



BWRDD PARTNERIAETH
RHANBARTHOL
CAERDYDD A'R FRO
CARDIFF & VALE
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP
BOARD

CARDIFF AND VALE OF GLAMORGAN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Committee room 3, County Hall, Cardiff

25th September 2023

09:00-12:00

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ATTENDANCE

Cllr Eddie Williams (Chair)	Cabinet member, Social Care and Health, Vale of Glamorgan Council
Abigail Harris	Director of Planning and Strategy, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Cath Doman	Director of Health and Social Care Integration, Cardiff and Vale RPB
Charles (Jan) Janczewski	Chair, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Lance Carver	Director of Social Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council
Helen White	Chief Executive, Taff Housing Association
Sarah Scire	Deputy Director of Business Development, Platform
Sheila Hendrickson-Brown	Chief Executive Officer, Cardiff Third Sector Council (C3SC)
Sam Austin	Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Operational Services, Llamau
Sarah McGill	Acting Chief Executive, Cardiff Council
Mike O'Brien	Unpaid Carers Representative for the RPB
Bobbie-Jo Haarhoff	Unpaid Carers Representative for the RPB
Estelle Hitchon	Director of Partnerships and Engagement, Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
Rachel Connor	Chief Executive, Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Suzanne Rankin	Chief Executive, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Andrew Templeton	Chief Executive, YMCA Cardiff Group
Malcolm Perrett	Policy Advisor, Care Forum Wales
Secretariat	
Michael Chapman Rebecca Al-Nashee	CAV RPB Partnership Team, Cardiff and Vale RPB
Meredith Gardiner	Head of Partnerships and Assurance, Cardiff and Vale RPB
Guests	
Deborah Driffield	Director of Children's Services, Cardiff Council
Becci Ingram	General Manager, (CYPFHS) Acute Child Health
Chris Ball	Ageing Well Programme Manager, Cardiff and Vale RPB
Eve Williams	Starting Well Programme Manager, Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board
Rachel Evans	Head of Children & Young People Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council
Stephen Allen	Cardiff and Vale Regional Director, Llais Cymru

APOLOGIES

Fiona Kinghorn	Executive Director of Public Health, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Cllr Lynda Thorne	Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, Cardiff Council
Lynne Aston	Assistant Director of Finance, Head of Finance PCIC Clinical Board, Cardiff and Vale UHB
Cllr Ashley Lister	Cabinet member, Social Services, Children's Services, Cardiff Council
Cllr Norma Mackie	Cabinet member, Social Services, Adults Services, Cardiff Council
Sarah McCarty	Social Care Wales
Melanie Godfrey	Director of Education, Cardiff Council
Paula Ham	Director of Learning and Skills, Vale of Glamorgan Council
Cllr Margaret Wilkinson	Cabinet member for Housing and Building Services

Minute number	Minute	Action
	<p>1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p><u>Declaration of interests</u></p> <p>Cllr Williams welcomed all to the meeting. He noted that this was the first of the new series of three-hour, bi-monthly taking place in-person and offered RPB members the opportunity to feed back on the new arrangements at the next RPB.</p> <p>Cllr Williams noted the apologies, there were no declarations of interest.</p>	
294	<p>2. 2.1 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING ON 25TH APRIL 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No amendments identified and minutes of the last meeting were agreed by RPB. <p>2.2 ACTION LOG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All actions completed. No actions are outstanding. <p><u>Decision</u></p> <p>The RPB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APPROVED the minutes of the last meeting. • APPROVED the Action Log from the last meeting. 	
295	<p>3. TO FORMALLY NOTE AND RATIFY THE DECISIONS MADE OUT OF COMMITTEE FROM THE RPB POSTPONED ON 13.07.23:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Extension of RPB Chair's tenure ii. RPB Joint Area Plan 2023-28 iii. RPB Annual Report 2022-23 iv. Regional Innovation coordination Hub Activity Plan 23/24 v. Rebalancing Care consultation response 	

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	<p>Cllr Williams introduced the item which had been circulated previously as Items 3.1-3.5</p> <p>He explained that the previous RPB meeting was cancelled due to apologies which meant that the meeting was not quorate.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The items for approval were managed by correspondence. - The RPB was asked to formally note the decisions made out of committee <p>Decision</p> <p>The RPB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RATIFIED the decisions made out of committee from the RPB that was postponed on 13.07.23 • All items were confirmed as approved. 	
296	<p>4. CVUHB STRATEGY REFRESH - FOR RPB ENDORSEMENT</p> <p>Abi Harris introduced the item which had been circulated previously as Items 4.1 and 4.2 and launched at the CVUHB's Annual General Meeting in the previous week. The Strategy sets out the key priorities of the UHB together with its forward plan to achieve these key commitments.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cllr Williams observed that working in partnership is fundamental in delivering this Strategy - Sheila Hendrickson-Brown was happy to endorse but felt that further detail was required on how we work across partnerships, and what the expectation is. She also suggested the need to strengthen the focus on diversity within our communities (ref page 40), explaining that we need to present ourselves in the way that we wish to be seen. <p>Decision</p> <p>The RPB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENDORSED the Health Board's long-term strategic plan. <p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider ways to strengthen the focus upon diversity in implementing the Strategy. 	Abi Harris
297	<p>5. DEEP DIVE: RPB STARTING WELL PORTFOLIO</p> <p>i. Presentation (25 minutes)</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan • Progress • Support required <p>ii. Discussion (20 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and assurance: to consider RPB assurance and delivery requirements for Starting Well <p>The following colleagues were welcomed to the RPB:</p> <p>Deborah Driffield, Director of Children’s Services, Cardiff Council</p> <p>Becci Ingram, General Manager for Children, Young People and Family Health Services, CVUHB</p> <p>Rachel Evans, Head of Children & Young People Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>Rachel Evans introduced the item which had been circulated previously as Item 5.1</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demand and risks have increased, whilst capacity has decreased. - The number of children and young people with higher complexity needs has increased, as well as the number of children being looked after within the service. The All-Wales Head of Service Group are undertaking work to understand the nature of that complexity. - Neurodiversity is a particular area of concern due to high numbers of children and young people presenting with mental health issues who have undiagnosed neurodivergence. - Children and young people are being housed in high-cost placements, with some outside of registration. - There is concern that by removing profit out of the care sector (Welsh Government policy), providers are leaving the market and therefore increasing its fragility. - The housing crisis is having a significant impact and caused restrictions on availability. - Local Authorities are working together to challenge Care Inspectorate Wales’ approach, which doesn’t support children and young people being placed in un-registered accommodation. - Placements can cost up to £25,000 per week - Partnership arrangements need to be developed due to unsustainability in terms of the financial model. - Despite these challenges there are areas of good work to celebrate including Goleudy/Lighthouse and the Hangout. 	

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	<p>- There is a wish to broaden the scope of the emPOWER programme and look at all cross-cutting challenges so that this can be viewed as a partnership.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abi Harris felt that it was helpful to see the work coming together and queried whether it was the right time to expand the focus of emPOWER given the severity of the challenges it already faces. - Deborah Driffield responded to say that the neurodivergence aspect is key to the programme as two thirds of children who present in psychological distress have un-diagnosed neurodivergence. She felt that mental health and neurodivergence services for children must come together, as children are currently being misdiagnosed as having mental health issues. She also noted that psychologists within the programme estimate 65-78% of patients are neurodivergent. - Abi noted that there are also higher numbers of adults coming through for assessments due to increased public knowledge on neurodivergence. - Deborah Driffield expressed an intention to upskill the workforce to allow them to more accurately identify neurodivergence in young people. - Rachel Evans explained that the team will need enhanced understanding of the links between mental health and neurodivergence, they will then be able to align their understanding. - Sam Austin noted that every RPB should have a sub-group in order for the RPB to be there to support this important work and reflecting the national expectation. - Charles (Jan) Janczewski said that a governance mechanism was needed that would allow the partnership to support the programme. He felt that there was a lack of assurance coming through and asked for the team's recommendation on how best to achieve this given the scale and scope of the challenges. - Rachel Evans provided assurance to the RPB that the alignment of Neurodivergence and Mental Health services would not dilute the services already on offer to support Emotional Health and Wellbeing but rather, enhance them. - Stephen Allen asked how the team engages with communities to show them what they are doing, and whether Llais Cymru could assist with this part of the process. - Rachel Evans responded to say that areas are targeted where the service is needed, rather than a wholesale approach. - Stephen asked whether people in the communities knew how to access the service. - Becci Ingram informed the RPB of a location called The Hangout, which was shaped by young people and what they wanted and also involved a Young People Board. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deborah Driffield said that more participation with parents was required. - Estelle Hitchon explained that the Welsh Ambulance Service often has no choice but to take young people to hospital as in-patients when they are presenting in a crisis situation, due to a lack of training and set processes for this area. She asked for a further conversation to happen outside of the meeting to discuss upskilling the workforce, even if just to de-escalate. She also felt that the adult's services were not as holistic as the approach within children and young people's services, which could be detrimental to young people. - Deborah Driffield mentioned a workstream that focused around transition pathways but that this was a work in progress in its early stages. - Helen White advised the team not to hold back in future Annual Reports, as the data shared in the meeting seemed to convey a more severe situation than previously reported. She was concerned that assurances seemed to support a 'running faster whilst standing still' approach, when what is required is for the chain to be broken and then improved. Helen added that the Third Sector have a desire to be more proactive and involved in the work. - Bobbie-Jo Haarhoff felt uncomfortable about the amount and cost of un-registered accommodations being used, such as Air B&B's. She thought that there was something to look at in terms of foster carer role take-up and that the team needed to look at expected outcomes with the RPB's support or risk it being too 'loose'. Bobbie-Jo felt that the team needed to be more upfront in order to make the service work best for children and young people. She also noted that there wasn't enough about families, which may not mean parents, and that they needed to make better use of kinship care. She then added that there was an event next week that was supporting adults dealing with trauma from being fostered or adopted later down the line. - Sheila Hendrickson-Brown said that it would be interesting to have a clear line of sight of the work and to know how the Third Sector can support the goals of the team. - Charles Janczewski was happy to approve as long as clarity would be provided on the widening of the programme to include Neurodivergence and asked that a mechanism be created to update the RPB on the support provided. <p><u>Decision</u> The RPB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congratulated the team on progress made • APPROVED the proposal to expand the existing emPOWER forum to include issues relating to Neurodiversity and asked for a more detailed proposal to be prepared. 	

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	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a proposal to broaden the scope of the programme and associated governance to include neurodiversity, to be considered by the Strategic Leadership Group. • To ensure that new governance arrangements provide the RPB with full assurance on progress and impact of the programme. • To initiate conversations with WAST, the housing sector and the wider Third Sector to consider how they could support the challenges outlined within the presentation. 	Deborah Driffield, Becci Ingram, Rachel Evans
298	<p>6. UNPAID CARERS ASSEMBLY</p> <p>Mike O’Brien and Bobbie-Jo Haarhoff introduced the item which had been circulated previously as Items 6.1 and 6.2</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The intention is to develop a regional Unpaid Carers’ Assembly, led by and for unpaid carers. - Funding has been secured for a venue to hold the first Unpaid Carers Assembly, which will happen during Carers Rights Week on 20th November 2023 in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff. - Attendance by the Deputy Minister for Social Services, Julie Morgan MS, has been secured. - A logo and registration page have been created and an agenda has been drafted for the day. <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bobbie-Jo Haarhoff explained that the goal was to normalise the conversation between stakeholders, unpaid carers and the general public. She said that they wanted to build an extensive network for people to break down the interface for those conversations. She mentioned that Duncan Innes (C3SC) had been assisting with administering the current funding and that they were hoping to secure sufficient funding in order to hold the Regional Unpaid Carers Assembly annually for five years, starting in 2023. Bobbie-Jo thanked the RPB for their support. - Cllr Williams felt that the work was very good. - Charles Janczewski said that he was looking forward to the event. - Estelle Hitchon noted that the amount of work that had gone into this should not be underestimated and commended the team. - Helen White assured Mike and Bobbie-Jo that she would share the event information with her networks. 	

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	<p>- Sheila Hendrickson-Brown offered the continued support of Duncan Innes in taking forward the event.</p> <p>Decision The RPB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTED and supported plans for the Unpaid Carers Assembly. 	
299	<p>7. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY – ORGANISATIONAL POSITIONS AND IMPACT ON PARTNERS AND RPB PRIORITIES</p> <p>The Chair introduced the item, acknowledging the extremely challenging financial environment faced by all partners currently, and encouraged observations from all colleagues on ways in which support might be given. Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jan observed said that there are substantial financial difficulties ahead for the UHB, but that a credible plan was in place. The focus was looking at everything they could to reduce expenditure without affecting services. - Sarah McGill reminded the RPB that conversations twelve months ago were around recovery to a pre-pandemic state, but that this is a vastly different situation in terms of complexity. She said that there has been an increase in demand and deficit, as well as the likelihood of a receiving a challenging settlement for the new financial year. In this context she urged partners to continue the focus upon prevention as a key part of the drive to manage these challenges. - Lance Carver raised similar concerns noting that the RPB provided an opportunity to look at the causes of underlying whole system problems with a view to resolving them collectively. - Jan agreed, stating that it was more important for the RPB to work together than ever before and to understand the complexities and benefits of working as a partnership. - Sam Austin explained that the Third Sector were struggling with employment and keeping their workforce due to the lowest paid colleagues being able to earn a higher income in statutory jobs. She told the RPB that they received great funding from Cardiff and Vale Local Authorities, but that they struggled to recruit due to low salaries. Sam noted that they had seen two children’s charities fail recently and warned that if Third Sector organisations fail, statutory organisations will see a further increase in system pressures. - Rachel Connor echoed Sam’s message, warning that the fall of charities will mean that significant services will disappear from the region. She felt that this was further undermined by the RPB’s failure to meet the 20% of funds designated to the Third Sector. She explained that the number of people requiring the support of foodbanks had increased by a third over the summer and was set to rise again over the winter period, adding that there was a need 	

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	<p>to discuss management of support and care for Third Sector organisations as an RPB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sheila Hendrickson-Brown agreed that the current challenges were testing the resilience of the Third Sector more than ever, but also underlined its importance due to the preventative solutions it provides such as food banks and warm spaces. She suggested that there should be a time out to consider things that could change, and to ensure that the designated 20% is provided to the Third Sector. - Andrew Templeton urged colleagues to consider their long-term relationships with partners beyond the current situation, but was glad to be engaged in the process and conversations over the next five years. - Sarah McGill emphasised the need for preventative work to be done and a whole-system approach to be identified, stating that if the RPB only look at how to balance the budget now, they would suffer in the long-run. - Sheila reiterated that the Third Sector need to always be involved. - Sarah felt that the RPB needed to look at the situation in terms of what they should do, rather than how much funding will be provided. - Helen White spoke of an increase in claims due to climate change, stating that her team would have spent money on preventative delivery services if not for the current situation. She indicated that there needs to be recognition of impact and that funding should be looked at as 'where it needs to go, rather than where it has to go'. - Malcolm Perrett described the current care situation, explaining that Cardiff domiciliary care had improved dramatically and endorsed the successes of the Vale's 'Your Choice' programme. He also noted that Cardiff's residential care was in a better position than most across Wales. Malcolm went on to say that providers were facing increasing costs (real living wage, registration and training costs) however Local Authorities are not meeting the real cost of care. - Cllr Williams responded to say that issues with pay and training are recognised by the RPB and pushed up to Welsh Government. He also conveyed that we must make a commitment to recognise that we need to work as a partnership as we are more efficient as one system, he felt that this and focusing on prevention would be key over the next six months. - Abi Harris reminded colleagues of the recent King's Fund reports. She suggested that taking this conversation forward in an upcoming working planned for October would be a good place for this conversation to continue outside of the RPB. She felt that a lot was being done on preventative work, but agreed the need to sharpen our focus on prioritising the right things to be doing together. - Sarah agreed that further conversation would be helpful and that the RPB needed to be directing efforts for the most impact, but warned that unintended consequences could affect the Third Sector. 	

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	<p><u>Decision</u> The RPB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APPROVED the approach decided in the meeting. <p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the conversation at the forthcoming Kings Fund workshop in October. 	<p>Sarah McGill, Lance Carver, Sam Austin, Sheila Hendrickson- Brown, Rachel Connor</p>
300	<p>8. CITIZEN VOICE BODY: LLAIS</p> <p>Stephen Allen introduced the item, which was a presentation that had been circulated previously as Item 8.</p> <p><u>Key points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Llais is the newly established Citizen Voice Body. - A new Board has been appointed. - Llais are based all across Wales and their regional areas match the footprint of the RPB. - Llais used to be member-led but is now officer led. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stephen emphasised a strong desire by Llais Cymru to get out into communities and find out what is important to them, he felt that this was key and was also keen to attend the Unpaid Carers Assembly. Stephen wanted to co-produce work with the RPB that would add value and amplify seldom-heard voices. He communicated that Llais was a local and independent voice that would not always provide the RPB with what they wanted to hear, but what real people in communities have shared. He also explained that Llais could work with Local Authorities on how service changed is managed. - Malcolm Perrett said that consistency needs to be ensured regarding Llais' team of volunteers and that an expectation needs to be set to ensure that care homes can provide what is requested. He also felt it was important for the voice of the resident to be heard. 	

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	<p>- Sam Austin expressed that she would be keen for some pilot visits to be done locally in order to ensure that members are properly trained and not duplicating, she felt that this could bring an additional view to the RPB.</p> <p>Decision The RPB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTED the Llais presentation. 	
301	<p>9. ITEMS FOR NOTING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Vale Pan Cluster Planning Group minutes ii. Cardiff Integrated Delivery Partnership minutes iii. Regional Commissioning Board minutes iv. PSB minutes – Cardiff v. PSB minutes – Vale <p>Decision The RPB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTED the items. 	
302	<p>10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Abi Harris requested for the winter plan to be brought to the next RPB as an assurance item. ii. ACTION: RPB secretariat to ensure that winter plan arrangements are included on the agenda for the November 2023 meeting. 	
	Meeting close	Chair

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates of future RPB formal meetings:

27.11.23 09:00-12:00

Committee Room 3, County Hall, Cardiff Council