



Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board

1st April 2022

Minutes

In attendance:		
Name	Title	Organisation
Cllr Neil Moore (NM)	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Mark Brace (MB)	Assistant Commissioner	South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
Emil Evans (EE)	Vice Principal	Cardiff and Vale College
Fiona Kinghorn (FK)	Executive Director of Public Health	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Chris Hadfield (CH)	Group Manager	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Judith Cole (JC)	Deputy Director Local Government Finance and Workforce Partnerships Division	Welsh Government
Eirian Evans (EE)	Head of South Wales One	National Probation Service
Mike Evans (ME)	Head of Operations for South Central	Natural Resources Wales
Tim Morgan (TM)	Superintendent	South Wales Police
Marie Davies (MD)	Deputy Director of Strategy & Planning	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Cllr Mike Cuddy (MC)	Nominated Town and Community Council Representative	Penarth Town Council
Also in Attendance:		
Tom Bowring (TB)	Head of Policy and Business Transformation	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Helen Moses (HM)	Strategy and Partnership Manager	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Lloyd Fisher (LF)	Senior Data and Policy Officer	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Mike Ingram (MI)	Head of Housing and Building Services	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Tom Dodsworth (TD)	Regional Resettlement Co-ordinator	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Tom Porter (TP)	Consultant in Public Health Medicine	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Apologies:		
Huw Jakeway (HJ)	Chief Fire Officer	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Rob Thomas (RT)	Managing Director	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Paula Ham (PH)	Director of Learning and Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Wendy Gurney	Superintendent	South Wales Police
Rachel Connor (RC)	Executive Director	Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Charles Janczewski (CJ)	UHB Chair	Cardiff and Vale UHB

Abigail Harris (AH)	Executive Director of Strategy and Planning	Cardiff and Vale UHB
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Agenda Items	Actions
<p>1. Welcome and introductions</p> <p>NM welcomed everyone to the meeting of the PSB.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>See above.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the Public Service Board 3rd December 2021</p> <p>The minutes were agreed to be an accurate and true reflection of the meeting.</p>	
<p>4. Ukraine</p> <p>NM introduced MI, Head of Housing and Building Services for the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Senior Reporting Officer for the response to the refugee crisis arising from the War in Ukraine. NM also introduced TD, Regional Resettlement Co-ordinator for Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Councils who has taken the lead on the resettlement of Syrian and Afghan refugees. It was explained that the Local Authority has been working at speed to assist with the response, with more details becoming available on a daily basis. The UK Government has created two pathways to the UK for Ukrainian nationals. The first is Family and Extended Family visa scheme which allows for family members of British nationals, UK settled persons and certain others to come to, or stay in the UK. The second is the Homes for Ukraine scheme which was launched on 14th March. This enables those fleeing Ukraine who do not have familial ties to the UK to be sponsored by individuals or by the Welsh Government. Sponsors will accommodate refugees within their own homes for up to six months, visas are issued based on the guarantee of accommodation for at least six months. The scheme is split into two phases, Phase One is open to named individuals known to sponsors, Phase Two is open to unmatched cases, utilising a third sector matching process.</p> <p>It is expected that upwards of 200,000 refugees are projected to arrive in the UK through the sponsorship scheme. The Welsh Government expect to have a proportionate share of 5% of this number, equivalent to 10,000 individuals. The Welsh Government has also established a 'super sponsor' scheme, which is funded by the Welsh Government. The super sponsor scheme aims to accommodate 1,000 people for up to three months in 'welcome centres' located across Wales, with the intention to move residents to either permanent accommodation or host/sponsor accommodation within six months.</p> <p>Local Authorities have a number of responsibilities arising from Homes for Ukraine scheme; these include: Property checks, DBS checks for sponsors, safeguarding, wrap-around support, education, a £350 thank you payment to sponsors (per household), a £200 cash payment to refugees (per person) and to support access to Job Centres and registering for Universal Credit. In addition to these direct responsibilities, there are also</p>	

responsibilities to establish arrival hubs at particular ports of entry across Wales to support any short-term arrival needs, this includes basic meet and greet arrangements to immediate humanitarian assistance including health support and small emergency cash support. From these arrival hubs there is a responsibility to facilitate onward travel to Welcome Centres and private sponsors.

The existence of the two differing schemes is creating the risk of a two-tier system. Currently under the family scheme there is no funding support, with no funding available to individuals or to Local Authorities. In comparison, through the Homes for Ukraine scheme there is an allocation of £350 per month for each sponsor household and an allocation of £10,500 to Local Authorities per person to enable support and an allocation of £3,000 to support the education of early years, £6,500 for primary and £8,755 for secondary children. This allocation to Local Authorities; however, does not include provision for any costs incurred by health services arising from the arrival of refugees.

To ensure preparations are in place to welcome refugees, a regional delivery plan has been developed. This will ensure that there is a team of dedicated refugee support workers in each Local Authority area with these officers providing immediate support to hosts and wrap-around support to refugees, undertaking pre-arrival and post arrival checks with each worker having an initial caseload of 10 families who they will aid with issues such as access benefits, bank accounts and employment. A contact centre to support the schemes is being established by Cardiff Council for all Wales and will be operating from 8am-8pm from next week.

TD explained that a number of service pressures are expected for PSB colleagues. For the health service, pressures may include initial assessments and the screening of complex health needs including trauma related mental health provision. For Social Services, pressures include the undertaking of DBS checks and safeguarding and welfare procedures. For the Police and Fire Services, pressures include assurance regarding the safety and security of refugees, particularly at Welcome centres. MI stated that these pressures are coming at a time when housing services are still managing the impacts of increased pressures on homelessness teams arising from the pandemic with over 200 people still in temporary accommodation in the Vale of Glamorgan. Discussions are ongoing with Welsh Government regarding opportunities to increase housing options available, including the use of short-term modular housing and longer-term option in the private sector. This would enable services to meet any requirements should there be any relationship breakdown and the housing of refugees becomes the responsibility of the Local Authority.

MI explained that it has been suggested that Senior Reporting Officer meetings between Local Authorities and Welsh Government be extended to include health colleagues in order to discuss discrepancies in resources available to the health service. FK suggested that these invitations be extended to health board chief executives. It was explained that senior health professionals are meeting with Welsh Government twice weekly, with plans in place similar to those for the Afghan settlement scheme. Ukraine has higher numbers for TB, HIV and microbial resistance than in the UK and as such guidance has been issued to health boards and primary care. There is encouragement for host families to register with local GPs, particularly to address any mental health illness such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder which doesn't necessarily appear until after 6 months.

<p>TM noted that there are no current concerns regarding protests on the arrival of refugees in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. TM reassured partners that processes are well established to ensure the safeguarding of refugees, prevention of modern-day slavery and human trafficking with very good procedures in place.</p> <p>MI stated that there is currently an issue with regards to the co-ordination of offers of assistance, it is hoped that work can be undertaken with third sector colleagues in order to review local offers. There are particular needs for Russian or Ukrainian speakers locally. MC noted that Town and Community Councils may also provide a means of co-ordination for support locally.</p> <p>The presentation that accompanied this item to be circulated to members of the board.</p>	<p>HM</p>
<p>5. Covid-19 Update</p> <p>FK explained that a new strategy has been developed to take forward the response to COVID-19 in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan called 'Together for a Safer Future'. It was noted that rates of infection remain higher in the Vale of Glamorgan than in other areas across Wales, with rates highest in adult age groups. This has translated into health care settings to a small degree; however, the majority of these cases are incidental with patients attending health care settings for different issues.</p> <p>Regulatory changes, changing behaviour and the emergence of the more contagious variant has resulted in an increase in cases. Emphasis is now moving towards protection of those in more vulnerable settings. National track, trace and protect procedures are now moving to a sentinel surveillance system which will be focused on the identification of any new variants which may cause harm.</p> <p>The continued vaccination programme is going well with the spring booster scheme being rolled out through care homes, then to the 75+ age groups and those who are immunosuppressed. This will be followed by boosters for at risk under 5s and 5-11-year olds who are not at risk. An Autumn booster is planned for over 50s and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>NM enquired whether plans are still in place to close the Bayside Mass Vaccination Centre and whether PCR test centres will remain open. FK explained that local PCR test centres were commissioned by the Department for Health and Social Care. It is now UK government policy that these test centres will be closed. Testing will be preserved locally for those who are particularly at high risk. Those who are eligible over time will be able to access testing through home testing.</p>	

<p>6. Healthy Travel Charter Update</p> <p>TP provided an update to the Board on the PSB Healthy Travel Charter which was signed by all PSB partners in October 2019. The charter was established with a holistic view of the transport system and to encourage the uptake of more sustainable and healthy travel across partner organisations. There has been good progress in the implementation of the charter commitments, although implementation has been impacted by the pandemic.</p> <p>The deadline for the implementation of the charter’s commitments and steps to meet the commitments is October 2022. TP advised it would be useful to have a re-commitment from the Board to meeting this deadline, reiterating the importance of addressing issues around travel and links to health and climate change as supported by an increasing evidence base.</p> <p>A second charter has been developed which sets out a series of more challenging commitments and once initial charter commitments have been met, it would be good for the PSB partners organisations to consider and sign-up to the second charter.</p> <p>ME stated support for the need to tackle the climate change through this forum, NRW consider themselves to be an exemplar in their approach but there is a need for improved communications around these issues, particularly the benefits to mental and physical well-being. There is currently an ongoing project in NRW to revamping work around the commitments into how we address these challenges. TP noted NRW’s role in championing the charter commitments and that work to refresh the charter’s communications toolkit is underway which will give partners further evidence to share the benefits of active travel with colleagues.</p> <p>NM stated that coordination on sign-up to the second level of charter would be arranged and included on a future PSB agendas and a copy of the new charter to be circulated to the board.</p>	<p>HM/TP</p>
<p>7. Approving the Well-being Assessment</p> <p>HM asked the PSB to formally approve the Well-being Assessment which was circulated to partners in March with the feedback received from the Welsh Government and the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner. Amendments had been made to the Assessment in-line with this feedback and feedback received from partners. FK noted thanks to the Council’s Strategy and Partnership team for their work in developing the Well-being Assessment which highlights the key issues that will need to be reflected in the Well-being Plan. ME noted appreciation for the joint approach taken to the development of the Well-being Plan which meant that partners were included throughout its development.</p> <p>The Well-being Assessment was approved by the PSB and will be published on the PSB website.</p>	<p>HM</p>
<p>8. Well-being plan discussion</p> <p>TB introduced a presentation on the development of the Well-being Plan. It was explained that the Plan must reflect the learning gathered through the Well-being Assessment, particularly addressing the key themes that have been identified in the Assessment. HM explained that the Welsh Government guidance for the production of Well-being Plans has not changed, with the Plan to set out how the board intends to improve the economic,</p>	

social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area by setting local objectives which will maximise the contribution made by the board to achieving the well-being goals in its area and the steps it proposes to take to meet them. Steps to meet objectives can be taken individually by statutory members or can be taken collectively as the PSB (or in different combinations of organisations) for example the work that has been take forward through the PSB Climate Charter. The PSB must seek the advice of the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales on how to take steps to meet the set objectives in a manner that is consistent with the Sustainable Development principles. The PSB must also work with Town and Community Councils which meet the criteria set out in the Act and who will be required to meet the objectives set out in the Plan.

In addition to the guidance there are a number of expectations which must be met through the Plan, these include: future trends work, to actively involve the public, to be embedded in the five ways of working and to explore links and connections to other plans.

TB explained that work is currently underway with the Cardiff PSB and the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board to consider alignment between the plans being developed by the three Boards. The outcomes of this work will be reported to the PSB in due course. In addition to this work, discussions are on-going with colleagues from NRW to facilitate a futures workshop that will feed into the development of the Plan, the suggested focus of this workshop will be on the cost-of-living crisis.

HM set out the provisional timetable for the Plan. It was explained that the development of the draft objectives would take place in May and June ahead of sign-off of the Objectives for submission to the Office of Future Generations Commissioner (FGC) in June to enable 14 weeks of consultation to be undertaken with the FGC.

Between June and September work will be undertaken to gather information from partners, undertake engagement, the futures workshop and drafting of the Plan. In September the PSB will meet to consider feedback from the Commissioner and the initial draft plan for consultation. Statutory 12-week consultation on the Plan will be undertaken between November and January 2023. The sign-off of the final Plan will be required at the meetings of statutory partners planned for March – May 2023.

HM introduced three initial draft Objectives which include: A More Resilient and Green Vale, A More Equal and Connected Vale and A More Healthy and Active Vale. These have been proposed as they provide linkages to the national well-being goals for Wales and reflect a number of the key existing workstreams being taken forward by the PSB and the key themes of work that have been highlighted by the Well-being Assessment. These Objectives will also enable PSB workstreams to deliver against multiple objectives rather than a linear delivery.

FK thanked TB and HM for their articulation of the challenge of developing the PSB's Well-being Plan and welcomed joint work by the PSB, Cardiff PSB and Cardiff and Vale RPB to review joint opportunities. Joint work through the pandemic has shown the strength of this joint approach across partnerships. FK noted agreement with the proposed approach to the development of the Plan, with the proposed objectives enabling the continuation of work to progress existing PSB priorities and opportunities for new collective actions and programmes of work. MC noted support for the continuation of work from the current Plan into the new plan but raised concerns regarding community understanding of this work. MC also noted concerns with the cost of living being the focus for the futures

<p>workshop as this is an immediate issue. TB explained that the cost of living theme will enable the PSB to explore a number of issues raised through the Well-being Assessment, in particular the inequalities in the Vale of Glamorgan and the Climate Emergency. TB noted that it will be a communication challenge to explain the transition from the current to the new Plan, but that there were opportunities to be slightly more creative in talking about the work of the PSB with the public. ME welcomed discussions and noted that the proposed objectives will enable the climate emergency to be a cross cutting theme.</p>	
<p>9. Development of the PSB Annual Report</p> <p>HM explained that the PSB must produce an Annual Report by July. A similar approach will be taken to the development of this Annual Report to previous reports with a focus on number of key PSB projects, with the team currently gathering updates from partners. The approach will be to provide as much detail on these projects as possible while also producing a succinct and attractive report.</p>	
<p>10. Forward Work Programme</p> <p>TB gave an overview of the forward work programme and welcomed any suggestions from partners for future agenda items and asked partners to contact TB or HM.</p>	<p>HM</p>
<p>11. Any Other Business</p> <p>NM explained to the PSB that this would be his last meeting as chair as he will be standing down at the Local Government elections on the 5th May.</p> <p>NM stated that it had been a pleasure to working with partners and that a phenomenal amount of work had been progressed through the PSB which can only be done in partnership. NM noted his thanks to all partners, to MB who acted as chair when work to address the pandemic meant that NM could not chair meetings. NM also thanked the Strategy and Partnership team for their work to support the PSB.</p> <p>FK thanked NM on behalf of the health board and PSB partners for his leadership and guidance not only through the PSB but also through the pandemic.</p>	
<p>12. Date of next meeting – 8th July 2022, via Microsoft Teams</p>	