



Health Technology Centre Report

Health and Social Care Research, Innovation and Improvement Landscape in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan

Overview

Cardiff and Vale RPB, through the Regional Innovation Co-ordination Hub, commissioned the Healthcare Technology Centre (HTC) at Swansea University to summarise the health and social care research, innovation and improvement (RII) landscape across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

The purpose was to provide an understanding of all Health and Social Care RII assets and an evidence base in order to inform future RII developments and act as a common resource for wider regional stakeholders and partners.

The research study considered desk-based research approaches and engagement with a range of stakeholders from across the region through surveys and semi-structured interviews.

Health and Social Care Related Priorities

The study sought to understand stakeholder perspectives on regional health and social care RII priorities in Cardiff and the Vale. These are the highlighted areas which stakeholders believe RII related activities are most urgently required.

Cross-border collaboration

Mental Health

Social Prescribing

Healthy Resilient
Communities

Social Care

Digital Systems and the use
of Digital Technology

Key Emerging Opportunities

- A central coordinating body to oversee and manage RII activity in the region, such as the Cardiff and Vale RIC Hub
- A forum to ensure all partners are communicating and working together effectively to drive RII
- Define an 'end to end system of RII support'
- Establish leadership roles and wider team structures within Local Authority and Social Care domains to support RII activities
- An integrated, cross-sectoral data base for RII knowledge management and reporting
- Engagement with regional skills development programmes and embedding RII training into workforce training programmes
- Long-term, sustainable integrated RII arrangements across the region

Barriers and Enablers

Barriers:

- Issues around restricted resources
- Cultures towards RII activity and inhibitory organisational processes
- The impact of the pandemic on workforce
- The impacts of ineffective process in place to support RII
- Issues surrounding communication and collaboration between individuals and sectors

Enablers:

- Organisational culture change
- Positive impacts gained from improved processes in technology
- Improved streamlining of services and procedures
- More effective collaborative efforts made between individuals working across different organisations
- Adequate funding

Key Research Findings

- Cardiff and Vale region is relatively well placed to contribute towards the goals of Welsh Government's A Healthier Wales Strategy
- The examples within the report highlight the benefits associated with working together – but more effective collaboration is necessary
- There is a strong and diverse clustering across the region with further opportunities for growth and development
- Increased RII activities and collaborated efforts are needed to provide adequate support to social care and mental health services
- There is a rich and diverse regional health and social care RII landscape in the region
- There is an opportunity to ensure RII potential is maximised through greater communication and improved visibility of regional RII assets and activities

To read the full report, please visit our website by [clicking here](#)