



## Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board

### 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

### Minutes

<b>In attendance:</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Cllr Neil Moore (NM)	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Cllr Lis Burnett (LB)	Deputy Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Mark Brace (MB)	Assistant Commissioner	South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
Charles Janczewski (CJ)	UHB Chair	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Fiona Kinghorn (FK)	Executive Director of Public Health	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Chris Hadfield (CH)	Group Manager	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Andy Robinson (AR)	Team Leader People and Places South Central	Natural Resources Wales
Judith Cole (JC)	Deputy Director Local Government Finance and Workforce Partnerships Division	Welsh Government
Cllr Mike Cuddy (CMC)	Nominated Town and Community Council Representative	Penarth Town Council
Hannah Williams (HW)	Head of South Wales One	National Probation Service
Rachel Connor (RC)	Executive Director	Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Wendy Gurney (WG)	Superintendent	South Wales Police
<b>Also in Attendance:</b>		
Tom Bowring (TB)	Head of Policy and Business Transformation	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Joanna Beynon (JB)	Policy Officer	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
<b>Apologies:</b>		
Huw Jakeway (HJ)	Chief Fire Officer	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Emil Evans (EE)	Vice Principal	Cardiff and Vale College
Abigail Harris (AH)	Executive Director of Strategy and Planning	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Mike Evans (ME)	Head of Operations for South Central	Natural Resources Wales
Paula Ham (PE)	Head of Learning and Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council

Agenda Items	Actions
<p><b>1. Welcome and introductions</b></p> <p>MB welcomed everyone to the meeting of the PSB and advised that he would be chairing as Cllr Moore would be late joining the meeting due to other commitments.</p>	
<p><b>2. Apologies</b></p> <p>See above.</p>	
<p><b>3. Minutes of the Public Service Board 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed to be an accurate and true reflection of the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>4. COVID-19 Update</b></p> <p>FK updated partners on the current position in the Vale. The rates of the Delta variant are starting to drop however the rates in the Vale remain the high. FK provided an overview of the latest surveillance dashboard for the Vale of Glamorgan. The latest data at the time of the meeting shows community cases are slowly declining among those aged 60 and over which is likely due to the successful the booster programme roll out. Cases are also dropping amongst younger people. COVID hospital admissions are dropping however pressure remains on the system from non COVID admissions. At present the data shows there is not a particular increase in excess deaths due to COVID in the Vale. Social and domiciliary care have again been heavily impacted in recent weeks.</p> <p>FK summarised the activity that has been undertaken in response to the OMICRON variant. At the time of the meeting approx. 22 cases had been confirmed in the UK however there were approx. 500 possible and probable cases, there were no confirmed cases in Cardiff or the Vale of Glamorgan. It is suspected that the transmission rate of this variant is higher however this is still to be confirmed and work is ongoing to study the impact of the vaccine but early indications are that the vaccine is still affective. All 4 home nations are working hard to ensure the progress made is kept through three areas of focus, these include early detection and containment, travel restrictions and increases in the booster programme. The plan will be announced by Welsh Government shortly, those who are severally immunocompromised are to be offered a fourth dose. The key message is to continue promoting the vaccine.</p> <p>FK informed partners of the staffing pressures to support the booster programme including staff to administer the vaccine, admin staff and call handlers and asked partners to consider if any of their workforces could help. MB noted this issue had also been discussed at the Regional Partnership Board. TB informed partners this issue had been discussed at the Council's Senior Leadership Team and the Head of Human Resources is looking into what may be possible.</p> <p>MB asked if there was a timescale to expect advice on attending and holding festive celebrations. FK noted the Welsh Government message is like to urge people to be very careful to keep Wales safe and to do a lateral flow test regularly.</p>	

<p>MB questioned if there were any consistent communications partners can share. FK highlighted the Keep Wales Safe campaign will be relaunched and Rob Jones, Vale of Glamorgan Council who is the lead on communications for Track Trace and Protect for Cardiff and the Vale can ensure all partners receive the communications packaged. TB noted all communications leads are working together and he will share the contacts for PSB partners with Rob.</p> <p>CJ asked partners to encourage the population to be patient and reassure people who may feel anxious over the media coverage that plans are being put in place.</p>	<b>TB</b>
<p><b>5. Well-being Assessment: sign off for consultation</b></p> <p>HM provided an overview of progress made to develop the draft Well-being Assessment and thanked partners for their feedback on the draft and contributions in the November workshop. Partners will have another opportunity to review the draft while it is out for consultation and any feedback will be considered along with that from the public, other stakeholders, Welsh Government and the Future Generations Commissioner. Colleagues continue to work alongside colleagues working on the Cardiff PSB's Well-being Assessment and the Cardiff and Vale Population Needs Assessment. Work will take place over the new few months to cross reference the findings of all 3 assessments.</p> <p><a href="#">‘A View of the Vale of Glamorgan’</a> overview report has been developed following the November workshop. It is expected that this report will be the chapter most people will engage with. The conclusions chime with those in the Director of Public Health's Annual Report and there is an emphasis on the climate and nature emergencies, the ageing population and rural challenges.</p> <p>Once signed off the draft Assessment will go out for public consultation from 10<sup>th</sup> January – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022. To help publicise the consultation partners will be sent an assets pack. A verbal update will be provided at the February PSB meeting following the closure of the consultation period, feedback from the consultation will then be reflected where possible in the final document that will be signed off at the April PSB meeting.</p> <p>LF presented a summary of the overview report highlighting how this report and the key findings link to the other four reports and PSB agendas. The overview report provides the current context for what life is like in the Vale, which is good overall however there are different challenges and issues impacting different areas and people. The report also sets out what the future of life in the Vale may be, predominantly through the lens of the climate and nature emergencies. The findings from the Assessment will be used to explore how the PSB can address the challenges identified in the new Well-being Plan.</p> <p>MB thanked HM and LF for their work and noting the overview report was a good piece of work that is very succinct.</p> <p>AR echoed MB's thanks and that Natural Resources Wales were happy to sign off the draft assessment for consultation. AR was happy to see previous feedback provided had been reflected in the draft.</p> <p>LB highlighted that it was excellent to have this level of information and data available to allow partners to target interventions in our communities, facilitating conversations where partners can identify areas where the PSB can have the greatest impact.</p>	

<p>MC appreciated the work that had been undertaken to develop the draft but suggested some technical terms within the draft would benefit from further explanation e.g. LSOA. This would ensure local communities can understand the report and its analysis. FK agreed with MC's suggestion and thanked LF for the work on the assessment.</p> <p>Partners agreed to sign off the draft Well-being Assessment for public consultation.</p>	<p><b>LF</b></p>
<p><b>6. Welsh Government Co-operation Agreement</b></p> <p>JC presented a summary of the recently signed Plaid Cymru / Welsh Government Co-operation Agreement. JC highlighted that the co-operation agreement was not a budget deal or coalition and that the co-operation would last for three years subject to annual review and renewal. The Co-operation Agreement contains 46 policy commitments and is intended to enable progress to take forward more significant and potentially radical reforms in more difficult areas of policy.</p> <p>More information on the Co-operation Agreement can be found on the Welsh Government's website, this includes details of the <a href="#">Co-operation Agreement itself</a>, and the <a href="#">mechanisms for operation</a>.</p> <p>JC will be the route for the PSB feeding into the policy leads that will feed into the internal group that is to be established.</p> <p>MB noted many areas included within the Co-operation Agreement link into the Well-being Assessment. If these are areas of focus for policy development going forward it is important to consider how this would link to the work of the PSB and the development of the Well-being Plan. JC highlighted that the actions will be very varied with some being more long term and some more immediate areas of focus. The more long term areas could be considered when developing the PSB's future activities.</p>	
<p><b>7. Winter and other Pressures Discussion</b></p> <p>Partners highlighted issues and areas of concern over the winter months.</p> <p><u>Vale of Glamorgan Council</u>  TB provided a summary for the local authority perspective noting the Senior Leadership Team have shifted focus from a purely COVID response to now consider more strategic emerging areas of risk. There is significant pressure in the social care system in the adult domiciliary care offer, the residential and nursing home offer and the complexity of needs in children and young people's social services. There is an increase in demand and complexity alongside issues of attracting, retaining and self-isolation within the workforce.</p> <p>There are concerns on the impact Brexit and COVID are having on accessing building materials and labour and the impact this may have on delivering schemes. There has been a 20% increase in costs for materials for capital schemes.</p> <p>There are also challenges for citizens who are just above the poverty threshold and how partners can work to tailor support, advice and services to support those who may fall into poverty as economic projections show this year will be a tough winter for many.</p> <p><u>Cardiff and Vale University Health Board</u></p>	

<p>FK highlighted areas facing significant pressure over the winter. There are concerns over hospitals where demand is now above pre pandemic levels creating delays for triage and treatment and delays in ambulance responses due to COVID and non COVID streams. Concerns remain over primary care where demand is high, although there are new methods of triage and online services being offered there is still the need to offer face to face appointments where appropriate.</p> <p>Prevention remains a concern with partners asked to continue to promote the COVID vaccine and release staff where possible to support the booster programme.</p> <p>There are concerns in the recovery arena with people now presenting with more advanced diseases which can reduce the opportunities for the best outcomes. At present the health board is achieving 85% of the pre pandemic planned care inpatient and day case activity. The workforce issues highlighted by TB are mirrored in the health care arena and there is now the added impact of the COVID booster programme.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
<p>FK highlighted actions all partners can take to promote the CAV/247 system for non-emergency calls, encouraging the flu and COVID vaccines, promoting the national We Care Campaign attracting people into care, promoting the Key Wales Safe campaign and the third sector support.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
<p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u> AR provided an update from Natural Resources Wales informing partners there has been an increase in incidents over the last few years, this has had an impact on response and intervention. There is still a lot of work being carried out following last year's flooding and issues with recruitment and retention aligned to an increase in pricing is resulting in the organisation having to reprioritise work.</p>	
<p><u>Probation Service</u> HW highlighted the main issue in the service being recruitment. At the moment the service is carrying vacancies and there are now fewer staff available due to people making lifestyle changes during COVID leaving long term professions and the looming sickness pressure. The service is coping at present and is able to reprioritise internally however there is fragility in the service.</p>	
<p><u>South Wales Police</u> WG outlined the concerns in the Police with increases in case conference demand in relation to safeguarding issues, challenges with regards to licensing with the changing COVID restrictions, increases in rape, violence against women and sexual abuse whilst this is predominantly in Cardiff, residents across all communities are concerned about feeling safe at the night time economy. There are also strategic resourcing pressures as new officers undergo a lot of training in the first three years on the force and as a result are not always available to work on the front line. There are concerns linked to the increase impact on requirements for enforcement due to OMICRON.</p>	
<p><u>Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS)</u> RC provided an overview of the concerns for GVS noting not as many people are coming forward to volunteer. Whilst numbers are an increase on 2019 there is a need for more volunteers to help with the winter pressures. RC encouraged partners to release staff to volunteer to increase the support available like the previous winter with week days being the most challenging times to find volunteers at the moment. The third sector welcome</p>	

<p>being involved and supporting services, but resources often come at the very end of the financial year making it hard to engage in a meaningful way. RC called for more forward planning in funding for third sector initiatives.</p> <p><u>Welsh Government</u>  JC informed partners local government and the third sector are expected to be given longer term grant offers from next year but will raise the issue and benefits that would come from more leniency in carrying over funds. JC also noted that the Welsh Government much like the other partners also suffer from recruitment issues internally.</p> <p><u>Town and Community Councils</u>  MC raised the issue of reaching GP services with long waits being experienced on the telephone to be triaged. MC suggested there was a need to communicate better on triaging and GP closures for Cllrs to pass the information on to residents. FK noted work has been undertaken to engage with Town and Community Councils in meetings and in independent groups. Work could be explored to engage with Town and Community Councils specifically, AH leads on this area. HM suggested the communications could use the channel between the PSB and Town and Community Councils that has recently been strengthened. MB noted there is a PSB engagement session already planned that is open to Town and Community Councils. HM informed partners this session is anticipated to take place in January, although it was expected the session would be focused on the climate and nature emergencies this emerging issue could be covered instead. CJ highlighted work has been ongoing to engage with individual Town and Community Councils but he would be happy to talk to local Town and Community Council at any time. MC will invite CJ to attend a local Town and Community meeting.</p> <p>NM was keen to discuss the issues related to the closure of Albert Road practice particularly in relation to winter pressures. NM also raised concerns as to whether the Colcot COVID testing remained a walk-in centre if its tests need to be pre booked. FK will follow this up with the sub contractors and will inform NM if there has been a change and will ensure there is public communication of the potential changes.</p> <p>CJ noted the common themes across organisations centred on workforce with issues in recruitment and retaining staff. The last two years have been difficult for all partners and as a PSB looking into the future perhaps partners could explore how to make the roles more attractive and help with future recruitment. MB agreed and questioned whether the issues raised were winter pressures or general pressures affected by the winter. Similar discussions had been held at the Cardiff PSB and the Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board to explore how partners can alleviate pressures regionally.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FK / AH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FK</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8. Forward Work Programme</b></p> <p>TB informed partners work is ongoing to develop the forward work programme for 2022 with a focus on finalising the Well-being Assessment and developing the Well-being Plan. If partners have any items they would like to bring to future meetings to please get in touch with TB or HM.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9. AOB</b></p> <p>HM highlighted Suzanne Wood has advised there has been a small amount of slippage within the Prevention and Early Years Fund which has created the opportunity for partners to submit additional proposals that will require the money to be spent by the end of this financial year. The deadline for proposals is the 14<sup>th</sup> December. FK suggested there will be</p>	

a quick turn around with the proposals received for the fund. Work will also be undertaken to relook at the budget allocations with partners to see if it needs to be recalibrated to avoid large underspends in future.	
<b>10. Date of next meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022, 10:30am – 12:30pm via Microsoft Teams</b>	