



Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board

23rd September 2022

Minutes

In attendance:		
Name	Title	Organisation
Cllr Lis Burnett (LB)	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Chris Hadfield (CH)	Group Manager	South Wales Fire and Rescue
Mike Evans (ME)	Head of Operations for South Central	Natural Resources Wales
Abigail Harris (AH)	Executive Director of Strategy and Planning	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Suzanne Rankin (SR)	Chief Executive	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Emil Evans (EE - CAVC)	Vice Principal	Cardiff and Vale College
Judith Cole (JC)	Deputy Director Local Government Finance and Workforce Partnerships Division	Welsh Government
Eirian Evans (EE - NPS)	Head of South Wales One	National Probation Service
Tim Morgan (TM)	Superintendent	South Wales Police
Rachel Connor (RC)	Executive Director	Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Mark Brace (MB)	Assistant Commissioner	South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
Estelle Hitchon (EH)	Director of Partnerships and Engagement	Welsh Ambulance Service Trust
Also in Attendance:		
Tom Bowring (TB)	Director of Corporate Resources	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Helen Moses (HM)	Strategy and Partnership Manager	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Joanna Beynon (JB)	Policy Officer	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Andreas Pieris-Plumley (APP)	Strategy and Partnership Intern	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
Fiona Kinghorn (FK)	Executive Director of Public Health	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Charles Janczewski (CJ)	UHB Chair	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Cllr Shirley Hodges (SH)	Nominated Town and Community Council Representative	Barry Town Council

Agenda Items	Actions
<p>1. Welcome and introductions</p> <p>LB welcomed everyone to the meeting of the PSB.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>See above.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the Public Services Board 8th July 2022</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be an accurate and true reflection of the meeting.</p> <p>HM provided an update against the actions from the previous meeting noting the Terms of Reference have been revised and as agreed in the previous meeting a representative from the Welsh Ambulance Service Trust will now attend PSB meetings going forward. The Annual Report has been published on the PSB's website in English with the Welsh due to go live imminently.</p>	
<p>4. Covid-19 Update (additional item)</p> <p>TP started by providing an update on the current position of COVID-19 informing partners that the majority of COVID indicators that are regularly monitored seem low and stable, BA5 remains the dominant variant. TP provided an overview of the most recent trend data on incidences and mortality in the region noting in 2022 data has not shown there to be any significant excess deaths in the region and that there is likely to be an increase in hospitalisation with flu and or COVID over coming months with an increase in socialising indoors.</p> <p>TP updated partners on the current autumn booster programme that will help to limit serious impacts over the winter.</p> <p>EE-CAVC queried if there was expected to be an increase in infections with the schools returning. TP informed partners that it was too soon to tell if there had been any impact.</p> <p>AH highlighted that at present there are 6 wards with COVID patients. AH reinforced the importance of partners encouraging staff and communities to take up the offer of the booster to be as protected as possible.</p> <p>LB raised concerns members of the public have shared over ONS study data. TP noted that whilst ONS data had previously been reported at local authority level, this data is now being provided at a Wales level on a weekly basis, potentially due to the smaller sample sizes available.</p>	

<p>TP noted that Welsh Government advice is to still test and self isolate if possible however this is no longer a legal requirement.</p>	
<p>5. Travel Charter</p> <p>TP provided an update on the progress of the Travel Charter against the implementation deadline of the end of October 2022 asking partners to submit status updates on when they are likely to have met the commitments in the Charter. At present there is likely to be a mixed response across partners meeting the commitments, in part due to the reprioritisation required during the pandemic. The pandemic has also made it difficult to analyse the impact the Charter may have had with COVID-19 and related restrictions causing people to alter their behaviours.</p> <p>A level 2 will be launched shortly providing partners the opportunity to maintain the current Charter level or continue to progress and work towards the next level.</p> <p>TP noted that there are opportunities for partners to work on sustainable travel outside of the Charter including the possibility of allowing partners to work from other organisations offices that may be closer to home, sharing electric vehicle infrastructures etc. and would encourage partners to have these wider discussions.</p> <p>HM informed partners that the PSB’s Asset Management and Climate Change Group continue to meet on a regular basis and have been discussing topics linked to electric charging points in the Vale. HM also highlighted that the wider transport agenda was a topic that ran across all discussion groups at the recent PSB Well-being Plan development workshop.</p> <p>SR was supportive of TP’s agile working suggestion and is keen to explore this in more detail considering the range of estates the Health Board has.</p> <p>ME expressed support for this agenda of work and noted that NRW will be signing up to level 2 stressing the importance of partners being ambitious.</p> <p>TM echoed support for this work and highlighted the need to recognise the disproportionality from a social aspect and noting that for some workers public transport is not a viable option for issues wider than costs e.g. workers who work shifts in the early hours of the morning.</p> <p>EH informed partners of the work to decarbonise their fleet noting at the moment there is not a viable ambulance alternative and welcomed the opportunity to work with emergency services going forward on electric charging networks.</p> <p>JC updated partners on the position of Welsh Government who remain committed to the target and are working with colleagues in health and local government to explore opportunities to purchase electric vehicles en masse to overcome issues with long individual waiting lists.</p> <p>TP agreed that social justice is very important and that electric vehicles are just a small part of the solution.</p>	

<p>LB informed partners of opportunities arising in the rural Vale to overcome active travel infrastructure limitations such as car clubs. LB also noted changes to the Civic Office car park to create electric charging points for the e fleet.</p> <p>TP's report recommended the PSB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support their officers in implementing any final commitments, by 'unblocking' any issues or barriers which arise, before the end of October; and collecting evaluation measures • Consider their organisations' ongoing level of commitment to sustainable travel, based on the options presented • Support wider discussions on potential areas for specific collaboration as outlined above <p>The recommendations within TP's report outlined above were agreed by all those present.</p>	
<p>6. Development of the new Well-being Plan</p> <p>HM provided an update on the progress that has been made to develop the draft Well-being Plan ahead of the meeting on the 17th October for partners to sign off the draft Plan for consultation. The draft has been informed by the Well-being Assessment, engagement with stakeholders including young people over the summer, findings from the 3 Horizons workshop and the recent PSB stakeholder workshop, along with feedback from Welsh Government and the Future Generations Commissioner's Office. As part of the consultation the Vision for 2050 which has been captured in a shorter vision statement for the 2023-28 Plan will also be consulted on.</p> <p>The new draft Plan will also allow the PSB to have some much needed flexibility to adapt to emerging issues whilst still showing key areas of focus for the next 5 years. The draft Plan is structured with 3 Objectives linked to the National Well-being Goals, 3 priority workstreams and 18 steps that collectively outline the work the PSB will carry out to deliver the Objectives.</p> <p>HM will make contact with partner leads to capture feedback on the draft Plan prior to circulation for the meeting on the 17th October.</p> <p>ME informed partners that NRW will be sending out a letter to all PSBs outlining the themes from the SONNAR report to assist with the drafting of Objectives and Steps.</p> <p>AH was supportive of the PSB Plan including high level details on what partners will focus on over the next 5 years recognising that making a difference to those most in need won't be a one size fits all approach and these people are often those who struggle the most to access services. The Health Board's Strategic Plan is also currently being updated and work will take place to align this with the Area Plan and the Well-being Plan. AH would like to bring this to a future PSB meeting.</p>	<p>AH & HM</p>
<p>7. Cost of Living Crisis Discussion</p> <p>LB led a discussion on the affects and challenges partners were seeing as a result of the cost of living crisis to discuss what partners can do to support our communities. LB informed partners that the Council is currently developing its next Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) which will likely be shaped heavily by the crisis whilst still reflecting the wide range</p>	

of work across the organisation alongside plans to offer warm spaces under the banner of a “Warm Welcome”.

AH highlighted that discussions are ongoing within the Health Board on this agenda. The Health Board has a large volume of lower paid staff and work is taking place to ensure that advice is provided to these members. The Health Board are also working to make sure the building stock can provide a warm space for the public. AH is also aware that care provision will be significantly impacted by the cost of living crisis with GPs and smaller care homes likely to struggle with increased costs.

SR noted that the crisis will have a significant impact on health and well-being with detailed evidence showing links between increased respiratory issues and cold homes and not eating well. This is likely to drive a high level of demand across the service which is already operating at 110% capacity.

LB voiced that it is key that the warm spaces add value to those who use them, that they are not simply a warm space to sit, noting the successful summer of fun initiative that ran this year as an example of this. LB raised concerns over the impact this crisis will have on mental health and hopes the Welsh Government warm spaces funding would be flexible.

SR suggested partner organisations could agree data sets for partners to capture and share with one another. For example, the Health Board are exploring the frequency of people experiencing homelessness accessing services, agreeing a combined data set could provide a more complete picture.

EH echoed that work is ongoing to support staff members through the crisis exploring what can be done with the charitable funds to offer additional support. Work is also taking place to assess the impacts the crisis may have on service demand. The majority of corporate staff have remained working from home however this may change over the winter. The workforce may be impacted as a result of these pressures which may impact capacity and retainment of lower paid staff.

EE-NPS noted the crisis may cause an increase in crime. The service is already seeing an increase in theft and shop lifting.

TB updated partners on work to develop a warm spaces and the “Warm Welcome” campaign across the Vale that the Council are hoping to run with GVS. Work is taking place to explore what support can be offered to extend existing services to promote them to different areas of our communities for longer periods of time supporting people during the day and outside of working hours. TB will share the initial ideas with partners to help identify what can be done together. TB also informed partners that as an organisation the financial impact of inflation will show a gap in the revenue budget of approx. 10% which is a significant concern at a time when capacity and demand pressures are increasing.

TM shared concerns over the impact the crisis will have on lowest paid policing staff noting the organisation is finding it more difficult to recruit impacting possible challenges with retainment. Despite the likely increase in crime there has not been a significant change in inquisitive crime at present with figures decreasing over the last few years, this will continue to be monitored. Concerns have been voiced over child practice referrals and it is expected there will be an increase in the amount of public protection work.

TB

<p>EE -CVC highlighted many of the same concerns. Work is being carried out to keep the buildings, libraries and free gym open for longer and a free shuttle bus is being provided for staff and pupils between sites. The number of students staying in buildings later than usual is starting to increase.</p> <p>LB reflected on how partners had work together during COVID to ensure consistent messaging, ensuring messaging is clear on what support is available and is easily accessible at the front end of communications is key once again.</p>	
<p>8. Winter Pressures Discussion</p> <p>TB introduced the topic by informing partners that there have been productive conversations with colleagues on issues related to winter planning and was keen to highlight how valuable these discussions are.</p> <p>AH presented an overview of the Health Board’s winter planning for this year including the timeframe, factors impacting the service and operational priorities. Whilst there is no requirement from Welsh Government for Regional Partnership Boards to have an annual winter plan, a winter plan has been developed for the Health Board over recent months through engagement with staff and stakeholders. The plan considers factors that may affect services this winter including the cost of living crisis, COVID waves, staff morale, and flu.</p> <p>AH highlighted possible challenges such as increased demand, operating at 110% capacity, issues with recruitment in social care and domiciliary care staff, staff morale and pressure, the possibility of industrial action, and discharging those who are medically fit to the next phase of care or back home.</p> <p>At present there is a shortfall of £2.5 million against the plan and mitigating actions. Welsh Government have made it clear there is no winter funding available this year therefore there is an important discussion to be had with the board on the best cause of actions over the winter.</p> <p>The slides shared during the meeting with be circulated to partners.</p>	<p>AH & HM</p>
<p>9. Forward Work Programme</p> <p>TB gave an overview of the forward work programme highlighting the next meeting in October where the draft Well-being Plan will be discussed prior to consultation. It is hoped the Vale of Glamorgan Council’s Green Infrastructure Plan will be brought to the November PSB meeting to gain input from partners.</p> <p>TB informed partners that Sophie Howe is due to attend a future PSB meeting.</p> <p>AH requested a 20 minute slot to discuss the Health Board’s strategy refresh at a future meeting in January.</p> <p>TB welcomed any suggestions from partners for future agenda items and asked partners to contact TB or HM</p>	
<p>10. Any Other Business</p> <p>No other business was discussed.</p>	

11. Date of next meeting – 17th October – special meeting to sign off the draft Well-being Plan via Teams	