

Meeting of:	Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, 11 January 2022
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Healthy Living and Social Care
Report Title:	Update on the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board
Purpose of Report:	To update Members on the work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board in relation to the integration of health and social care
Report Owner:	Lance Carver, Director of Social Services
Responsible Officer:	Cath Doman, Director of Health and Social Care Integration
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Cabinet Member, Social Care and Health. Social Services Senior Management Team.
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive decision
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This paper seeks to brief Members of the work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board (RPB). • The report summarises the progress of the RPB made since the last report in January 2021, recognising the ongoing and pervasive impact of COVID-19 on services across the partnership and the associated effect on the progress of more strategic developments. • Full details of the activities and impact of the RPB can be found in the annual report, the link to which is provided later in this document. • The report concludes with an overview of the key priorities in the coming year, including plans to facilitate long-term financial sustainability for those projects which have proven themselves to be fundamental in supporting successful outcomes for people across the region. 	

Recommendations

1. To consider the work being undertaken by the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board, and progress made, including, in particular, the outcomes being achieved for local people.
2. To receive further annual updates on the work of the Board.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. To increase awareness of the work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board and to ensure links to the wider Vale of Glamorgan Local Authority agenda and key priorities are considered and ensured.
2. To keep Members apprised on the work of the Regional Partnership Board.

1. Background

- 1.1 Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 requires Local Authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children.
- 1.2 Part 9 of the Act provides for partnership arrangements between Local Authorities and Health Boards for the discharge of their functions. It also provides Welsh Ministers with regulatory powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.
- 1.3 Local Authorities and Health Boards are required to establish Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) to secure strategic planning and partnership working them and to ensure effective services, care and support are in place to best meet the needs of their respective populations. The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan RPB was established in April 2016.
- 1.4 The objectives of the RPBs are to ensure that the partnership bodies work effectively together to:
 - Respond to the population needs assessment carried out in accordance with Section 14 of the Act;
 - Implement the plans for each of the Local Authority areas which are covered by the Board, which Local Authorities and Health Boards are each required to prepare and publish under Section 14 of the Act;
 - Ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the Partnership Arrangements;
 - Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate.
- 1.5 RPBs have widened their remit to prioritise the integration of services in relation to a much broader range of people:

- Older people with complex needs and long-term conditions, including dementia
 - People with learning disabilities
 - Children with complex needs
 - Carers, including young carers
 - Integrated Family Support Services
 - Children with disabilities and/or illness
 - Children who are care experienced
 - Children who need care and support
 - Children who are at risk of becoming looked after
 - Children with emotional and behavioural needs
 - Young People as they transition between Children and Adult Services
- 1.6** The Chair of the RPB has changed during this year, transferring from Cllr Susan Elsmore, Cabinet Member for Cardiff Council, to Cllr Ben Gray, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health, Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- 1.7** This Report provides an update following the last report to the Scrutiny Committee on the 12th January 2021.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1** The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 require that each Regional Partnership Board must prepare an annual report on the extent to which it has met its objectives. The 2020/21 Annual Report of the RPB is available on the Partnership's website [here](#).
- 2.2** The report summarises the activities and impact of the work of the RPB, therefore its contents are not repeated in this report but attention is drawn to the main themes arising from the RPB in the last year and also its forward.

COVID-19

- 2.3** The last year continues to be dominated by the COVID19 pandemic. However, given the ongoing presence of the virus and the continually changing nature of the threat to the public's health, services have had to adapt to continue to meet the needs of the region's citizens. The Committee will be fully aware of the profound impact that the pandemic has had on individuals, communities and on the staff who deliver care services.
- 2.4** Partners continue to work closely to coordinate the response to the pandemic, working together to deliver Test, Trace, Protect, mass immunisation, personal protective equipment, support to care homes and their staff and residents, and ensuring people are able to return home from hospital as quickly as possible.

- 2.5** Health and social care services have seen a significant increase in the demand and complexity of referrals.
- 2.6** The ongoing nature of the pandemic continues to place our staff under significant pressure and their wellbeing has been upmost in the minds of the partner organisations.
- 2.7** Hybrid working arrangements continue for those staff not in citizen-facing services.
- 2.8** Many of our RPB projects became a critical part of the COVID19 response. This [short film](#) provides an overview of the work in the Vale of Glamorgan enabling people to return home from hospital and regain their independence. The RPB also made use of:
- £1.251m of Welsh Government funding to get people home after a hospital stay.
 - £140k of capital and revenue funding to support 35 third sector organisations in helping vulnerable groups. A report outlining the ways in which this funding delivered real change for citizens is available [ICF-CAPITAL-Third-Sector-Loneliness-and-Isolation-Fund-II-Summary-2020.pdf \(cvihscc.co.uk\)](#) including a number of schemes in the Vale.
 - £11.4k of revenue funding to support delivery of third sector services for people with learning disabilities to reduce isolation and loneliness for this vulnerable group of citizens.
 - £130k capital grant scheme to support care homes across the region in reducing the impact of social isolation for their residents, such as Parkside House in Penarth.



protective equipment, support to enable residents to meet with their loved ones, safe discharge arrangements if people are admitted to hospital and ongoing medical, nursing and social work support when needed.

Social value and the third Sector.

2.10 Social value remains a priority for development at both a national and regional level, with the expectation that a significant proportion of the RPB's investment is made in this area. For the Vale, Glamorgan Voluntary Services provided a coordinating role across the sector. Of significant note, GVS supported the Council to develop the [Vale Heroes](#) website and placed over 1100 volunteers in response to the pandemic.

2.11 GVS also managed the small grants scheme for COVID-19 high risk groups to directly tackle loneliness and isolation, with 24 organisations providing a wide variety of support from hot meals, to iPads to enable people to access support and social groups.

“As one of these older people I owe you all a massive “thank you” for everything that you’re continuing to do to keep us informed, entertained and cheerful. For me, you’re all “the spoonful of sugar that helps the medicine go down”. This is my first email that I’ve sent from my recently acquired iPad. Getting to know my way around it has bene quite a challenge. With lost and best wishes to all of you.”

2.12 During the pandemic, the sector has been instrumental in enabling who were shielding to access food and medication.

2.13 The sector has also been a leading voice during 2021 to help the RPB to improve its approach to citizen engagement and co-production in its work. Promo Cymru has helped to build a framework that we will start to apply to our work in the coming year, making sure the citizen's voice and third sector is much more influential in the RPB's programme of work.

Joint commissioning

2.14 The RPB's Regional Commissioning Board oversees and supports the development of joint approaches to commissioning of care services across the three statutory partners. Its priorities are to ensure there is a sustainable care marked in the region and to support local developments in outcome-based commissioning. In 2021, the Board has:

- Overseen the requirement to produce a Market Stability Report by 1st June 2022 which will identify gaps in commissioned services and support planning to address those gaps.
- Overseen development of regional quality assurance protocols in relation to provider failure.
- Developed an approach to deliver an annual cost of care report.
- Worked with the provider markets to support provider and partner relationships.

Joined up planning for winter

- 2.15** The RPB brings together the partners to plan to meet the additional demands placed on the health and care system during the winter period. This year's planning commenced in August, bringing together all of the partners to plan the approach and in anticipation of a highly challenging winter ahead given the uncertainty of COVID19 and its ongoing impact on staffing across our sectors.
- 2.16** The RPB was awarded £1.3m in addition to funding already provided to support the recovery of services. The funding was deployed as follows:

No.	Area	Scheme title	Brief description of scheme	Cost - £
1	Cardiff Locality	Increase SW Capacity	Provision of 4 WTE additional social worker posts to provide additional capacity for assessments	£108,887
2	Cardiff Locality	Care and Reablement	Support in CRT and community services, interfacing OT services for step up and step down	£86,000
3	Cardiff Locality	Additional discharge capacity - Cardiff CRT	Increase CRT capacity from 27 to 30 from w/c 29th Nov and then to 32 on 1st Jan.	£212,000
4	Cardiff Locality	Residential D2RA	Further spot purchasing Discharge to Assess - additional 5 beds for 12 week stay.	£313,000
5	UHB	Winter Flu	Reminder letters; Flu vaccination pop clinics for children; Cold chain equipment for staff programme; Digital equipment for school health nursing team; enhance community pharmacy provision to social care and care home staff	£55,000
6	Third Sector	Mental Health Matters	Additional recruitment of wellbeing coordinators through third sector partners to support inpatients.	£75,000
7	Third Sector	Community Care and Repair	Provision of handyman to support the delivery of adaptations to help older people living in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to return home from hospital and/or to reduce hazards within their home	£11,797
8	Third Sector	C3SC	Project Officer to coordinate schemes include neighbour support networks for vulnerable people and winter wellbeing programme to provide advice and support.	£24,500
9	Vale Locality	Additional Nurse Assessor Time	Additional capacity to address the backlog in assessments	£16,000
10	Vale Locality	Social worker capacity - improve patient flow from hospital	To support timely and safe patient discharge through IMDT approach across the IDS and VCRS teams	£50,000
11	Vale Locality	Vale Locality - Increase reablement support workers and therapists	Increased capacity through reablement support workers and therapy over winter period to meet the anticipated demands	£125,000
12	Vale Locality	Bella Vista Beds	Further purchasing of beds - extension during winter to provide additional capacity.	£140,000
13	Vale Locality	Rapid Response Team	Work to offer rapid response team to compliment telecare alarm service out of hours to prevent admission to hospital.	£86,000
Total				£1,303,184

The following provides a summary of how the RPB has addressed the national priorities associated with winter resilience:

National Priority	C&V Winter Plan
Protecting us from COVID	Covid Operating Model – gearing up and down. National, Regional and Local surveillance and modelling. Phase 3 covid vaccination programme. Revised IP&C policy based on latest PHW guidance.
Keeping people well	Test, Trace and Protect. RSV surge plan. Winter respiratory virus campaign. MSK/Mental Health schemes in primary care. Community communication strategy.
Maintaining safe health services	Covid Operating Model – gearing up and down. Maintenance of essential services. Covid Recovery Programme. Mental Health winter planning – community and crisis models. Dental, eye care, MSK and Mental Health in primary care. Virtual consultations. Long covid rehab service. Recovery – Planned Care Programme. Recovery – Unscheduled Care Programme.

Maintaining our social care services	Discharge to Assess. CRT / VCRS capacity. Additional reablement support workers. Additional care home beds – block booking. Trusted assessor approach. Recruitment of additional therapists. Third sector support – vulnerable people and communications.
Supporting our health and social care workforce	Joint workforce action plan between UHB and Social Care. Integrated Winter Workshop meeting – forms basis of plan. Development of winter plan through unscheduled care operational group in UHB (clinician led). Covid booster and respiratory virus campaign.
Supporting unpaid carers	Social services in both LAs working with the Cardiff and Vale Carers Gateway to identify areas of information and support that can be offered; designated officers providing support and advice; innovative and traditional respite opportunities. Also, Cardiff is opening day centres at weekends to increase access and supporting third sector organisations to increase or restart their support for vulnerable people and their carers.
Keeping everyone informed	Communication plan for winter schemes. Working closely with third sector partners to promote winter plan and available service. Additional communication on covid vaccination programme and respiratory virus campaign.
Working together across Wales	Integrated Winter Plan. Integrated Workshop – UHB, Social Care, WAST, Third Sector. Regional Partnership Board. Strategic Leadership Group. Weekly operational meetings. Site Based Leadership. Joint Workforce Action Plan. CHC informed planning.

ICF Capital:

2.17 A three-year capital development fund was released via the Integrated Care Fund in 2018-19 with a total of £13.335m for the Region. Highlights from this year in the Vale of Glamorgan include:

- A number of improvements to care homes locally to create more dementia friendly environments at Ty Dyfan, Cartref Porthceri and Ty Dewi Sant. You can read more about these developments [here](#).
- The opening of the Llantwit Major Community Wellbeing and Enterprise hub with ICF funding to improve the office space for Glamorgan Voluntary Services to operate from. The link [here](#) provides an interactive tour of the work in progress.
- The opening of a smart house in Penarth to enable people with a learning disability to live more independently.

Starting Well

- Meeting the challenge set by the Children’s Commissioner report *No Wrong Door*:

In June 2020, the Children’s Commissioner Sally Holland issued a landmark [report](#) calling on RPBs to wrap services around children and their families or carers. The RPB fully endorsed the report, accepting its recommendations in full and has developed a local action plan.

The RPB has continued to drive the integration of children’s services during 21/22 and has adopted the national NEST/NYTH framework to provide a child-centred, psychologically-informed approach. Click [here](#) for a short video which sets out the ambition of NEST.

- **Recovery from crisis**

The RPB has committed to creating a fully integrated regional resource for children and young people experiencing a crisis in their mental health and emotional wellbeing. The service will provide a safe and psychologically-informed place for children to be following an admission to hospital if they cannot return home. Significant work has been undertaken this year to design the service with a commitment from partners to jointly fund this gap in provision.

- **An integrated wellness-focused approach**

The Starting Well Partnership knows that our services need to be more joined up and designed around the needs of the child. Too often the emphasis is on access to mental health services when support is needed at a much earlier stage in school and at home. Significant planning has been undertaken this year to articulate what needs to happen to improve the experience. A programme to deliver the changes required will be finalised and commence implementation this year.

We recognise that our system is complex and is experienced as fragmented and confusing. Our differing thresholds for intervention can create a ‘missing middle’ where long-term therapeutic support cannot be accessed. We recognise that we must not medicalise emotional distress but rather have a whole system approach to deliver the right intervention and support at the right time.

Living Well

2.18 Although the partnership is still to be established, there is significant activity led by the RPB for working age adults with a wide range of needs including:

- **Carers** – Supporting the needs of carers across our region remains a high priority. The role of unpaid, often family carers has been thrown into sharp relief during the pandemic. This [interview](#) featured on Channel 4 news describes the impact of caring, particularly during the pandemic, on Katy, a young carer in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The *Time 4 Me* young carers project provided direct support to young carers such as Katy, including individual support sessions, family support sessions, respite and virtual activities.

The Cardiff and Vale Carers Gateway helped to identify and support hundreds of carers and enable them to access support.

In 2021, sadly the RPB lost its carer's representative, Pauline Young. The RPB's annual report is dedicated to her memory as a small token of our appreciation and recognition of her passionate advocacy of the value of carers.

- **People on the autism spectrum** – The Integrated Autism service has a significant reach and impact with nearly 1600 people being supported, including carers. The impact of diagnosis is profound for many people. Here is one person's experience and the RPB's annual report provides links to others:

“One year ago today I found out something about myself I never knew – I was diagnosed ASD [Autistic Spectrum Disorder]. My whole life suddenly made sense – why I see things differently to others, find social situations awkward, struggle with change and unpredictability and like everything ordered and structured. This diagnosis has given me a renewed identity and purpose. I am one of the fortunate 16% of autistic adults in the UK who are in employment. My high functioning autism, despite its challenges is a blessing in my life and is the reason for my grit, determination and high academic achievement.”

In 2021, The Integrated Autism Service contributed to development of the Autism Code of Practice. Looking forward, the RPB will ensure that there is an autism champion as part of its governance arrangements relating to Living Well. An interim Strategic Autism Board has been established to assess our compliance with the new Code and make recommendations to the RPB to ensure that it meets its requirements.

- **People with learning disabilities** – The Learning Disability Partnership Board leads the RPBs work on improving learning disability services. There is a summary [here](#) on the work supported by the RPB. The following highlights three areas where real impact has been achieved by working with people with a learning disability:

Smart home development:

To reduce isolation and enable people with learning disabilities to remain connected with their communities the partnership has worked with the third sector in implementing smart technology into citizens homes and developing a smart home. These technologies are having a significant positive impact on the ability of people with LD to support their own wellbeing and seek help when needed.

Our Health Our Voice:

The improving lives programme identified the need for people with a learning disability to have access to a health profile which provides them with information about their health needs in attending appointments. This [video](#) provides a summary of how important this is for people.

The project supported people with LD to engage in the development of health profiles, and the recruitment of two people who lived experience into community learning disability teams. The partnership has worked with the third sector, citizens, Public Health Wales and local authority leads to coproduce health profiles.

Transition from school to adult life:

The partnership has supported schemes across the region to improve the local offer for children with a learning disability to transition into adulthood when they require ongoing care and support. The partnership has supported local authorities to expand their day opportunities provision to provide targeted specialist day support, improving choice and control in how support is received.

Ageing Well

2.19 The Ageing Well Partnership is focusing on two major change programmes:

a) People with dementia

This programme will build on the *All-Wales Dementia Care Pathway of Standards* (below) which aims to improve dementia care for individuals and their carers, by providing a clear pathway towards implementing effective standards within dementia care in the next two years. We are shortly due to commence an evaluation of our current dementia projects to give a baseline assessment with clear recommendations for developing a programme of work which will take a whole system approach to dementia care, including prevention.

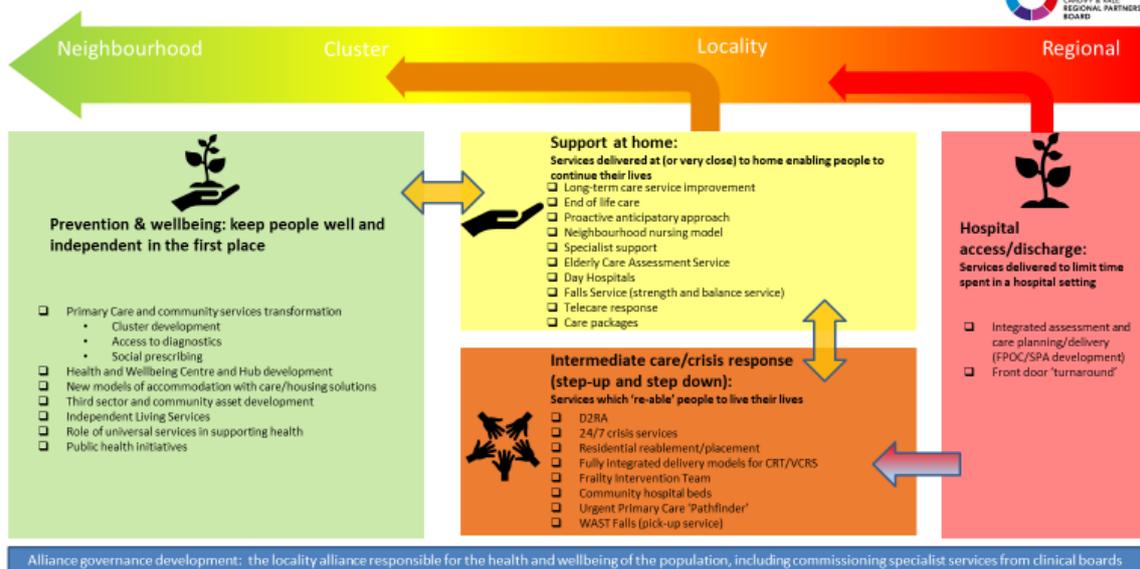
NB: MAS=Memory Assessment Service, LD=Learning Disability, MCI=Minor Cognitive Impairment



b) @home programme

This programme will establish integrated, locality-based, health and care services focused on meeting and improving the health and wellbeing of the local population, based on the ambitions of *A Healthier Wales*. The emphasis, as the name implies, is on enabling people to stay healthy, well and independent at home and to create joined up health, social care and third sector services that reflect local communities.

Key buckets – the key areas of work for the programme



Forward look

2.20 The RPB will continue to mature its population-focused approach through the Starting Well and Ageing Well Partnerships. We will also establish arrangements to oversee the programmes of work associated with the Living Well agenda.

Regional Integration Fund 2022-2027

- There are significant changes to the funding arrangements from April 2022 with the announcement of a 5-year Regional Integration Fund which will replace the Integrated Care Fund, Transformation Fund and a number of other smaller Welsh Government grant-funding arrangements. The RPB will work to establish the programmes of work which it will seek Welsh Government funding to support. There is an expectation from the Minister that RPBs move towards sustainable funding for the new care models it is creating over the five-year period.
- The Regional Integration Fund will enable us to take forward established projects as well as developing new models of care set out above.

The Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report

2.21 These reports will be published in early 22/23. These statutory reports provide a comprehensive assessment of the health and care needs of our population and the stability of the care market and its capacity and capability to respond to those needs. Both reports will provide the foundation for the RPB's forward plans and joint commissioning activities.

Digital developments

- The partnership has commenced work on understanding the digital developments needed to support delivery of integrated care services, including shared care records and shared business intelligence. The RPB will establish a Partnership Digital Development Board to define and deliver the joint

programme of work, seeking funding from Welsh Government to support this work.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** The work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board plays a key role in supporting the delivery of sustainable social services in the long term. Engagement, integration, involvement, collaboration and prevention are all founding principles of the Partnership as demonstrated within the Terms of Reference for the Board.
- 3.2** The emerging programmes set out above, will enable the RPB to have a greater impact on the delivery of the wellbeing objectives.

4. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 4.1** Welsh Government have announced the establishment of a new 5-year Regional Integration Fund, details of which are to be announced. The fund will include support to deliver:
 - National programmes e.g. dementia and integrated autism services.
 - RPB infrastructure to deliver part 9 duties of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act.
 - Acceleration of the delivery of new care models.
 - Embedding of successful projects previously funded by ICF and other funds.
 - Capital Developments.
 - Support to the social value (third) sector.
- 4.2** There is an expectation that partners will contribute match funding over the period of the new fund with a view to ultimately embedding the new models of care developed through this fund into business as usual across the partnership.

Employment

- 4.3** Both the ICF and Transformation Fund have enabled the employment of key staff within the Council. Every effort has been taken to limit the number of permanent roles. Nevertheless, the 7-year period of the ICF's existence along with the need to secure key skills set from a limited pool of availability has meant that a significant pool of permanent staff are now funded through this short-term resource. Work is being undertaken to secure funding for staff and contracts currently at risk as a result of the changes described above.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 4.4** The work outlined in this report sets out the progress of the RPB in meeting the requirements of Part 9 of the SSWWA.

5. Background Papers

The Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2020/21 can be found [here](#).