver phase two of the facilitated learning for the Covid-19 pandemic.
- EPRR attended familiarisation events in advance of the JAGUAR exercise for an emergency at Hinkley Point.
- EPRR represented Public Health Wales at the UK Health Protection Committee Contest Cymru Protect and Prepare group, the Chief Medical Officer Health Protection Advisory Group and the Wales Resilience and Local Resilience Forum Groups.

#### **Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- OMD collaborated with QNAHPs on the process mapping and dissemination of alerts and notification and how these come into Public Health Wales.
- OMD collaborated with People and Organisation Development (POD) on a project scoping exercise regarding annual leave for Medical and Dental employees within ESR.

### **Successes**

#### **Health Protection Division (HP)**

- Significant progress has been made on the recruitment of posts within VPDP, resulting from sustainable funding.
- Great improvements have been in the figures for Statutory and Mandatory training, appraisals and Health and Safety training across the division.

#### **Infection Services Division**

- The division has worked Collaboratively with Department of Sexual Health (DOSH) and Virology to reduce the amount of plastic bag waste by 90% which has led to Infection Services being shortlisted for NHS Sustainability Awards.
- The Clinical Apprenticeship Team from Swansea Microbiology has been nominated for the Royal College of Pathologists Achievement Awards 2024, which celebrates excellence in service provision through teamwork.

#### **Screening Division**

- The division presented a paper to QSIC regarding the recovery of Screening Services which was positively received.
- The division was granted an investment bid for two research posts to support the Research and Evaluation work which has been planned.
- Focused discussions have been had on topics such as: inequalities and Breast Test Wales Quality Assessment within radiology.

#### **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- Coordination of responses for incidents such as; the unexploded ordinance and a prison disturbance (both in the South Wales area).
- Successfully delivered the cryptosporidium incident debrief for Health Protection.



- Represented PHW at the Celtic Response Exercise – Maritime, in response to a major ferry fire/evacuation in the Dyfed Powys area.
- Collaborated with Knowledge Directorate to deliver a lookback event for the DEWIS project.

**Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- E-job planning has progressed, accounts have been activated for consultants, specialty doctors and line managers.
- The All-Wales Appraisal Policy approved for Public Health Wales.

**Any Concerns being Managed**

**Health Protection Division**

- Nothing in addition to items noted in other sections of the report.

**Infection Services Division**

- Containment Level 3 (CL3) facilities (including autoclaves) remain in a vulnerable and challenging position.
- There is a change deterrent on Welsh Laboratory Information Management System (WILMS) which may constrain service developments which is being monitored.
- A North Wales Chlamydia Incident is ongoing and being managed.

**Screening Division**

- Staffing levels in North Wales for Breast Screening are still being closely being monitored.
- The division has raised concerns around the timescales for testing for LIMS 2.0 and the resources required for these activities.
- Ongoing management of colonoscopy waiting times and Cancer Network Information System Cymru (CaNISC) timelines whilst meeting colonoscopy needs.

**Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- The pause issued by Welsh Government with system-wide engagement in Wales Resilience Framework development due to the appointment of the new First Minister for Wales and the impending publication of the Covid Inquiry Module 1 report.

**NB.** PHW EPRR standby ready to engage when the process restarts.

**Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- Review of the format for the Consultant Engagement Group due to recent low attendance levels.

**Forward Look of key activities for next month**

**Health Protection Division**

- Creation of a quarterly meeting structure for Health Protection inequalities.



### **Infection Services Division**

- Supporting the Value in Laboratory Processing project.
- Implementation of an amended internal meeting structure which falls in line with internal HPSS management meeting changes.

### **Screening Division**

- A key meeting is scheduled with DHCW regarding the CaNISC replacement.
- Drafting of a Knowledge Research and Information Committee (KRIC) paper to discuss the digital aspects within Screening.
- An Ionising Radiation Medical Exposures Regulations (IRMER) visit is planned for Llandudno in August 2024.
- The planning of a pilot for the high-risk MRI provision to progress.

### **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- On behalf Public Health Wales /Welsh Government to deliver an exercise to explore response to a widescale issue from Nitazines.
- EPRR to attend an NHS Wales Emergency Planning Advisory Group.
- Explore potential ways to support and develop an exercise in conjunction with Infection Services for their response to a communicable disease outbreak.

### **Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- OMD to conduct an Internal review of Revalidation and Appraisal process to date.
- Deputy Medical Director and OMD team to meet with Training Programme Directors/Heads of School in relation to registrar training.
- Appraisal and Revalidation Policy for UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) Registrants to be progressed.
- Development of Infographic of appraisal compliance by directorate.

# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Public Health Data, Knowledge & Research
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Iain Bell
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

Work continues to develop the implementation plans for the Digital and Data routemap. Each area is currently establishing programme/project initiation and appropriate governance.

### Successes

Health Protection system (Tarian replacement) has gone out to tender for the completion of an alpha phase that will help us develop our routemap for delivery and costings in order to submit a business case to Welsh Government later this financial year.

Prevalence of disease – held a well-received Leadership Forum Event, presenting our work on the prevalence of disease. It generated some useful discussion. Next steps: to agree a communications and dissemination plan, and to work with Strategy and Planning to bring the work into strategic planning discussions.

First iteration of the new Child Measurement Programme dashboard presented to the stakeholder group.

Diabetes and obesity analysis presented at joint PHW/CTM Board development day.

Work is continuing on inequalities in cancer incidence linking cancer registry and Census ethnicity data in SAIL with the first analysis starting to be shared with stakeholders.

Completed process evaluation of the PHW 2023/24 Winter Vaccines Campaign and the report has been shared with stakeholders.



Work is continuing to progress activity the Evaluation Job Family with Job Descriptions for band 6 and band 8a roles developed in collaboration with People & Organisational Development.

Note: Rapid Overview and PH Outcomes Framework refreshes delayed to July due to pre-election period.

**Any Concerns being managed:**

Loss of Audit+ has been raised as a risk and is being mitigated. There is an impact assessment that has been shared with the DDDA.

**Forward Look of key activities for next month**

Going live with adverts for programme manager for digital Health Protection, programme manager for Cloud and a project support officer to assist them both.

Shortlisting the Health Protection tenders and supporting the successful bidders to deliver their bids.

Completing the data documentation for Real Time Suspected Suicide Surveillance and the Child Death Review as exemplars.

Evaluation Community of Practice Event to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2024 on Addressing equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in the scoping, design and delivery of rapid evaluations to be delivered by the Birmingham, RAND and Cambridge Evaluation Centre.



# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	People & OD (Organisational Development)
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Neil Lewis
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

- The bids for the Welsh Language Translation framework have been reviewed and we aim to have a new mini framework of translation suppliers in place in August. Interviews took place for a Translation Co-ordinator, who we expect to take up post in September.
- We talked to Leadership Team about our work to increase early career opportunities, including a proposal to recruit four apprenticeships targeted at minority ethnic individuals. LT expressed strong support and we will now work with directorates to identify potential apprenticeship positions. This will enable us to meet a commitment made to the REACH network by the board by creating meaningful opportunities for minority ethnic people and diversify our workforce.
- We have started work with stakeholders from across the organisation to create generic admin and clerical job descriptions. At the request of the National JE Lead, they will be matched by an NHS Wales Panel and used across NHS Wales. This approach supports the 3-yearly review of job descriptions, a directive by Welsh Government in the Pay Award 2023/24.
- The 4-week pilot with World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre to test the new Job Evaluation Microsoft Form and automated Job Evaluation Tracker is almost complete. A few minor issues were identified and resolved.
- The Nurse Retention Self-Assessment was completed and submitted to Health Education and Improvement Wales.
- Recruitment Bite Size training sessions continue to be delivered. This month saw sessions on Advertising, Consultant Recruitment, and Applicant Use of Artificial Intelligence. All sessions are recorded and will form part of the [Recruitment Toolkit](#).
- Leading with Impact bitesize resources were launched on 25 June, creating a legacy which means we will continue to realise the benefits of our investment in this programme.
- We are undertaking significant procurement activity including Public Health Wales Leadership and Management Academy Programme, higher



level Statutory and Mandatory Training (manual handling, violence and aggression and resuscitation training), Personal Development Programme, Line Managers Induction and Advanced Public Health Skills Pilot Programme. The award of the contract for our individual coaching and team coaching provision is in the final stages.

- We reviewed high-cost training applications and requests for funding from the Health Education and Improvement Wales extended skills/advanced practice funding allocation.
- We launched a baseline evaluation of Being Our Best, our behavioural framework, on 24 June.
- The PHW level evaluation of the NHS Staff Survey has been completed and was discussed at Strategic Executive Team, on 10 July 2024.

### **Successes**

- We attended Pride Cymru in Cardiff on the 22 June and were delighted to be joined by over 20 colleagues from different parts of the organisation.

### **Any Concerns being managed:**

- We are experiencing an exceptionally high volume of job applications (150+ applications in some cases) for certain positions, especially Biomedical Support Workers, administrative, and project roles. Many of these are generic and not tailored to the job description, making it difficult to shortlist suitable candidates. There is a growing concern that AI is being used to complete and auto-submit applications, through tools such as [Lazy Apply](#), which can submit thousands of applications without applicant oversight. To address these issues, we are exploring an alternative application form available in Trac and will be testing the effect of excluding some 'easy-to-fill' roles from online jobs boards used by AI tools such as [Lazy Apply](#) to see if this has an impact.
- Two People and OD Assistants have resigned and will leave PHW in July 2024, putting pressure on our team and service whilst we recruit and onboard new team members.

### **Forward Look of key activities for next month**

- We will continue to work with QNAHPs on options in relation to DBS re-checks (relating to the Safeguarding risk on the Corporate Risk Register) and recruit a DBS Compliance Officer to undertake a cleanse of Electronic Staff Records to enable efficient DBS compliance reporting.
- The new Job Evaluation Microsoft Form and automated Job Evaluation Tracker will be implemented through a phased roll-out plan to ensure a smooth transition to the new process.
- Work will begin on a Public Health Wales Careers Insights Event. This pilot event will showcase the variety of Public Health Wales careers to Year 10



students from a range of schools in Cardiff. A provisional date of late January is being considered. The event will be held in CQ2.

- Welsh Language Awareness sessions will take place for Screening colleagues, as part of our Clinical Consultation Plan. The first of these sessions will take place in July with others to follow in September.
- We have received our annual self -assessment questionnaire from the Welsh Language Commissioner. The Welsh Language Team will work on our response by the submission date in early August.
- Wellbeing workshops have been commissioned and set up for the year ahead – 8 sessions for managers and 2 open for all staff. We are working through a communications plan to maximise awareness.
- A New Colleague Networking Event will take place on Thursday 11 July 2024, for colleagues who joined in March, April, May, and June.
- To celebrate one year of Being Our Best, the People and Organisational Development team will be hosting a series of events during week commencing 1 July, as well as sharing useful information on how colleagues can get the most out of the framework throughout the week.
- Leading with Impact Evaluation Partner Packs have been developed to support conversations with Directorates around the Leading with Impact Evaluation and next steps
- Following the review of responses to the Public Health Wales Leadership and Management Academy Programme ITT we will hold Technical Interviews with three providers and award the contract in August 2024.
- We will socialise the Job Family Vision, approach and scope throughout August and September 2024.

# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Policy and International Health, WHO CC
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Sumina Azam
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

### [Webinar - Beyond the Present](#)

This was a webinar to help disseminate the content and learning from the futures resource (Beyond the present) focused on health inequalities, which we published in March in partnership with the Future Generations Commissioner.

The webinar explored methods highlighted in the report to enable long-term thinking and sharing case studies which show how those approaches have been applied in Wales. Methods discussed included horizon scanning, the futures triangle, axes of uncertainty, and scenario planning, among others.

### [Assessing Wellbeing of Future Generations – 5 Ways Of Working \(WOW\)](#)

In April and June 2024, two workshops were delivered to assess our journey to sustainable development. These workshops included staff from across all Directorates.

The WOW journey checker report and next steps will help us focus our work going forward. The results are helpful to identify barriers and opportunities across the organisation as well as good practice. It will also support many aspects of organisational learning and improvement including our Culture work.

### [Health Impacts of Climate Change in Wales: Examining the evidence base and identifying future priorities webinar](#)

This webinar aimed to provide an understanding of the health impacts of climate change in Wales and the risks and opportunities. It provided an overview of the current evidence base around the climate and health agenda and brought together varied stakeholders from across Wales to identify future opportunities for collaboration. Over 70 participants attended the webinar, which was hosted by Public Health Network Cymru, chaired by Huw George and included presentations from Public Health Wales and Welsh Government colleagues. The



results of the group work will be used to shape our approach to the climate change and health research agenda in Wales.

### Supporting the Wellbeing Economy Forum and Global Resolution

Dr Mariana Dyakova has been supporting the WHO Venice Office for Investment for Health and Development in co-organising the second [Wellbeing Economy Forum](#) in Iceland, 11-12 June 2024 with high level participation from Iceland, Wales, and Scotland (as leading Wellbeing Economy nations), as well as key global organisations, such as UN, OECD, UNESCO, WEAll. This work is part of the [WHO European Well-being Economy Initiative](#) and implementing the Wales/WHO MOU; and supports the recently adopted WHO Resolution on the [Economics of health for all](#). Wales was represented by Dr Tracey Cooper as Public Health Wales Chief Executive and IANPHI Board member; Susie Abson, Head of Future Economy, and Ed Wilson, Deputy Director for Public Health Improvement, Prevention & Promotion from Welsh Government.

### Successes

#### Spotlight feature blog - Advancing LGBTQIA+ Health in Wales

The Welsh Health Equity Solutions Platform (WHESP) has published a new Spotlight Feature, highlighting solution-focused actions to address health inequities in the LGBTQIA+ communities in Wales.

This blog describes the challenges experienced by the LGBTQIA+ communities in Wales and features strategic policies that are making difference, ensuring fair health access for all.

The blog also highlights transformative efforts that are not only reshaping public health but also setting precedents for inclusivity across the nation.

<https://phwwhocc.co.uk/resources/equity-in-action-advancing-lgbtqia-health-in-wales/>

#### Charter Toolkit Refresh

The refreshed charter for International Health Partnerships Implementation Toolkit provides guidance and resources for those interested in international health partnership working. In 2014, all Health Boards and NHS Trusts committed to implementing the Charter, pledging to enhance organisational responsibility, foster reciprocal partnership working, promote good practice, and uphold sound governance in international health partnerships.

This updated toolkit has been created by the International Health Coordination Centre and partners with additional resources and case studies to help staff in Health Boards and NHS Trusts translate the Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales into operational practices.

Any Concerns being managed:



## Forward Look of key activities for next month

### [Time to Talk Public Health - May 2024 Survey](#)

The May 2024 survey is the 10th Time to Talk Public Health survey to be delivered. The topics of this survey include carbon monoxide, vaccines, infections, and health stigma. These topic areas were submitted by teams from Health Protection in collaboration with Welsh Government.

The report will present population level findings and for the first time demographic breakdowns will also be published (by age, sex, deprivation). For previous surveys demographic data have been provided upon request, but due to increasing demand going forward demographic data will be published routinely with further analyses available on request. The focus topic for the communications plan will be determined once agreed with the topic leads.

### [International Horizon Scanning Summary Calendar April 2023 – March 2024](#)

This is an interactive summary of the previous year's horizon scanning reports. The calendar highlights key messages and country features from the reports. Topics featured in this summary calendar including:

- Universal Primary Free School Meals
- Mental Health and Well-Being of Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- Five Essential Conditions for Health Equity
- Embedding Prevention in Primary and Community Care
- Impact of Poverty on Babies, Children and Young People

### [International Horizon Scanning Report - June 2024 - Commercial Determinants of Health](#)

This report will introduce the concept of the commercial determinants of health and highlight international approaches to address commercial actions that impact on the health and well-being of children and young people.

Specifically, the report looks at international approaches to reduce exposure to, access to and availability of alcohol and unhealthy foods among children and young people. Chile, Norway, and Estonia are featured as examples.

### [Policy Advocacy for Public Health Training Event Summer 2024](#)

Our Long-Term Strategy states that to deliver outcomes as an organisation, we will inform, advocate, mobilise and deliver. But what do we mean by advocate and how do we do it?

The Polisi team are running two online trainings on policy advocacy and communicating with policymakers this July. The first training on policy advocacy for public health will cover:

- What is policy advocacy and why is it important to Public Health Wales?



- What is the policy process in Wales, and where are there opportunities to influence it?
- How can Public Health Wales influence policy?

#### [Health Equity Frameworks and Tools summary report and Spotlight feature blog](#)

This provides an overview of international examples of health equity frameworks and tools. The frameworks and tools listed in this document are examples of UK and international efforts to support governments, organisations, and individuals to work towards health equity. Existing health equity frameworks were identified through searches of key international and national public health and health equity institution resources. The frameworks and tools have been grouped into five distinct categories: resource library, data, action, evaluate and theory.

A spotlight feature blog will be launched to highlight the publication of the report.

#### [No one left behind: A forward-thinking approach to improving health and well-being for all in Wales through stronger social connections](#)

This report focuses on the potential impacts of future trends on our social connectedness and community networks (our 'social capital') over the next fifty years. These include trends such as advances in technology and changes to our population, climate, and political landscape. We explore some of the factors which may support and strengthen social participation and networks in Welsh communities, as a central feature of a healthy and flourishing society, and those which may risk alienating, polarising and isolating individuals and groups.

#### [An introduction to the Wellbeing Economy \(Animation\)](#)

The video will showcase how Wales is implementing a Wellbeing Economy approach as part of a global movement and positions Public Health Wales as a live innovation site for investing in prevention and healthy prosperous lives for all.



## DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Quality, Nursing and Allied Health Professionals
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Claire Birchall, Executive Director (Interim)
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

### Overview of Key Activities During the Month

#### RCN Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024, Newport

PHW had a stand at congress which generated a lot of interest and was supported by Nursing colleagues from across the organisation. We plan to attend next years in Liverpool.

#### RCN visit to CQ2 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Sandy Harding Associate Director of Nursing, Policy & Professional Practice at RCN Wales joined us for the day. During the morning Sandy heard presentations from across PHW diverse Nursing roles and she visited screening services at Kimberley House in the afternoon. Sandy was very impressed by the work of our Nurses and will be having further discussions with some of our teams.

#### Transfer of the Corporate IPC Role to be managed by the HARP team

The Quality and Nursing Division will be working collaboratively with the Head of Nursing for HARP moving forward, to ensure a robust arrangement is in place to meet the corporate IPC requirements going forward.

#### Result / outcome of our culture session

QNAHPs held two dedicated Directorate sessions on Culture this year, to gain a shared understanding of the current culture within the Directorate. From the learning from these sessions, clear actions have been identified and a plan has been developed to address these actions.

#### Risk session for Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB)

We met with the SBUHB Board Secretary to talk about our approach to refreshing our risk architecture through our Risk Management Development Plan, focusing on strategic, corporate and operational risks and our processes for managing risk mitigation and reporting progress to the Business Executive Team and to Board. SBUHB have asked for further assistance and input to their risk refresh process.

#### Network communication in relation to guidance for NHS Wales Independent Contracted Services for comments

The Safeguarding People – Guidance for NHS Wales Independent Contracted Services has been updated to a draft conduit visual document with a focus on



facilitating direct access to relevant safeguarding procedures, guidance and tools to avoid duplication and improve consistency for GPs, NHS Dentists, Community Pharmacists and Optometrists/Opticians. The draft guidance was shared with the Service on 12th June with comments by 12th July.

### **PREVENT**

NSS presented an SBAR to the Executive Directors of Nursing recommending they support a position of mandatory awareness of PREVENT using a Home Office e-learning package. Although EDONs are unable to mandate, this senior nurse support was positive with agreement to advise their organisations this training should be undertaken by all employees.

### **Once for Wales Safeguarding Module**

Work on Once for Wales Safeguarding Module (Datix Cymru) has established a working group setting out operational implementation in all health boards and trust for 1st October 2024. This aims to meet requirements of greater national assurance in NHS Wales safeguarding and supports the urgency for a single information platform for recording and capturing safeguarding information, manage and review activity data using a common reporting system.

### **Update to Scheme of Delegation and Reservation of Powers**

Working with the Board Business Unit, the Integrated Governance Team is progressing updating the Scheme of Delegation and Reservation of Powers. Conversations have started with members of Leadership Team who will be discussing updates with their senior colleagues.

### **Successes**

- PHW has been working with Datix Once for Wales team and developed a Safeguarding module to be used for safeguarding enquiries. We will be piloted this in the corporate safeguarding service starting in August.
- Creation of Wales wide standard information leaflets for families and participants outlining the PRUDIC (Procedural Response to Unexpected Deaths in Childhood) process. Publication planned to web pages.
- NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report, written by NSS on behalf of the Network, is complete and due for publication on NSS webpages MID July. The report will be seen by BET for final approval prior.
- On 19th June 2024, at the Norwegian Church in Cardiff, First Minister, Minister for Social Care and Young Ambassadors from Voices from Care Cymru signed a Declaration outlining the commitment the Welsh Government would make to improve the experience of looked after children in Wales. This puts the voice of children and young people at the heart of the transformation of children's services and was co-produced between Ministers and care-experienced young people. Dr Bethan Williams, Designated Doctor for Looked After Children in the NSS attended the event by invitation. This marks a pivotal moment for all care experienced young people in Wales ensuring all agencies not only work together but work with young people to enhance the services provided to young people in care (NSS are sharing as a news story with PHW Comms).



#### **Any Concerns being managed:**

- The CNO Independent Review, Strengthening Safeguarding in Health, is completed. WG have recommended a task group to consider the findings and recommendations; membership for steering will include the NSS.
- Dr Lizzie Nickerson commenced her post as Designated Doctor Safeguarding on 1st July, ensuring NSS now has x4 sessions (2 days) per week for this post.

#### **Forward Look of key activities for next month**

- Leadership Forum Session on the Duty of Quality and Quality Management System is being held on 15th July.
- Work to finalise the publication of the Duty of Quality Report.
- Staff Flu Vaccination campaign planning in conjunction with POD to commence.
- Awaiting final approval of the All-Wales Safeguarding Supervision guidance by the NHS Network.
- The NSS to work with Welsh Government, the NHS Wales Executive and Office of CNO to deliver national actions in relation to sexual safety in NHS Wales.
- NHS Wales Safeguarding Network meeting taking place in July.

# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Health and Wellbeing
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Jim McManus
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	June 2024
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	15 July 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	25 July 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

### ***Nutrition and Obesity***

- Increasing Breastfeeding rates is one of the key ways we can reduce inequalities in healthy weight. We identified a need to improve data definitions and to bring consistency across the UK nations. We have led a Delphi Study to develop consensus on what it is important to measure and how these should be defined on a four nations basis.

### **Physical Activity**

- The Healthy and Active Fund provided funding to community organisations to explore ways of increasing physical activity or improving mental wellbeing. This work has now finished and the final evaluation has been produced. We have completed research with community organisations to understand the challenges faced and attitudes and beliefs in respect of evaluation. This will help inform work to support strengthened evaluation of health improvement action across the system.

### **Tobacco Control Programme**

- Public Health Wales manages the national Help Me Quit smoking cessation service referral Hub and the National Telephone Support Service (NTSS) and provides support and co-ordination to local smoking cessation services. On 20 June, more than 70 colleagues from national and local services and stakeholders came together in CQ2 for the annual HMQ Workforce Development Network event. This hybrid event shared reviews successes in 2023-24, strategic priorities for the coming year and best practices from around the system, with exceptional feedback on the value of the day. The Tobacco Control team will also be sharing the innovative approaches to delivering content and interactive workshops equitably in person and online with the wider organisation.
- The Tobacco Control team launched a national training package on ESR to all staff in secondary care who engage with smokers in hospital settings. The Help Me Quit in Hospital training package, developed in alignment with behavioural insights and tested and refined with stakeholders represents a key strategic development in the journey to maximise the reach and effectiveness smoking cessation in Wales, improving population health, reducing health inequalities and lowering the economic burden of ill health
- The Project Board of the Nicotine Dependency Support Project approved the recommendations of the Health Improvement Division Tobacco Control Team for



developing a new model of support for adults who are vaping but not smoking and wish to quit. The innovative evidence-based model has been developed to reflect evidence from literature, practice and stakeholder perspectives on the developing and emerging needs of vapers in Wales. As prevalence increases, especially amongst younger populations and the technological, commercial and social landscape evolves rapidly, the new model will provide support that balances effectiveness, cost effectiveness and equity. The project will now work on implementing the model within services and adapting it to meet the needs of younger vapers, delivering on a key recommendation of the recent Incident Response Group.

### **NHS Settings Programme**

- The MECC Level 1 e-learning module, which supports development of knowledge and skills about undertaking behaviour change conversations with the public, has been refreshed and uploaded onto the learning platforms which make it available for NHS staff, Welsh/local government and public sector staff, academic institutions, and third sector.

### **Educational Settings Programme**

- The latest meeting of the What Works Expert Panel has been held to consider the evidence base for poverty and trauma based approaches to promoting mental health. The work is part of the Whole School Approach to Mental and Emotional Wellbeing and brings together a range of experts from across the system to consider the evidence in relation to specific approaches or programmes and recommend a consensus evidence statement to support school leaders in making decisions about where to invest.

### **Mental Wellbeing Programme**

- Hapus is a programme of work aiming to influence the uptake of mental wellbeing-promoting behaviours among people living in Wales. A Strategic Partnership Group has overseen activity to date to prepare for the national conversation on mental wellbeing (opening on 8<sup>th</sup> July) and to explore collective opportunities to improve mental wellbeing. Natural Resources Wales are a Strategic Partner and the mental wellbeing team have been supporting the Natur Am Byth programme to maximise the potential mental wellbeing benefits of the programme. As part of this the mental wellbeing team provided training to project leads to improve understanding of what influences mental wellbeing and how they can help to support positive mental wellbeing for their participants.

### **First 1000 Days Programme**

- Action in the first 1000 days is key to preventing future generations experiencing the inequalities that exist in Wales today. In partnership with Directors of Public Health, we have brought together leaders from across the early years system to begin a project that will develop of a shared framework for action to protect and improve early years health and well-being in Wales. The work will lead to the development of a shared definition of what the 'best start in life' means for families in Wales, set out the key components of an effective early years system and what good looks like, acknowledging the different contributions made by local, regional and national level action.

### **Drugs, Alcohol and Gambling Programme**

- We know that substance related harm is increasing, To help us formulate a comprehensive approach across the spectrum from prevention to harm reduction we have commenced a substance use needs assessment. The intention is to complete the work in stages commencing with Preventing Use of Substances and Optimising Treatment.

### **Primary Care Prevention**



- The team recently presented at the International Social Prescribing Conference 2024 on social prescribing as a way to embed prevention and shared the PBHC framework. New connections have been established with Warm Wales to scope collaborative work on supporting financial wellbeing through social prescribing.
- Following the successful launch of the [Prevention-Based Health and Care](#) (PBHC) Framework in May, the first meeting of the PBHC Steering Group was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June, with membership representing a broad range of organisations, professional groups and professional bodies. Group to finalise PBHC Framework report develop for publication in early autumn and develop and monitor an implementation plan.

### **Primary Care Transformation**

- **Health Inclusion Why it matters?** National Webinar hosted on Public Health Network Cymru showcasing a variety of Health Inclusion Primary Care services in Wales to raise awareness, advocate for more services and as a call to action. There were 70 attendees from across the system from health, third sector and other public sector including local authorities.
- **SimplyDo Challenge Health Inequalities – how do we embed it into every ones work?** Ran throughout the month in Public Health Wales. It proved popular with 1,255 views, 14 ideas, 53 comments and 48 likes. This now moves to the next stage of considering which ideas to take forward into the workplan.
- **GMS Contract Quality Improvement poster review** – The Division in collaboration with the Strategic Programme for Primary Care completed a once for Wales exercise to review and report on the GMS Quality Improvement project posters from the 387 GMS practices across Wales on behalf of the health boards. This involved the receipt of 1,068 posters and the review of 877 posters based on themes of Unhealthy Behaviours, Green Inhaler-Phase 2 and Access Commitment. Findings reported to health boards, Welsh Government and GPC Wales in early July to inform future iterations of QI GMS contractual activity.
- Public Health insight provided to two national stakeholder ‘challenge meetings’ to critically review the Primary Care Model for Wales and consider the future direction for the Model.
- The Primary Care team participated in a new PHW ‘behaviourally informed communications’ workshop to improve communication products using behavioural science techniques.
- Work progressing to complete the Cluster Self Reflection tool report, final stages of building the planning portal for cluster working, due for release in early July. Ongoing engagement with PHW colleagues to ensure their work considers clusters as a key stakeholder or footprint for delivery of their topic specific work.

### **Dental Public Health**

- The Dental Public Health team provides national coordination and oversight of the child dental epidemiology programmes for Wales. Data collection on the Year 7 cohort of school children across Wales is now complete. A total of 6,328 children were examined. 203 out of the 208 mainstream state schools in Wales were visited with 80% of all children sampled being examined. The number of children examined in this inspection has once again exceeded the numbers seen in previous inspections (5,781 in 2016-17). The report will be published in the winter 2024. All data has been collated and checked.
- In June, Public Health Wales have been working collaboratively with CAVUHB to plan and organise the first national study day for Designed to Smile staff since 2019. The event, taking place on 10 July 2024 has 120 staff attending from across Wales. The Chief Dental Officer, Welsh Government has been invited. There is a full programme of speakers and breakout sessions.



- In June, we have been in full 'build and test' mode of the software to pilot a digital consent process for Designed to Smile. Currently over 100,000 paper forms are completed by parents/carers. Using MS Forms, we hope that the digital process will improve efficiency, support environmental sustainability goals and be acceptable to parents, school staff and the Designed to Smile staff.
- Established a Digital Champions Network for Designed to Smile staff, to upskill teams and share innovative ways to improve efficiency of the programme. In June, we have hosted a weekly series of bespoke training sessions, provided by Digital Communities Wales.
- Chaired the Gwên am Byth national steering group meeting on 19 June 2024, which brings together health boards and Care Inspectorate Wales. The programme's Annual Report has been written and shared with Welsh Government.

#### **Wider Determinants of Health Unit**

- Completion of Public Health Network Cymru Action Plan 2024 – 26, following co-production using Health Foundation '5C wheel' framework.
- Community of Interest final leadership group meeting held
- Evaluation expertise for Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales tender offered
- Testing of Building a Healthier Wales child poverty task and finish group proposals with income maximisation stakeholders took place on 18 June 2024
- Public Health Network Cymru webinars:
  - Health Impacts of Climate Change – 107 attendees
  - Beyond the Present: How to apply long-term thinking to reduce health inequalities in the future – 59 attendees
  - Health Inclusion: Why it matters – 60 attendees

### **Successes**

#### **Primary Care Division**

- The [Greener Primary Care Framework and Award Scheme](#), launched in 2022, enables primary care contractors in Wales to take climate friendly action. The team were successful in winning the *Healthier Wales* award at the [NHS Wales Sustainability Conference and Awards](#) held on 13 June 2024 out of approximately 90 entries and separately have had a case study [Award Scheme to Engage Primary Care Workers on low carbon sustainable practice in Wales](#) published by the Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate Change and Health (World Health Organisation).
- New publication: Newstead S, Jesurasa A, Jenkins B, Lavans A, Woodall A, Wallace C. Speaking the Same Language – The Development of a Glossary of Terms for Social Prescribing in Wales. *International Journal of Integrated Care*, 2024; 24(3): 3, 1–12. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/ijic.8591>

#### **Wider Determinants of Health Unit**

- Shaping Places for Well-being launch event with 45 representatives linked to 11 Public Services Boards, along with representatives from the Health Foundation, the Office for the Future Generations Commissioner, Healthy Weight Healthy Wales Whole System Approach, Public Health Wales, and Natural Resources Wales. The event introduced systems thinking in practice and started the work with PSB representatives to apply the approaches in the support of well-being plan delivery to influence wider determinants of health.
- Public Health Network Cymru delivered a successful webinar on the Health Impacts of Climate Change with 107 attendees from a range of sectors. 71% of attendees said they would discuss contents of the webinar with colleagues and 71% said they would recommend PHNC to colleagues.

### Any Concerns being managed:

#### **Primary Care Division**

- Systematic process for 1 year follow-up HbA1c blood tests in General Medical Services practices in All Wales Diabetic Pathway Programme (AWDPP) clusters.
- Risk to AWDPP monitoring and evaluation and data capture for Tackling Diabetes Together Programme, include the bundle of 8 care process in GMS at risk if a successor tool to the Audit+ module is not procured by Digital Health Care Wales (DHCW) following the announced withdraw of Audit+ from Wales.
- Procurement required for Greener Primary Care Framework and Award Scheme Q4 2024/25 and 2025/26 to follow new process. Discussions with procurement and STA in the process of being completed to procure SOS-UK support.
- Development of a Power App for the digital consent pilot has highlighted the ongoing need for expertise in developing power platforms, not just for expansion of digital consent for Designed to Smile, but also for the dental epidemiology programme and other workstreams. The need to consider acquiring workforce capacity for delivering these projects has been raised and an SBAR is being drafted for discussion with the Data and Digital Design Authority (DDDA).

#### **Wider Determinants of Health Unit**

- Unanticipated pull on WDOH capacity from Shaping Places Programme although this is expected to subside following in-person events and appointment of replacement PHP
- Failure to recruit Public Health Consultant has not alleviated existing pressures, other options being considered

### Forward Look of key activities for next month

#### **Primary Care**

- Scoping the development of a gestational diabetes mellitus pathway into the AWDPP.
- Ongoing conversations with Welsh Government re: future funding of the AWDPP programme and scale and spread across Wales to ensure whole population coverage.
- Progress SBAR development to identify priority areas for action for Tackling Diabetes Together Workstream One.
- Progress social prescribing financial wellbeing scoping review and explore collaborative work with Warm Wales.
- Collaborate with Improvement Cymru and HEIW to define Quality Improvement opportunities within the existing primary care hypertension pathway.
- Finalise *Time to Talk* questions to further understand CVD prevention awareness and attitudes across Wales.
- Planning progressing with Local Partnerships for 4 uni-professional engagement events to explore enablers and barriers to participation in the Greener Primary Care Wales Framework and Award Scheme for delivery early Autumn.
- PCD leading the PHW Climate Change Community of Practice - CCCoP4 Event on 8 July focusing on 'Environmental sustainability in primary care', 'Greener Primary Care Wales Framework and Award Scheme' and 'Implementation of the Greener Primary Care Wales Framework' presented by one of the participating GPs.
- Work to commence to use the Local Partnership developed carbon calculator to assess and report carbon savings associated with actions in the Greener Primary Care Wales Framework.



- SPPC Fund 2022/2024 report to be submitted to the National Primary Care Board to inform future investments. The Division provided national monitoring and reporting for the 2-year, £7.6M, [Strategic Programme for Primary Care \(SPPC\) Fund 2022-2024 programme](#).
- National Designed to Smile study day - 10<sup>th</sup> July.
- Training event for Designed to Smile digital consent - 17<sup>th</sup> July.
- Designed to Smile national annual monitoring process goes live on 11<sup>th</sup> July.
- New Health Inequalities and Health inclusion pages on PCOne.
- Continued work to seek stakeholder feedback on the draft suite of key indicators, that are being developed to measure the progress of cluster working.
- Collation of participant feedback and circulation of the final draft of the Cluster Self Reflection Framework report
- Scoping work to develop and implement a 'National Experience Survey' for primary and community care, building on the nationally updated questions due for release by Welsh Government in July.
- Scoping out future engagement with clusters and professional collaboratives to bring colleagues together to collectively consider the barriers and enablers identified through peer review and self-reflection.

#### **Wider Determinants of Health Unit**

- Shaping Places learning group events to confirm systems of interest, ongoing engagement, including Cardiff PSB meeting, refining evaluation protocol and advisory board
- Presentations on fair work (oral) and education system mapping (poster) at the Welsh Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data (WISERD) conference, University of South Wales
- Further development of wider determinants of health long term strategy route map
- Commence work with PHW programmes with the opportunity to influence the attainment gap
- Final BAHW Child Poverty Task and Finish group due to be held 2nd July to agree recommendations
- Further development of WDOH Unit reflection and planning

#### **Health Improvement Division**

- Opening of the National Conversation in Mental Wellbeing, Hapus on 8<sup>th</sup> July
- National workshops for the Welsh Network of Health and Wellbeing Promoting Schools