 AGENDA

BWRDD GWASANAETHAU CYMDEITHASOL, TAI A DIOGELWCH CYMUNEDOL Y CABINET

YN SYTH AR ÔL CYFARFOD PWYLLGOR CRAFFU'R CABINET DYDD IAU 20 EBRILL 2023

CYFARFOD AML-LEOLIAD - SIAMBR Y CYNGOR, PORT TALBOT A MICROSOFT TEAMS

RHAID GOSOD POB FFÔN SYMUDOL AR Y MODD DISTAW AR GYFER PARHAD Y CYFARFOD

Gweddarlledu/Cyfarfodydd Hybrid:
Mae'n bosib y caiff y cyfarfod hwn ei ffilmio i'w ddarlledu'n fyw neu drwy wefan y cyngor yn ddiweddarach. Drwy gymryd rhan, rydych yn cytuno i gael eich ffilmio ac i'r delweddau a'r recordiadau sain hynny gael eu defnyddio at ddibenion gweddarlledu a/neu hyfforddiant o bosib.

Rhan 1

Penodi Cadeirydd

Cyhoeddiad(au) y Cadeirydd

Datganiadau o fuddiannau

Cofnodion y Cyfarfod Blaenorol *(Tudalennau 5 - 8)*

Cwestiynau gan y cyhoedd
Mae'n rhaid cyflwyno cwestiynau'n ysgrifenedig i'r Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, democratic.services@npt.gov.uk heb fod yn hwyrach na chanol dydd ar y diwrnod gwaith cyn y cyfarfod. Mae'n rhaid i'r cwestiynau ymwneud ag eitemau ar yr agenda. Ymdrinnir â chwestiynau o fewn cyfnod o 10 munud.

Ar gyfer penderfyniad

Strategaeth Perthnasoedd Iachach ar gyfer Cymunedau Cryfach *(Tudalennau 9 - 68)*

Cynllun Ardal Gorllewin Morgannwg *(Tudalennau 69 - 140)*

Eitemau brys
Unrhyw eitemau brys (boed yn gyhoeddus neu wedi'u heithrio) yn ôl disgresiwn y Cadeirydd yn unol ag Offeryn Statudol 2001 Rhif 2290 (fel y'i diwygiwyd. 2290 (fel y'i diwygiwyd

Rhan 2

Mynediad i Gyfarfodydd - Gwahardd y Cyhoedd *(Tudalennau 141 - 146)*
Penderfynu gwahardd y cyhoedd o'r eitemau canlynol yn unol â Rheoliad 4 (3) a (5) Offeryn Statudol 2001 Rhif 2290 a'r paragraffau eithriedig perthnasol o Ran 4 Atodlen 12A o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972.

er gwybodaeth

Cefnogaeth i ffoaduriaid Affganaidd: estyniad i'r contract *(Tudalennau 147 - 154)*

Trefniadau cytundebol ar gyfer Gwasanaethau'r Trydydd Sector ac Anrheoliadol a ariennir gan y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Iechyd a Thai. *(Tudalennau 155 - 160)*

Trefniadau cytundebol ar gyfer ystod o Wasanaethau i Blant a Phobl Ifanc a ariennir gan y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Iechyd a Thai. *(Tudalennau 161 - 168)*

Adroddiadau Chwarterol Canolfan Diogel i Blant Hillside *(Tudalennau 169 - 190)*

Ar gyfer penderfyniad

Cytundeb Eco-flex Cymru Gynnes *(Tudalennau 191 - 208)*

Cytundeb prydles gyda Tai Tarian ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Camu i

Lawr Gofal Cymdeithasol i Oedolion *(Tudalennau 209 - 220)*

K.Jones
Chief Executive

Civic Centre
Port Talbot   **Dydd Iau, 14 Ebrill 2023**

Cabinet Board Members:

Councillors: J.Hale, S.Harris a/ac A.Llewelyn

Mae'r dudalen hon yn fwriadol wag

Eitem yr Agenda4

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

SOCIAL SERVICES, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CABINET BOARD

9 MARCH 2023

Cabinet Members:

Councillors: S.Harris and A.Llewelyn

Officers in Attendance:

A.Jarret, A.Thomas, C.Howard and T.Davies

Wales Audit Office:

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

    Agreed that Councillor Llewellyn be appointed Chairperson of the meeting.

2. **CHAIRPERSONS ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

    The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

    There were none.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

    The minutes of the 26th January 2023 were noted.

5. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23**

    The Forward Work Programme was noted.

6. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No questions from the public were received.

7. **WEST GLAMORGAN SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL REPORT**

Decision:
That the report be noted.

8. **HOUSING SUPPORT GRANT ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

Decision:
That the report be noted.

9. **QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Decision:
That the report be noted.

10. **SUBSTANCE MISUSE ACTION FUND: GRANT AGREEMENTS**

Decision

a)   That the use of section 7.1.21 of the Contract procedure Rules be noted, whereby a grant agreement was excluded from the requirement for competitive tendering.

b)   That delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Housing and Communities, to enter deeds of variation with the:

(i) Amman Tawe Valley Medical Practice to extend the current service provided by the Primary Substance Abuse Liaison Team (PSALT) Primary Care Services, for services to be delivered in 2023-24 and for there to be an increase in funding for 2023/2024 in the sum of £10,699 for 2023/2024 to be paid out of the APB's 2022/2023 budget.

(ii) Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in respect the Rapid Access Prescribing Service in the Western Bay region for services to be delivered in 2023-24 and for there to be an increase in funding for 2023/2024 in the sum of £158,291 for 2023/2024 to be paid out of the APB's 2022/2023 budget.

(c)   That the joint funding arrangements between the Council and the Office of the PCC in respect of the Rapid Access Services in the Western Bay region be noted.

11. PARTICIPATION IN WELSH GOVERNMENTS EMPTY HOMES SCHEME

Decision:

a) That the allocation of £240,000 from the Councils Capital Spending Programme in order to participate in the Welsh Government Empty Homes Scheme, be approved.

b) That delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Housing and Communities to enter into a Service Level Agreement with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the delivery of the Welsh Government Empty Homes Scheme for the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2025. Also, to amend any minor changes to the Scheme.

12. WESTERN BAY AREA PLANNING BOARD RISK SHARING AGREEMENT

Decision:

That approval be granted to enter into the revised Financial Governance and Risk Sharing agreement with all the responsible authorities to the Area Planning Board, with the exception of the National Probation Service.

13. URGENT ITEMS

There were none.

14. ACCESS TO MEETINGS - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

15. CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR A RANGE OF SERVICES FUNDED THROUGH THE HOUSING SUPPORT GRANT 2023/24

Decision:

That the report be noted.

16. **EXTENSION TO THE PROVISION OF A WELCOME CENTRE IN RESPECT OF UKRAINIANS FLEEING THE CONFLICT**

Decision:

a) That delegated authority be granted to the Director of Social Services Health and Housing, and the Interim Head of Housing and Communities and Chief Finance Officer to accept a revised or further grant offer(s) for the purposes set out within the circulated report, and to enter into the grant agreement(s) with Welsh Government.

b) That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Finance Officer to make claims for funding in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

c) That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Property and Regeneration in conjunction with the Director of Social Services and Health and Housing, and the Interim Head of Housing and Communities to negotiate and enter into a further agreement(s) or vary and extend the existing agreement with the Goytre Leisure Holdings Limited for the use of the L&A riding centre at Goytre for the purposes of a Welcome Centre, as set out above for such further period(s) as they shall determine and agree.

17. **REQUEST TO PURCHASE PROPERTIES FOR THE PREVENTION OF HOMELESSNESS**

Decision:

a) That £260,000 of capital funding be allocated to purchase and develop properties for the purposes as detailed in the circulated report;

b) That the Council purchased the necessary properties from the landlords portfolio in order to prevent homelessness;

c) That the properties are managed by the Social Lettings Agency team.

CHAIRPERSON

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Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL
SOCIAL IN SERVICES, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
CABINET BOARD

20th April 2023

Report of the Interim Head of Housing & Communities – Chelé Zandra Howard

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected All Wards

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

Purpose of Report
To seek authority to consult on the draft revised 'Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy'. This document is Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's ("The Council") and Swansea Bay University Health Boards ("The Health Board") joint response to the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 ("The Act").

Executive Summary
In 2015 the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 was intruded, which placed a duty on local authorities and health boards to produce and publish a local strategy for the local authority area and then to take reasonable steps to achieve the objectives set out in the local strategy.

In 2017, Neath Port Talbot's first 'Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities' strategy was prepared. This was a 3 year strategy,

overseen by the VAWDASV Leadership group. A revised strategy was prepared for 2020-2023. Significant progress has been made across all areas of VAWDASV related support and services.
A draft revised strategy has now been prepared for 2023-2026.

The objectives within this revised strategy mirror those in the original strategy, but the actions within them are new, to be delivered on over the next 3 years.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, some of the actions of the earlier strategy have been carried forward.

Attached, at Appendix 1 is the revised Strategy which has been developed and approved by a strengthened multi-agency partnership, chaired by the Strategic Manager for Partnerships & Community Cohesion.

Background
The Act aims to improve arrangements for the prevention of gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence; improve arrangements for the protection of victims of such abuse and violence; improve support for people affected by such abuse and violence; and requires the appointment of a National Adviser on gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

The Act created a number of new responsibilities for local authorities in Wales including a duty to prepare and public a strategy for the local authority's area, jointly with the relevant health board.

In order to meet the requirements of the Act, the former Domestic Abuse Strategy Group (DASG) was disbanded and replaced by a new multi-agency Leadership Group. There has been sustained senior commitment to the Group over the last 6 years and significant progress has been made on all aspects of the strategy.

This commitment has continued with the development of the revised strategy for 2023-2026. As with the original strategy, this revised Strategy follows the structure of the Welsh Government's National Strategy for Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, enabling the local partnership to demonstrate its contribution to delivering the national policy objectives established by the Welsh Government. It includes all of the areas of activity that are set out in various statutory guidance documents, but most importantly, it identifies the strengths and challenges for this area and sets out a series of achievable actions to help us to achieve our long term vision:

"To prevent and eradicate violence against women, domestic abuse sexual violence by promoting equality, safety, respect and independence to enable everyone to live from abuse and the attitudes that perpetuate it."

Key Objectives
There are seven objectives set out in the Strategy:

1. **Communications & Engagement**

   Increase the reports of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Neath Port Talbot, through awareness raising and challenging attitudes

2. **Children & Young People**

   Increase awareness in children, young people and adults of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and empowering them to positive personal choices.

3. **Perpetrators**

   Increase the focus on holding those who commit abuse to account and supporting those who may carry out abusive or violent behaviour to change their behaviour and avoid offending

4. **Early Intervention & Prevention**

   Make early intervention and prevention a priority – To reduce the number of repeat victims and reduce the number of high risk cases

5. **Training**

   Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors

6. **Accessible Services**

   Provide all victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs-led, strength-based, inter-sectional and responsive services across Wales.

7. **Courts & Criminal Justice**

   Increased focus on improving the recognition of and responses to violence against, women, domestic abuse and sexual violence in all criminal justice proceedings

Consultation
A wide range of stakeholders were consulted during the development of the Strategy. It is proposed that a further 2 week consultation and engagement exercise be undertaken to ensure that Strategy has wide support.

The form of consultation will include an on-line survey, face to face consultation with survivors, and distribution of the draft Strategy through various partnership networks, including the Area Planning Board, Community Safety Partnership and the Public Services Board.

Financial Impact
There are no new identified recurring revenue resources identified to support the new duties and responsibilities summarised in this report.

Consequently, any proposed changes will require a refocusing of existing resource or acquisition of new funding streams.

Integrated Impact Assessment
The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies to "Pay due regard to the need to:

> • eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
>
> • advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
>
> • foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it."

The subject of this report is legislation that is aimed at gender-based violence and consequently the impact should be positive as far as the protected characteristic of gender is concerned.

Local research also identifies children as being affected by domestic abuse and consequently the impact of the legislation is likely to be positive for the protected characteristic of age.

An Integrated Impact Assessment has been developed and will be updated following the consultation and will be available when the final strategy is presented to Cabinet Board for approval.

Workforce Impact
The Act & Strategy has resulted in a new workplace Domestic Abuse Policy and the introduction of Safe Leave, for staff who are affected by any form of VAWDASV.

The Act continues to impact on commissioning activities that fall within the scope of the Act, which in turn may have particular workforce

implications e.g. the requirement to deliver training that meets the requirements set out in the National Training Framework.

Other workforce impacts identified will be reported to Members when progress reports are made.

Legal Impact
The preparation and publication of a strategy will ensure the Council discharges its statutory duty as required within the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

Crime and Disorder Impact
The Council has a legal duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to carry out all its various functions with "due regard to the need to prevent Crime and Disorder in its area".

The strategy will assist the Council in discharging it duty to prevent gender-based crime and disorder in its area.

Risk Management
There is a risk of non-compliance with the duties introduced by the Act if sufficient resources are not provided to local authorities to cover the costs of the associated activities.

This risk has been mitigated by ensuring proposed actions within the Strategy can be delivered within existing resource, albeit there is a continued need to refocus how those resources are best used, and work closely with partners to explore the potential to draw in additional funding.

Recommendations
It is recommended that:
1. The Interim Head of Housing & Communities is authorised to commence a two week public consultation exercise on the draft Strategy attached at Appendix 1, and the outcome of that consultation be reported back to the Cabinet.

Reason for Proposed Decision
To provide the formal authority to the relevant officer to take the actions necessary to secure compliance by the Council with the duties under section 5 (1) of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

Implementation of Decision
The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices
1. Draft Neath Port Talbot Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy (2023-2026); implementing the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.
2. Presentation slides, highlighting the 7 key objectives and their associated actions, to be delivered during 2023-2026.

List of Background Papers
Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

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Mae'r dudalen hon yn fwriadol wag

Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities

NPT VAWDASV Strategy 2023-2026

Implementing the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Act (Wales) 2015

Contents

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1 ➡

The human and emotional costs of violence in domestic and public spheres cannot be underestimated.

INTRODUCTION

ACCOMMODATION

Refuges:
3 units, 19 spaces

Move on:
19 self contained units

High Risk
MARAC: 2019/20
612 Cases discussed
468 Children in household
432 IDVA referrals
MARAC: 2020/21
527 Cases discussed
836 Children in household
437 IDVA referrals

Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA)
NPT – 4 IDVAs, 1 senior IDVA
3 Regional IDVAs – Court IDVA,
DRIVE IDVA, Health IDVA

Targeted
Specialist Support
➡ Thrive Women's Aid
➡ Calan DVS
➡ Hafan Cymru
➡ New Pathways
SUPPORT
➡ Floating support
➡ Counselling
➡ Remote evidence facility
➡ CYP programmes
➡ Group Programmes
➡ Drop–in services

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SOCIAL SERVICES
SPOC then signposting to:
➡ Early Intervention – Families First
➡ Statutory Services
➡ Information & advice
➡ FAST (Family Action Support Team)
Children's Services – 2020/21
7042 PPN received, 3029 relating to
domestic abuse (41%)

FAMILIES FIRST
➡ Team around the Family
➡ Children & Families Team
➡ Domestic Abuse Service
➡ Flying Start

Children & Young People
EDUCATION
➡ Relationship & Sexuality Education
➡ Spectrum
➡ Camau Training
➡ NPT Youth Service
➡ South Wales Police Schoolbeat
➡ Crucial Crew
➡ Freshers/Wellbeing events

This is Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Swansea Bay University Health Boards third *'Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities'* strategy, implementing the Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015. The first strategy was published in 2017 and the second in 2020. Since this time, various changes have been made and this progress is highlighted throughout this revised strategy.

As with our earlier strategies, this is an overarching plan which outlines the priority areas and strategic direction around healthy relationships and the implementation of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 within Neath Port Talbot. It has been developed with the involvement of partner agencies and survivors. It aims to tackle all forms of violence in relationships, responding to the growing number of referrals being received by specialist providers; reducing harm and improving the lives of those affected.

This agenda is *'everyone's business'* and is a cross cutting theme that requires all areas of public policy to address violence in domestic and public spheres, to shape and improve the delivery of services for those affected and to meet the requirements outlined in the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015. This Act places a statutory duty on the Local Authority and Swansea Bay University Health Board to jointly prepare and publish a strategy to meet local needs and to prevent all forms of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV).

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) and Swansea Bay University Health Board has worked with a wide range of partner agencies to develop this strategy and will continue to work with partner agencies to provide services to all victims of crime and to bring all offenders to justice. We have also worked closely with Swansea City Council, to establish areas of work which are best delivered on a regional basis and these will be highlighted throughout the strategy.

The term "Violence Against Women" which is used nationally and in this strategy refers to the range of crime types which are predominantly, but not exclusively, experienced by women and girls. Such gender-based violence includes domestic abuse, rape and sexual violence, stalking, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, crimes committed in the name of 'honour', trafficking, sexual exploitation, including commercially through the sex industry, and sexual harassment in the workplace and public.

Having a co-ordinated approach to addressing these issues does not mean this neglects abuse directed towards men and boys or other groups and individuals who experience these forms of violence, or neglects to deal with violence perpetrated by women, where this occurs.

Those with the power to transform the cultures that perpetuate violence must work together. This strategy encourages partners to further work together to achieve positive outcomes for all victims of VAWDASV.

It is important that we reflect on the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact this has had on victims. The pandemic has also affected the work of the council and its partners in recent years. During this time, it was recognised nationally and locally that incidences of domestic abuse drastically increased. Victims were presenting with increased complexities and very difficult circumstances. Whilst services continued to support these victims in the best possible way, this undoubtedly put added pressure on all local services who were operating differently due to Covid restrictions.

2 ➡

OUR VISION, AIMS & KEY PRINCIPLES

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"To prevent and eradicate gender based violence by promoting: equality; safety; respect; and, independence to enable everyone to live free from abuse and the attitudes that perpetuate it."

Having a co-ordinated community response ensures that all relevant organisations effectively respond to these issues, both within their own agencies and in collaboration with other partners, to prevent harm, reduce risk and increase immediate and long-term safety for people living in Neath Port Talbot.

This agenda affects all services including children and adult services, housing, police, health, probation, civil and criminal courts, voluntary and community organisations. We maintain that it is everyone's responsibility to address all forms of VAWDASV by identifying and supporting survivors and their children and holding perpetrators accountable, whilst offering opportunities to change their behaviour.

Our response to these issues highlights the diversity and needs of people affected and the most significant priority is to keep survivors at the centre of our work.

We recognise that violence and abuse affects people regardless of their age, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, class and marital status.

Violence in relationships may have a range of consequences including homelessness, mental health, problematic substance use, child protection issues, physical injury, offending behaviour and ongoing trauma.

Aims & Key Principles

In line with the requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, our aims and key principles within this strategy have been developed to meet the following 5 ways of working which will help us to work together better, avoid repeating any past mistakes and tackle some of the long term challenges we are facing.

Long Term

- To ensure there is a strong focus on education and work with young people with the aim of eradicating violence and abuse over the long term

- To work with communities and employers to bring about a cultural shift in attitudes towards violence and abuse so that it is no longer tolerated or considered acceptable

- To provide services that offer best value for money

Early Intervention & Prevention

- To refocus funding and remodel services so that victims and perpetrators can access help and support at the earliest possible time and to prevent cases reaching a point of crisis

Collaboration

- Continue to build and develop a confident, strong partnership
- To develop regional and national collaborative approaches where this is more effective than a local response
- To work towards a collaborative commissioning model for all VAWDASV services in the NPT area

Involvement

- To ensure our service delivery is person centred
- To ensure the voices of people affected by violence and abuse are heard and that more opportunity is created to develop services that are evidence based and include survivor involvement

Integration

- To adopt a holistic approach so that the well-being of people affected by violence and abuse is considered in service responses
- To ensure this work is recognised as everyone's business

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3 ➡ ACHIEVEMENTS

We have made significant progress over the past 3 years, despite the challenges faced during the Covid-19 pandemic. This chapter highlights some of the key areas of progress made against each of the 7 objectives of our original strategy. This revised strategy will further build on these achievements, working towards preventing VAWDASV and better supporting those who are affected.

What have we achieved?

Objective 1
Communications & Engagement

- In addition to extending the membership of our Communications & Engagement Group to include a local survivor and SBUHB representative, recent new members include a regional administrator and a sexual violence support service representative from New Pathways

- Our annual White Ribbon campaign has promoted numerous local and national campaigns including Clare's Law, Bright Sky, Ask Angela, Respect. Our continual rolling campaigns ensure regular awareness raising of all relevant services and resources

- White Ribbon 2021 was supported by local grass roots sports teams across NPT, raising awareness of how young men and boys can address inappropriate behaviour in all aspects of everyday life, with support for the Welsh Government 'Call Out Only' campaign

- Safer NPT White Ribbon campaigns reached over 71k people across social media over the past 3 years

- Our regional 'Heads Up' campaign was rolled out across the hair and beauty industry to upskill staff in identifying domestic abuse and providing confidence in handling sensitive conversations

  » Information packs were distributed, included promotion of the Live Fear Free helpline, as well as the Respect helpline for perpetrators

  » Online training sessions and webinars were delivered by Welsh Women's Aid for professionals working in the hair & beauty industry to enable identification of abuse and increase confidence in conversations around advice and support for clients

» In conjunction with partner organisations, Calan DVS recorded a podcast aimed at the beauty industry, the podcast which was uploaded to iTunes and Spotify has had over 200 downloads

- Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB) has also recognised the importance of raising awareness by increasing the visibility of the Corporate safeguarding team across the Health Board by working with high priority areas such as Minor Injuries, Emergency Department, Sexual Health and Midwifery to increase awareness of VAWDASV. With the addition of the violence prevention team (VPT). The purpose of the VPT are to reduce crime and associated harm by providing appropriate support and signposting. Violence Prevention Teams have been successfully implemented across England, with only one other team based in the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Along with the Healthcare IDVA who raises awareness of domestic violence and abuse and is establishing and maintaining health links with Safeguarding/relevant multi-agency forums

- (SBUHB) raised awareness of White Ribbon Day on their intranet site; Ask and Act champions and trainers were updated on the significance of the day and staff were encouraged to wear the white ribbon and place posters across the Health Board. Due to strict Covid restrictions across all sites the usual awareness raising did not take place in 2020 & 2021

- Calan DVS took part in Neath Port Talbot's safeguarding week to deliver 4 sessions to 37 individuals on: Inspiring Families, The Compass Programme and becoming an organisation that actively includes LGBTQ+

- Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB) raised awareness of White Ribbon Day on their intranet site; Ask and Act champions and trainers were updated on the significance of the day and staff were encouraged to wear the white ribbon and place posters across the Health Board. Due to strict Covid restrictions across all sites the usual awareness raising did not take place in 2020 & 2021

Objective 2
Children & Young People (CYP)

- A pilot programme has been developed in partnership with Thrive Women's Aid, NPT Well-Being Service, Youth Service and Llangatwg Community School to respond to CYP who did not receive vital RSE/Healthy Relationships education due to the pandemic and associated restrictions. A bespoke package of support is being delivered to Year 7, 8 and 9 and teachers

- Our Children & Young People Task & Finish group concluded with the development of a visual graphic detailing referral pathways and support services for low, medium and high-risk families. This has been especially useful for partners

- Since the pandemic Hafan Cymru were able to deliver Healthy Relationship education to 547 pupils across NPT and included 48 teachers in the sessions

- Camau Training has delivered Healthy Relationship education to 1800 pupils including added content on consent

- During the pandemic Safer Neath Port Talbot delivered a virtual Crucial Crew event to all 53 primary schools in the borough. This was delivered via a video resource developed with 12 partner organisations and shared on the NPT Education Hwb platform

- Calan DVS developed and delivered a range of CYP programmes including Ar Trac, ACEs Recovery Toolkit and Listen & Hear Me

- New Pathways introduced a regional CYP Sexual Violence Support Worker to work with children and young people who have experienced sexual violence and their families

- New Pathways reduced the high waiting lists for CYP sexual violence therapeutic services by a further 50% and introduced a triage service to ensure highly complex referrals received urgent support

- New Pathways introduced a specialist CYP Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) to cover the Western Bay region

- The School Nursing Service is represented on the Swansea Bay Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE) Working Group

- The Group has developed lesson plan packs for Primary and Secondary schools. They are designed to provide good quality, standardised and evidenced based RSE and ensure pupils receive accurate and age appropriate information. School Nurses deliver the lesson plans to Years 5/6 in Primary school and Year 9 in Secondary school

- Thrive WA have secured funding in partnership with Welsh Women's Aid and other Women's Aid organisations across Wales to deliver the Respect programme to young people who are displaying violent or aggressive behaviours to their own intimate partners or family members

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Objective 3
Working With Perpetrators

- Welsh Government funding has been used to explore opportunities to broaden the Equilibrium Perpetrator Programme across the region

- The DRIVE perpetrator programme launched in Neath Port Talbot in September 2020, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner. 59 high-risk perpetrators have engaged in the programme since its introduction, with 66 associated victims and 120 children

- Thrive Women's Aid are working with low-level perpetrators implementing the CLEAR programme, part of the Change That Lasts model. The programme works with the whole family, ensuring safety of victims and children while raising awareness of healthy relationships

- Calan DVS deliver the Inspiring Families Programme across Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea. The programme is a 10-week assessment for families where domestic abuse is an identified component, and the families have chosen to stay together. It can strengthen and stabilise families and provides professionals with a robust framework to assess the parent's behaviour, including any disguised compliance and the level of current risk as well as the likelihood of future risk. In the last financial year, Calan DVS worked with 23 families across Neath Port Talbot

- The implementation of IRIS (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety) has recommenced across Neath & Port Talbot, the programme includes raising awareness of perpetrator behaviour and advice on signposting (IRIS is discussed further in Objective 4)

Objective 4
Early Intervention & Prevention

- Commissioning work resumed in March 2021 and is continuing to make progress, despite being hindered to the Covid-19 pandemic and associated pressures on the local Commissioning Team

- Work is ongoing between South Wales Police and NPT Social Services on the Early Action Together programme

- Welsh Women's Aid were commissioned to deliver regional Ask Me awareness training sessions and encourage local residents to become community ambassadors, promote awareness of domestic abuse signs and support. A number of online sessions were presented in Autumn 2021 and 18 members committed to sign up to the ambassador programme

- The Communications and Engagement Group has been tasked to consider alternative ways to engage with marginalised groups in our communities. We will continue to research how to identify unidentified need

- Early intervention can reduce the impact of VAWDASV. Priority areas within Health such as Midwifery, Health Visiting, Emergency Department and Integrated Sexual Health continue to use Routine Enquiry/targeted "Ask and Act" intervention during consultations. Staff are trained to ask about VAWDASV and how to signpost appropriately when a disclosure is made. Routine Enquiry compliance is audited as part of the Health Boards annual audit plan along with targeted inquiry. With the introduction of IRIS, GP practice staff will be asking patients about domestic violence and abuse which will increase the disclosures with support being offered at the earliest opportunity rather than at the point of crisis

- Thrive WA currently hold the Families First EIP contract for domestic abuse in NPT. They have completed work over the past 5 years with family members to improve mental health, well-being, increase safety, enhance communication and work together to complete a family-centred support plan

- All health visiting staff have completed ACES training and are aware of the impact of this on families and parenting. All Health visiting staff are currently being trained how to use the Welsh Levels of care framework. This includes the agenda around ACE's

- **_SBUHB Healthcare Independent domestic abuse advocate (IDVA):_** The Healthcare IDVA is based within the Emergency Department (ED) Morriston hospital, taking referrals from patients and staff across the Health Board area. The Health Based IDVA risk assesses patients, raises awareness of domestic violence and abuse and establishes and maintaining health links with Safeguarding/relevant multi-agency forums

- The Healthcare IDVA provides practical support and empathy, ensuring the safety needs of the client are paramount, as well as ensuring longer term community support. The IDVA liaises with the police regarding bail conditions/remand and engages with housing and refuge providers

- The Health IDVA also provides support to Health Board staff members whom are victims of domestic abuse and violence, with 1-1 trauma recovery toolkit, providing support, understanding, awareness and the ability to thrive following being in an abuse relationship enabling the health professional remain in practice, whilst being fully supported

- The Healthboard has also fully funded the Health IDVA to complete ISVA training

SBUHB Healthcare IDVA 2022	Female	Male	TOTAL
Number of Referrals	357	32	389

- IRIS (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety): Is a general practice-based domestic violence and abuse (DVA) training, support and referral programme, which is a collaboration between primary care and third sector organisations specialising in DVA. IRIS was introduced to all GP practices across SBUHB. In addition to delivering the IRIS programme, Calan DVS delivered training to over 80 Registrars so that they will be better equipped to recognise signs of Domestic Abuse and to make referrals at an early stage. Between 2020-2022 there were 153 referrals from GPs within SBUHB, in the same period pre IRIS there were 9 referrals from GP practices across SBUHB

- The Health Board has a health IDVA based at the Emergency Department of Morriston Hospital. They take referrals for patients and staff and offer risk assessment, signposting, and ongoing support

- In addition to delivering the IRIS programme, Calan DVS delivered training to over 80 Registrars so that they will be better equipped to recognise signs of Domestic Abuse and to make referrals at an early stage

- Over 100 clinician referrals have been made across Swansea Bay since roll out of IRIS in 2020

- During 2021 to 2022, Calan facilitated 15 sessions to 210 professionals which provided a space to build knowledge and confidence in developing an LGBTQ affirmative approach to our work

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- Calan DVS worked with 10 schools across Neath Port Talbot to deliver 1-2-1 support for children and people through Listen and Hear Me and to facilitate the delivery of awareness sessions on healthy relationships

- New Pathways introduced an additional specialist ISVA for male clients to bridge a gap in provision

- Cwmtawe Complex Needs - (Awaiting information from the team)

Objective 5
Training and Development

- 6562 (94%) of Neath Port Talbot CBC staff have now received Group 1 of the VAWDASV Training, including our hard-to-reach services

- 10,009 of Swansea Bay University Health Board staff have received Group 1 of the VAWDASV Training over the past three years

- 3689 of Swansea Bay University Health Board staff have received Group 2 of the VAWDASV Training

- 351 GP practice staff have received IRIS Training

- The Training Plan has been further developed to include regional roll out of Group 2 Ask and Act training with Swansea Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board

- The Health Board have made excellent progress in the implementation of their training plan and have to date trained a high percentage of staff which has seen a notable increase in the amount of referrals to specialist services and MARAC

- The Health Board are committed to increasing the awareness of VAWDASV amongst its staff in order to reduce the impact upon victims and their families. IRIS has been implemented across the Heath Board's footprint following funding by the Health Board. IRIS is a collaboration between Primary Care and a third sector organisation that specialises in

Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA), GP staff receive DVA training and when a disclosure is made have the opportunity to refer to a specialist Advocate Educator (AE) that will offer specialist support following referral. The programme will be delivered by Calan DVS with funding by the Health Board

- Due to the Covid pandemic, all Group 1 training delivered during 2021 for was via e-learning. Adapted virtual delivery of Group 2 Ask and Act with specialist partners was been provided to 226 NPT workers during 2021-22

- The regional Ask and Act steering group with Swansea Council and SBUHB continues to guide the roll out of Group 2 and 3 training

- Local support services are promoted as part of our training. Staff are advised on where to refer those who need support and use the new regional Ask and Act pathway for referrals

- Live training is continually updated to include the latest information on campaigns, services and changes to legislation, where appropriate

- 8 members of staff from NPT Social Services and Education have achieved accreditation to deliver Group 2 and 3. Trainers have also been upskilled with further sessions on specialist VAWDASV areas by our local partners

- Group 3 Workplace Champions training is delivered regionally in partnership with Swansea Council, Swansea Bay University Health Board and specialist partners. Neath Port Talbot CBC has 7 champions so far, Swansea Bay University Health Board have trained 21 during 2021/22

- Calan has delivered a range of training to over 300 professionals including GP's and medical professionals through the delivery of IRIS and sector specific training to statutory and nonstatutory organisations

- New Pathways held an extremely successful Sexual Violence 'Frontline Focus' event for over 800 frontline workers from across Wales attended. Feedback was extremely positive and there was a clear appetite for standalone Sexual Violence specific information and training

- Training has continued to be evaluated to ensure a high standard and consistency of delivery

- Thrive WA, Calan DVS, New Pathways, Hafan Cymru, Swansea Women's Aid and BAWSO have worked together to deliver the co-facilitation of Ask and Act Groups 2 and 3 alongside SBUHB and the LAs

Objective 6
Accessible Services

- Meetings with housing providers and local specialist providers have been convened with the VAWDASV strategic lead and IDVA service manager. The aim of these meetings is to ensure good links across the services, removing any potential barriers that may arise

- A regional MARAC consultation recommended implementation of a weekly MARAC meeting, as a pilot, from January 2022. This model has been positively received by stakeholders and offers an opportunity to improve risk management to high-risk cases. Additionally, a new IT system is being considered which involves live updates to address safety and risk management. Both recommendations would result in an improved, streamlined process

- A working group has been established across Social Services, Statutory and Third Sector providers to review the current response to cases of domestic abuse and develop a user focused service. Review is ongoing and will be shared with all stakeholders once complete

- Thrive WA expanded their EDGE project to include women from Black and Asian Minority Ethnic backgrounds in addition to the specialist support already provided to Older, Disabled and Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller women

- In 2021, Thrive launched the SWAN Project (Support, Well-Being, Advocacy and eNablement) in partnership with Swansea Women's Aid, working with women who are being or are at risk of being exploited by the sex industry. This is an entirely unique project to Neath Port Talbot as no other dedicated services of this nature were available

- In conjunction with the University of South Wales, Calan DVS has developed the Myriad Programme; an 8-week recovery and resilience programme for LGBTQ+ victims of domestic abuse. Since its launch, Calan DVS has seen a 30% increase into services for LGBTQ+ victims of domestic abuse

- In 2021, Calan commissioned sector experts to support the organisation to develop a sexual violence service. In particular, Calan are developing a programme of support which is being co-produced by survivors of sexual violence and abuse. The organisation is also working with stakeholders and staff to ensure the service provided addresses gaps in support and is accessible. The service was launched in Autumn 2022

- Calan is working in conjunction with Pobl on their Housing for Women Pathways project. The project works with the respective Local Authority Housing Team to agree a proportion of 'Direct Lets' to the women's services provider, this will enable refuges to free up space or to enable women to access a home (Housing First style) without entering refuge

- New Pathways has re-established post-covid face to face presence of a regional ISVA at Neath Port Talbot One Stop Shop

- Therapeutic Referrals for SV have become extremely complex, New Pathways have established an in-depth triage by a multidisciplinary clinical and safeguarding team on daily and weekly basis to ensure clients have access to urgent support

- Thrive WA have launched the first Housing First provision in Wales specifically for women who have experienced domestic abuse. In partnership with Coastal, Pobl and Tai Tarian they will work together over the next 2 years to support women experiencing complex challenges in their lives to access stable accommodation and wrap the support they need around them to maintain this

Objective 7
Courts & Criminal Justice

- Hafan Cymru Remote Evidence sites have been introduced across the region and has been utilised in 17 trials to date. These cases have resulted in a positive outcome with all defendants being found guilty, 2 defendants pleading guilty just before the trial, saving witnesses from giving evidence

- Further plans are underway to develop the remote facility for Family Court

- Thrive and South Wales Police submitted a joint application for funding to deliver the RAPID project. This work will see Thrive join the first response team for incidents of domestic abuse to improve the experiences had by victims and their children when a report of domestic abuse, coercive control, stalking and harassment is made. This project will also deliver comprehensive training to Police Officers to raise their awareness and knowledge of these areas

- New Pathways have identified that NPT is underrepresented in SARC/ISVA referrals for the region, SARC and ISVA Referrals from NPT are:

  » Children 44%, Adults: 56%

  » 33% referrals are acute (SV within the last 7 days)

  » 33% referrals are non-acute (SV within the last year)

  » 34% referrals are historic 34% (SV older than 1 year)

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In England and Wales, the largest element of VAWDASV cost is the physical and emotional harm suffered by the victims themselves (estimated £47 billion). The next highest cost is for lost output relating to time taken off work and reduced productivity afterwards (£14 billion)[1]. Taking the costs of sexual violence and other forms of abuse into account would significantly increase this amount.

CONTEXT >

1 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-economic-and-social-costs-of-domestic-abuse

Welsh Context

Following the introduction of the VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015, Welsh Government introduced the **National Strategy on Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (2016-2021) and recently published their revised version in 2022.** This sets out a renewed commitment to tackling VAWDASV, building on progress to date and prioritises delivery in the areas of **prevention**, **protection** and **support**.

BLUEPRINT

Welsh Government has developed a Blueprint approach bringing together devolved and non-devolved agencies who are tasked with, or commit to, ending VAWDASV.

The approach will do this by putting in place a structure for the development of joint policy, co-ordinating investment and activity between partners and drive delivery through peer support and challenge. The blueprint approach seeks to bring together the resources controlled by partners within the blueprint and contribute to end VAWDASV by facilitating shared understanding and common direction.

The National Training Framework has been established by Welsh Government to ensure an unfailing standard of public service in order to create a consistent standard of care for those who experience Violence.

This National Training Framework has two main functions:

- Consistent, proportionately disseminated training for relevant authorities to fundamentally improve the understanding of the general workforce and, therefore the response to those who experience violence

- Alignment of existing specialist training to further professionalise the specialist sector, to improve consistency of specialist subject

training provision nationally and to set core requirements of specialist service provision

"Ask and Act" is one of the most significant practice changes, facilitated through the National Training Framework.

The 'Ask and Act' policy framework is a process of targeted enquiry to be practiced across the Public Service to identify people affected by VAWDASV. These two policies are integrated, in that local delivery of the National Training Framework also delivers key aspects of "Ask and Act". Statutory Guidance is expected in 2020.

The aims of the national "Ask and Act" framework are to:

- Increase identification of those experiencing Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence

- Offer referrals and interventions for those identified, which provide specialist support based on the risk and needs of the client

- Begin to create a culture across the Public Service where addressing Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence is an accepted area of business and where disclosure is expected, supported, accepted and facilitated

- Improve the response to those who experience Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence with

other complex needs such as substance misuse and mental health; and to pro-actively engage with those who are vulnerable and hidden, at the earliest opportunity, rather than only reactively engaging with those who are in crisis or at imminent risk of serious harm

Complementary Legislation & Guidance

There are various other pieces of legislation, guidance and research that we must have regard to in preparing this strategy and during its implementation. These are outlined below;

Domestic Abuse Act 2021

- The Act provides a statutory definition of domestic abuse, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, controlling or coercive, and economic abuse, it also recognises children as victims in their own right

Key features of the act will:

- establish in law the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner and set out the Commissioner's functions and powers

- provide for a new Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Domestic Abuse Protection Order

- prohibit perpetrators of abuse from cross-examining their victims in person in the civil and family courts in England and Wales

- create a statutory presumption that victims of domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal, civil and family courts

- extend the controlling or coercive behaviour offence to cover post-separation abuse

- extend the offence of disclosing private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress (known as the "revenge porn"

offence) to cover threats to disclose such material

- create a new offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation of another person

The Domestic Abuse Commissioner welcomed a draft **Victims Bill in 2022** which aims to centre the voices of all victims including those who have experienced or are experiencing domestic abuse and offer these survivors more support.

Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014

The Act provides the legal framework for improving the well-being of people (adults and children) who need care and support, carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales. This requires local population needs assessments to inform the development of local strategies.

Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Well-Being of Future Generations Act requires public bodies in Wales to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other, and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.

The Act is unique to Wales attracting interest from countries across the world as it offers a huge opportunity to make a long-lasting, positive change to current and future generations.

To make sure we are all working towards the same purpose, the Act puts in place seven well-being goals. The Act makes it clear that public bodies must work to achieve all of the goals.

The seven Well-Being goals are;

The work of the local VAWDASV partnership will contribute to Neath Port Talbot meeting the seven Well-Being goals, in particular 'A healthier Wales' and 'A Wales of Cohesive Communities'.

The Act also sets out five ways of working needed for Public Bodies to achieve the seven Well-Being goals;

Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.	Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other people.	The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.	The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the long-term needs.	How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act also requires a Public Services Board to be set up in each local authority area in Wales.

NPT Public Services Board identified key objectives to improve the well-being of the people who live in the Neath Port Talbot area, the following are part of the current draft which is scheduled to be published in May 2023.

- To ensure all children get the best start in life
- To ensure all our communities are thriving and sustainable
- To ensure our local environment, culture and heritage can be enjoyed by future generations
- To ensure there are more secure, green and well paid jobs and that skills across the area are improved

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

The **Housing (Wales) Act 2014** enshrines in legislation the role of the local authority in preventing and alleviating homelessness. This will change the way that services are delivered to survivors of violence who flee their home seeking a safe place to live.

This reinforces the need for local authorities need to work in partnership to ensure that prevention of homelessness is at the forefront of thinking. This will require an alternative approach to the provision of temporary, crisis accommodation and support.

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) is now a widely recognised term which stems from research conducted by the leading **National Public Health Institute of the United States**.

The research shows a correlation between childhood trauma and adult health outcomes. The research found children's developing brains and central nervous systems are so profoundly affected by ACE's that they are the root cause of many chronic diseases, most mental illness and most violence. The 10 ACE's measured in the research are:

1. Physical abuse
2. Sexual abuse
3. Verbal abuse
4. Physical neglect
5. Emotional neglect
6. A family member who is depressed or diagnosed with other mental health issues
7. A family member who is addicted to alcohol or another substance
8. A family member who is in prison
9. Witnessing Domestic Abuse
10. Losing a parent to separation, divorce or death

Many other types of trauma may also have an impact. Trauma results from an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as harmful or life threatening. While unique to the individual, generally the experience of trauma can cause lasting adverse effects, limiting the ability to function and achieve mental, physical, social, emotional or spiritual well-being. It is important to recognise that trauma can affect individuals, groups and communities.

2 The full suite of recommendations can be found at http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/PH50/chapter/1-Recommendations

Trauma-informed practice is an approach to health and care interventions which is grounded in the understanding that trauma exposure can impact an individual's neurological, biological, psychological and social development.

Trauma-informed practice aims to increase practitioners' awareness of how trauma can negatively impact on individuals and communities, and their ability to feel safe or develop trusting relationships with health and care services and their staff.

NICE Domestic Abuse Guidance and Quality Standards

In 2014, the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) issued *"Domestic violence and abuse: how health services, social care and the organisations they work with can respond effectively"*. The Welsh Government has an agreement in place with the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) covering the Institute's guidelines which highlights; Domestic Abuse is a complex issue that needs sensitive handling by a range of health and social care professionals. The cost, in both human and economic terms, is so significant that even marginally effective interventions are cost effective. NICE issued further Domestic Abuse Quality Standards for healthcare providers in February 2016. These standards are aimed at everyone working in health and social care whose work brings them into contact with people who experience or perpetrate Domestic Abuse. Recommendations include key issues of importance for regions to have regard to when delivering local Domestic Abuse strategies.[2]

Housing First

'Housing First' is a recovery-oriented approach to ending homelessness that centres on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and then providing additional support and services as needed https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-03/housing-first-principles-guidance-for-local-authorities.pdf

Thrive Women's Aid has secured funding of £50k from the Nationwide Community Grant to launch a new 'Housing First' service in Neath Port Talbot (NPT). The grant enables Thrive to not only establish a 'Housing First' service in NPT, the only one within the county borough, but it will also serve as the first women's only 'Housing First' project in Wales.

Thrive will work with up to 7 women who have multiple vulnerabilities and are experiencing entrenched homelessness because of domestic abuse, sexual violence and other forms of violence against women.

South Wales Police and Crime Commissioners' Tackling Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2019 – 2024

The strategy sets out four key priority areas for action:

1) Enhanced Collaboration: We will work together to deliver a whole system approach to preventing violence against women and girls in all its forms

2) Prevention and Early Intervention: With partners we will focus on the long-term impact of decisions and work to keep people safe, healthy and well

3) Safeguarding: We will build on existing safeguarding arrangements, seeking ways to protect all victims, wherever they may be

4) Perpetrators: We will increase our focus on the behaviour of the perpetrator (in parallel with supporting victims and survivors of violence and abuse) to better hold perpetrators to account for the consequences of their actions and offer opportunities to change their behaviour through a range of interventions

Their action plan adopts the widely-recognised "Four P's" framework of Prepare, Prevent, Protect, and Pursue and aligns each of these against the priority areas below.

Prepare: ensuring the best possible governance, collaboration and commissioning of evidence-based models and innovation, understand available resource and effectively targeting it, involving those affected to ensure the best outcomes

Prevent: intervening at the earliest opportunity to prevent violence & abuse from occurring or getting worse

Protect: safeguarding victims and potential victims from harm and providing pathways to services

Pursue: placing an active focus on the behaviour of perpetrators and consequences of that behaviour, alongside supporting victims

Wales Audit Office

On behalf of the Auditor General for Wales, the Welsh Audit Office have examined how the new duties and responsibilities of the VAWDASV Act are being rolled out and delivered. Their report was published in November 2019 and concludes that victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence are often let down by an inconsistent, complex and fragmented system.

The report sets out a series of key recommendations that are intended to help bodies who support and have responsibility to assist victims and survivors.[3]

UK and EU

Welsh Government has framed its legislation and guidance on Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence alongside the UK and EU legislation;

- Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (2016-2020)
- European Union (EU) Directive on Victims' Rights[4]
- The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women, and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)
- Welfare Reform

Covid 19 Pandemic

The onset of the Covid 19 pandemic in March 2020 raised significant challenges for victims, survivors and specialist services in the sector and required immediate action from Welsh Government to urgently respond to the crisis. The sector responded with a dedicated and flexible approach during this challenging period of enforced isolation.

3 Welsh Audit Office - Progress in implementing the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act

4 A person should be considered to be a victim regardless of whether an offender is identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted and regardless of the familial relationship between them. For a summary of European Commission priorities for victims of crime see http://ec.europa.eu/justice/criminal/victims/rights/index_en.htm . The full text of the Directive (2012/29/EU) is available at http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32012L0029

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Neath Port Talbot has a range of services available across the county to address VAWDASV.

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RESOURCES AND SERVICE MAPPING

DATA FROM THE CRIME SURVEY FOR ENGLAND & WALES:

2.4 million adults aged 16 years and over experienced domestic abuse

In the year ending March 2022:

1.7 million women

699,000 men

1,500,369 domestic abuse incidents recorded by police in England & Wales in 2022

THE POLICE RECEIVE A DOMESTIC ABUSE-RELATED CALL EVERY 30 SECONDS

Yet it is estimated that **less than 24%** of domestic abuse crime is reported to the police

National Domestic Abuse Helpline delivered 50,791 support sessions through phone call or live chat in the year ending March 2022

£ Domestic abuse costs the UK an estimated **£23 billion** a year.

It is not only weighing on our physical and emotional health, but also our economy

DATA FROM REFUGE:

It takes on average

7 ATTEMPTS

before a woman is able to leave for good.

Leaving an abusive partner is a process, not a single act

Resources to Address VAWDASV in NPT

The funding of services in NPT is complex. The follow funding underpins the delivery of services to survivors of VAWDASV;

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Supporting People	Supporting People Programme Grant	£255,384	33 units of floating support
		£407,255	38 units of refuge and move on accommodation
Community Safety	WG Regional Funding for Swansea and NPT	£424,483	This contributes to funding of the IDVA services across Western Bay. Elements of this funding are awarded to specialist providers across the region to support their project work and service delivery. The remainder is used to fund Communications & Engagement work, Perpetrator related support and training requirements.
	Police & Crime Commissioner	£80,071.50	Contributes to funding of the IDVA service
	Crime Prevention Panel and ad hoc WG funding	£5,000	Target hardening - Security items for victims of VAWDASV
Families First	Welsh Government- Families First	£98,000	Early Intervention & Prevention Services (Provided by Thrive Women's Aid) see page 12
NPTCBC	Core Funding		VAWDASV Support including; • Training Delivery and Roll Out • Senior Policy & Engagement Officer • MARAC Coordinator

Each of the three specialist providers are charities and access funding from a range of other sources;

Recipient	Funding Provider	Amount	Purpose
Thrive WA	Children in Need	£133,283	Children & Young People Service
Thrive WA	NPTCBC	£73,884	SWAN
Thrive WA	Nationwide	£25,000	Housing First
Thrive WA	Comic Relief	£119,903	The EDGE Project
Thrive WA	Think Family Partnership	£278,400	Families First (Early Intervention & Prevention)
Thrive WA	The National Lottery Community Fund	£249,838	LIFE
2022			
Calan DVS	Henry Smith Charity	£179,600	ACEs Recovery Toolkit (adults & children)
Calan DVS	Third Sector Resilience Fund (WCVA)	£46,094	Business Development & Fundraising Co-ordinator post
Calan DVS	Tampon Tax funding (via WWA)	£50,632	SV service
Calan DVS	Garfield Weston Foundation	£25,000	SV service
Calan DVS	MoJ VAWDASV (via South Wales Police	£251,016	SV service
Calan DVS	Bristol University	£92,996	Reprovide – Perpetrator Programme
Calan DVS	Home Office CYP VAWG funding (via WWA partnership bid)	£67,846	Drawing & Talking
Calan DVS	Home Office SVSCSA Funding (via partnership bid)	£123,997	SV service (adults disclosing CSA)
Calan DVS	NPT Third Sector Grant Funding 2023/24	£32,535	Money Coach
Calan DVS	B&Q Foundation	£3,000	Refuge (décor, seating, storage etc.)
Calan DVS	NPT Youth Support Grant (via partnership bid)	£27,888	Myriad Youth Programme (Healthy Relationships) & GSRD training for professionals
Calan DVS	Swansea Bay University Health Board	£346,780	IRIS – Swansea Bay

Recipient	Funding Provider	Amount	Purpose
2021			
Calan DVS	Swansea Bay University Health Board	£180,984	IRIS – Swansea Bay
Calan DVS	South Wales PCC	£22,601	LGBTQ+
Calan DVS	Moondance	£25,539	Peripatetic Support Workers
Calan DVS	HSG – Neath	£20,847	ACEs Recovery Toolkit
Calan DVS	South Wales PCC (via LA)	£45,000	Male IDVA funding
Calan DVS	Moondance	£18,810	SV - counselling
Calan DVS	NPT Third Sector Grant Funding 2022/23	£34,330	ACEs Recovery Toolkit
2020			
Calan DVS	Welsh Government Sustainable Services	£330,871	CYP
Calan DVS	NPT Council	£4,667	Inspiring Families
Calan DVS	National Lottery Community Fund	£464,031	Inspiring Families and Compass (male victims)
Calan DVS	Swansea Bay University Health Board	£21,379	GP training
Calan DVS	NPT Council	£4,667	Inspiring Families
Calan DVS	Welsh Government	£1,200	Advanced training for VAWDASV practitioners working with CYP
Calan DVS	Welsh Government	£700	Communications activity

Recipient	Funding Provider	Amount* (Confidential information)	Purpose
Hafan Cymru	NPT Council		Provision of supported accommodation for women and families experiencing domestic abuse
Hafan Cymru	NPT Council		Provision of floating support for male victims of domestic abuse
Hafan Cymru	NPT Council		Provision of floating support for female victims of domestic abuse
Hafan Cymru	Welsh Government		Spectrum Project in schools in Wales (including NPT) - we have a team of qualified teachers providing the Spectrum Project, teaching young people and teachers about healthy relationships and DA-related information

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Resources and Service Mapping Conclusion

Over the past 3 years, the picture has changed across NPT. This is not only due to work undertaken as part of the strategy, but due to changes in funding arrangements. Grant funded programmes continue to be on a short term basis, which makes long term sustainability difficult to achieve.

The Covid 19 pandemic also impacted funding arrangements and led to service providers operating under unprecedented demand and conditions. While restrictions are now largely lifted across the UK, the level of demand on services remains high and is now coupled with the challenges arising from the complex needs of service users as well as the current cost of living crisis and difficulties in recruiting and retaining a skilled and experienced workforce.

We recognise that there is a range of good quality services available in Neath Port Talbot. However, we are still in a position where some of these services need modernisation and work is still underway to achieve this.

- There is a continued need to further develop Early Intervention and Prevention and Community Based Services to prevent and reduce the number of victims requiring crisis services

- More focus is needed on supporting victims to remain in their own homes

- We acknowledge that there remains to be a limited insight into male victims and marginal groups and we need to explore this in more detail over the coming years

- There has been an increased focus on sexual violence prevention and support over the past 3 years and we will continue to develop this support in partnership with specialist organisations

- We recognise there is a need to commission services differently, for those victims with complex needs, such as mental health and substance use

- A number of programmes working with perpetrators at a range of risk levels have been introduced over the past 3 years and we recognise the value in continuing to develop these interventions

- We must ensure survivors continue to be involved in every area of VAWDASV policy and local work

In terms of criminal justice outcomes, there is scope for further improvement and the three Domestic Homicide Reviews that have taken place in this area emphasise the importance of effective offender management, especially when perpetrators have been shown to demonstrate a pattern of escalating violence. This is also explored further on in the strategy.
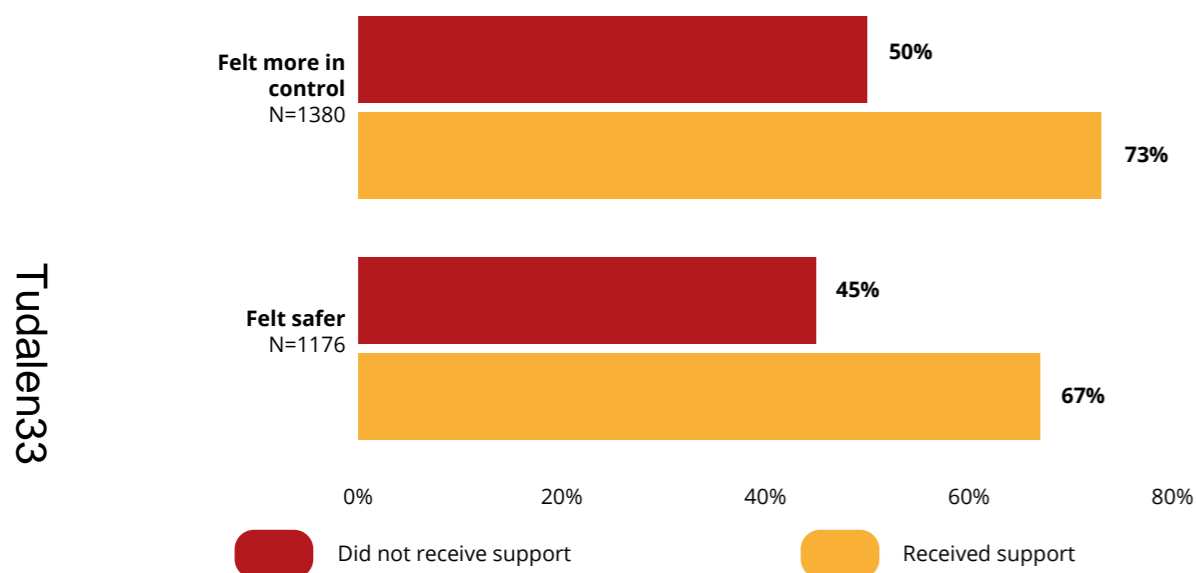
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Survivor voice is key to the development of services for VAWDASV and the Domestic Abuse Commissioners report, 'Patchwork of Provision' undertook research across England & Wales in 2022 with survivors and specialist providers.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT >

Some of the findings of this report are highlighted below.[5]

The first key finding was that **specialist support services are effective in enabling victims and survivors to feel safer and more in control of their lives following abuse.**

FIGURE 1 Percentage of respondents who felt safer and more in control than when they first tried to seek support, according to whether they had received support.

Felt more in control N=1380	50% (Did not receive support) / 73% (Received support)
Felt safer N=1176	45% (Did not receive support) / 67% (Received support)

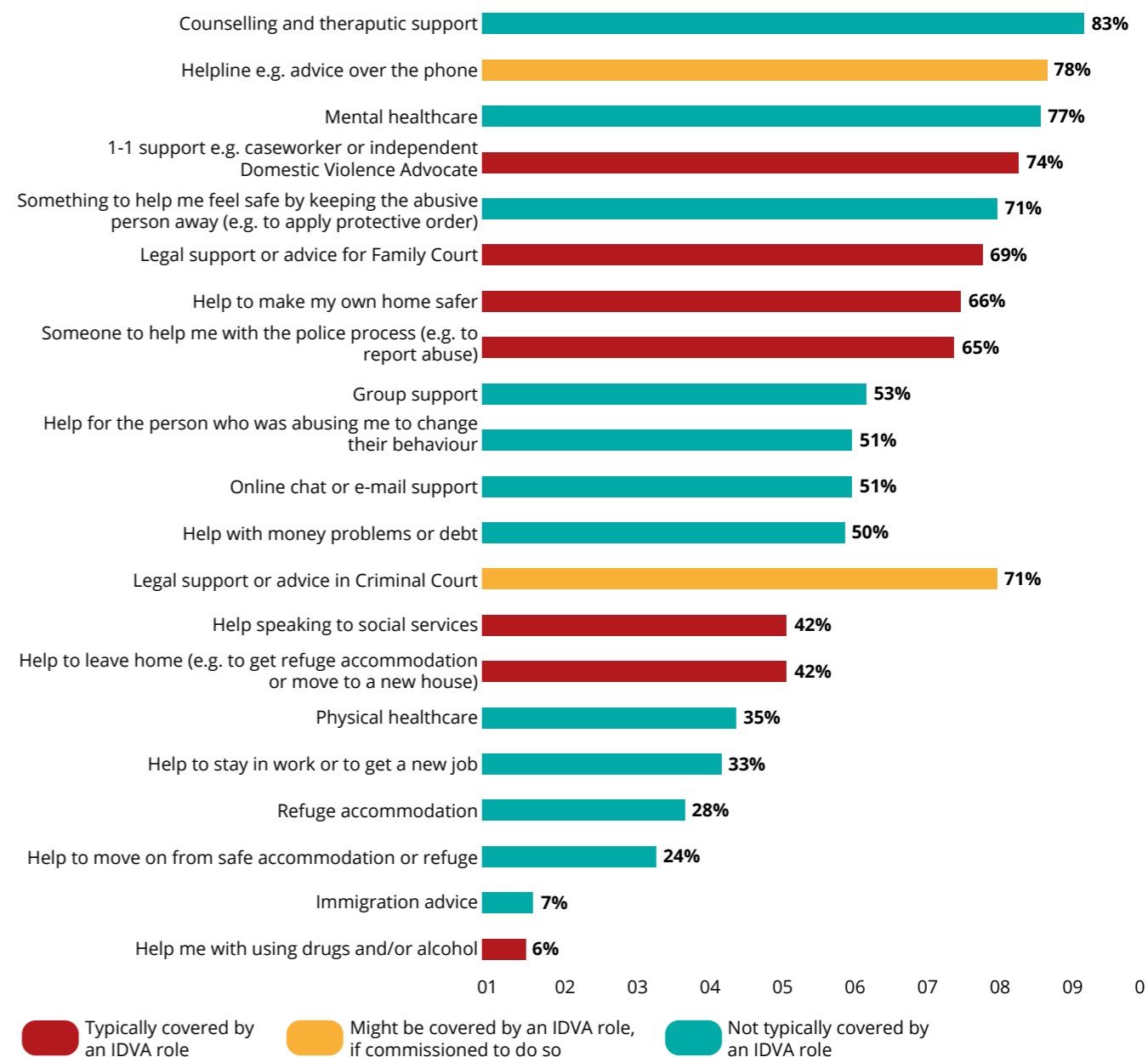■ Did not receive support   ■ Received support

It is clear that being able to access support services had a significant effect on those who were able to gain support compared to those who did not.

A further key finding in the report was that **Victims and survivors need a range of types of support to help them find safety and to cope and recover from abuse.** Most victims and survivors wanted some form of community-based support, and a combination of practical support, such as helpline advice, or one-to-one advocacy or caseworker support, and longer-term therapeutic support, such as counselling or mental health support.

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FIGURE 2 Percentage of respondents wanting support for domestic abuse during the previous three years according to intervention type.

Intervention type	Percentage
Counselling and theraputic support	83%
Helpline e.g. advice over the phone	78%
Mental healthcare	77%
1-1 support e.g. caseworker or independent Domestic Violence Advocate	74%
Something to help me feel safe by keeping the abusive person away (e.g. to apply protective order)	71%
Legal support or advice for Family Court	69%
Help to make my own home safer	66%
Someone to help me with the police process (e.g. to report abuse)	65%
Group support	53%
Help for the person who was abusing me to change their behaviour	51%
Online chat or e-mail support	51%
Help with money problems or debt	50%
Legal support or advice in Criminal Court	71%
Help speaking to social services	42%
Help to leave home (e.g. to get refuge accommodation or move to a new house)	42%
Physical healthcare	35%
Help to stay in work or to get a new job	33%
Refuge accommodation	28%
Help to move on from safe accommodation or refuge	24%
Immigration advice	7%
Help me with using drugs and/or alcohol	6%

■ Typically covered by an IDVA role   ■ Might be covered by an IDVA role, if commissioned to do so   ■ Not typically covered by an IDVA role

Local data from survivors was collated in January 2023. A summary of the findings is detailed below.

Did you find it easy to access local services for support?

Some respondents reported they found it difficult to access support services. The reasons included:

- Being unable to make telephone calls to arrange appointments, it would be better if appointments could be made via email or online

- Feeling unworthy or not entitled to access help as a result of years of brainwashing by perpetrator

- Fear of not being believed

- Feeling ashamed of abusive situation
- Services were limited and more suited to people who were not working

What were the good things about the support you received and what worked well?

- Counselling programmes, Freedom Programme etc
- Good quality support and guidance
- Helped me to identify abuse

If support didn't work well, why was this?

- Lack of referrals for further support
- Long waiting lists
- Inadequate services for children

What are the 3 most important things service providers should do to make sure they meet people's needs?

- Continued support/longer timescales for support
- Support tailored to my needs
- Referrals for further support/assistance
- More funding for resources/staff

What do you think an 'excellent service' would offer?

- Someone who is always there and never judgemental, who takes interest in listening & advising
- More options to contact the local office and make appointments without the need for phone call
- More varied advice

What kind of help and support would assist in preventing and reducing Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence?

- Access to housing and employment
- More support and belief of victims.

My ex admitted to some of his abuses but I still didn't have enough evidence for a conviction apparently - this is unacceptable

- More education in coercive control and unhealthy behaviours in schools and colleges
- More police intervention

Overall, how would you describe your experience with domestic abuse support services?

- Always helpful and always there
- Glad they're there but always room for improvement
- They have been so kind and understanding and made me feel believed finally
- Its frustrating that I still haven't been able to progress my personal situation but that's not for the lack of their attempts to assist
- More funding is required

It is clear that respondents require a high quality, personal support service and once able to access a service many found some of the support that they needed. It was important for many to feel they were believed and entitled to ask for help.

However, as pointed out, there is always room for improvement. Some responses stated they felt the need for their involvement with the service to be extended, or to be referred on to a further service for continued support.

7 ➡

The purpose of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 is to;

- improve arrangements for the **prevention** of VAWDASV;
- improve arrangements for the **protection** of victims of VAWDASV and;
- to improve **support** for people affected by VAWDASV.

OVERARCHING FRAMEWORK & STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Prevention

We are committed to preventing violence in relationships from happening, by challenging the attitude and behaviours which foster it and intervening early, where possible, to prevent its recurrence.

The prevention of violence is central to agendas on public health; reducing crime and the harm caused by serious violent crime; safeguarding children and adults with support needs; promoting education, learning and skills development; and promoting equality.

Prevention involves education to change attitudes and perceptions (to reduce the incidence of a problem among a population before it occurs) and can be targeted, at broad population groups, such as school-age children or members of a particular community.

Protection

We are committed to ensuring those who experience any form of violence are appropriately protected, eliminating the risk of further harm to victims and their children.

We want **anyone** experiencing these issues to be aware of the support that is available locally and we want to be confident that all professionals within our area are equipped with the knowledge to effectively respond to any disclosures.

Support

We are committed to providing high-quality support for survivors and their families, ensuring services meet their needs and prioritise their safety, to enable them to achieve independence and freedom from abuse.

It is vital that survivors receive the right support, at the right time, to enable them to take action that is right for them.

Strategic Objectives

The strategic objectives for 2023-2026 will mirror those in our original strategy as well as aligning with the Wales National VAWDASV Strategy. Having similar Objectives within Neath Port Talbot enables us to demonstrate how we will support the Welsh Government in achieving its policy objectives regarding Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence. However, it is important to note that Objective 7 does not form part of the Welsh Government National Strategy as this is focused on Criminal Justice. Welsh Government do not have devolved responsibility for this area, it remains the responsibility of the UK Government. In order to ensure a holistic response to VAWDASV in NPT we want to reflect the contribution that CJS partners are making locally, and how we will work to improve these arrangements.

The remainder of this chapter will provide a breakdown of each objective and the actions that we will work towards over the next three years. There are actions that can be delivered locally and others that lend themselves to a regional approach.

The actions are designed to be manageable and achievable, ensuring we are able to make a difference to local victims and their families. All actions require a continued, strong, partnership approach for maximum effectiveness and positive outcomes.

Objective 1

Increase the reports of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Neath Port Talbot, through awareness raising and challenging attitudes.

Current Position

Over the past six years, a substantial amount of work has gone into the development of the VAWDASV Communications & Engagement Group. The group now operates on a regional basis and ensures delivery of a coordinated and strategic approach.

The group has a strong, clear Terms of Reference with membership from relevant partner agencies. The group also has a Communications Plan and calendar of key events.

The group continue to be responsible for;

- the development and implementation of a programme of awareness raising of all VAWDASV services

- raising awareness of the impact of VAWDASV on victims

- organising, promoting and undertaking prevention campaigns and initiatives

The group delivers universal awareness campaigns, to raise awareness and increase peoples understanding about VAWDASV, including the help and support that is available locally, regionally and nationally.

The group has benefited from the involvement of survivor members in order to focus the group's efforts in terms of awareness raising, by sharing their experiences, positive and negative.

There will always be a need to raise awareness within our communities and to promote the help and support that is available. Communities need to recognise all forms of VAWDASV and the harm it causes, be supportive of survivors and be able to provide information about the help that is available. This is critical since much support to victims comes from these sources, not from service providers. A positive and knowledgeable response from the immediate network surrounding victims and their children is critical to increasing the likelihood of early intervention.

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis, we will;

1. Continue the Regional Communications & Engagement group on a regional basis, and ensure the membership of the group remains inclusive. Membership to be expanded where appropriate to include:

   » a. Area Planning Board representative

2. Continue to raise awareness of the following initiatives to further encourage victims to come forward and access appropriate help and support:

   » a. Live Fear Free - Welsh Government helpline available 24/7 with free, confidential advice and support for anyone affected by domestic abuse or sexual violence

   » b. Clare's Law – Clare's Law, also known as the Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme, allows people to find out if their partner has an abusive or violent past. It is named after Clare Wood, who was killed by her former partner in 2009

   » c. Bright Sky – Bright Sky is a **free to download, discreet mobile app** providing support and information for anyone who may be in an abusive relationship or those concerned about someone they know

   » d. Ask Angela – Ask Angela is a **sexual violence prevention campaign** which aims to help individuals feel safe when they are on a night out. An individual can get help by asking a member of staff for Angela at the bar if they are feeling uncomfortable on a date, or in a potentially dangerous situation

3. Actively promote the Respect Helpline for victims and perpetrators during local engagement events

4. Continue to amplify Welsh Government campaigns regarding VAWDASV, to ensure we play our part in strengthening the messages and making them recognisable across all areas of Wales

5. Consider alternative approaches to engage with marginalised groups, encouraging more people to come forward if they are experiencing VAWDASV

6. Develop, launch and evaluate a local Sexual Violence Prevention campaign, using local data to ensure messages are targeted at those who may be at most risk within our communities as well as identifying perpetrator behaviours

7. Increase awareness of sexual exploitation and street harassment through local, regional and national campaigns

8. Maintain an annual calendar of national and local events and activities

Objective 2

Increase awareness in children, young people and adults of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and empowering them to positive personal choices.

An overview of available research into the effectiveness of interventions around domestic abuse[6] found that the majority of preventative approaches involved targeting young people and adults through community or school based activities. This would include, for example, work in schools and communities with children and young people, between the ages of 5-25 years on healthy relationships.

Adopting a whole education approach to VAWDASV is a key element to increasing awareness, providing support and creating opportunities for children and young people to understand the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships. A whole education approach that includes preventative education through all parts of school and college life, involving the community, has been identified as significant in being able to teach preventative education.

Welsh Women's Aid and the Welsh Government have published a good practice guide on a Whole Education Approach to ensure that schools and educational bodies are equipped and considered in their response to VAWDASV and the prevention, protection and support of their pupils and staff.

Under the Welsh Government Whole Education Approach Guidance, there are 9 Key Principles.

1. Children and young people learn about violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

2. Staff learn about violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

3. Parents, care-givers and family learn about violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

4. Monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to measure impact of this work

5. Measures are in place to support people who experience forms of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

6. Active participation of children and young people, staff and parents/care-givers to prevent violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

7. Taking action to prevent violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence in the wider community

8. Working in partnership with relevant local experts

9. Embedding a comprehensive prevention programme

Within Neath Port Talbot the Relationship & Sexuality Education Group are responsible for the coordination and delivery of all RSE that takes place in local schools. This group is made up of representatives from NPT Youth Service, Public Health Wales, School Nursing, specialist providers, South Wales Police and others.

Current Position

The current arrangements with the Relationships and Sexuality Education Group have proved a key driving force in delivering a whole school approach to RSE and the roll out of the new code established by the Curriculum and Assessment (2021) Act which makes RSE a mandatory element in all schools.

Within NPT the following initiatives are delivered to children and young people;

- Spectrum
- All Wales School Liaison Core Programme
- Higher Education Awareness Raising Events
- Crucial Crew
- 'It's Your World' Well-Being Workshops
- Relationship and Sexuality Education, including age appropriate Healthy Relationship Lessons

For 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

1. Continue to work towards a Whole School Approach across NPT

2. Through the Relationship & Sexuality Education Group, ensure the Healthy Relationship lesson continues delivery to all schools across Neath Port Talbot, ensuring take up is monitored and increased over the next 3 years

3. Explore opportunities for challenging misogynistic behaviour and toxic masculinity with young people, considering the influence of social media

4. Use existing initiatives (such as Crucial Crew, It's Your World Well-Being Workshops, the Healthy Relationship Lesson, Spectrum programme and the Whole School Approach) to ensure all children are aware of services or points of contact with whom they can share any concerns they may have about their own relationships or their friends, family or others in the community

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

1. Raise awareness of all Welsh Government VAWADSV campaigns targeted at CYP with an emphasis on challenging misogyny and developing conversations about acceptable language and behaviour

2. Consider increased opportunities to engage with those in higher education settings about healthy relationships, consent, peer on peer abuse and problematic sexual behaviour, misogyny and related topics

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6 NICE (2013) Review of Interventions to Identify, Prevent, Reduce and Respond to Domestic Violence prepared by the British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health.

Objective 3

Increase the focus on holding those who commit abuse to account and supporting those who may carry out abusive or violent behaviour to change their behaviour and avoid offending.

We are committed to taking action to reduce the risk to victims, ensuring that perpetrators are provided with opportunities for change in a way that maximises safety.

The case for commissioning and delivering community-based perpetrator programmes has been set out by Respect[7] and the largest UK research into programme effectiveness was published recently.[8]

Accredited programmes typically have linked safety and/or support services for partners and ex-partners of programme participants and have a minimum time period required for the best possible chance of effective and sustained behaviour change.

Perpetrator programmes are far more than a behaviour change programme. As well as their services for victims (and sometimes children), they also provide a point of reference for advice for other organisations on perpetrators, and write reports for family court proceedings, children's services, CAFCASS (Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service), criminal courts, and child protection conferences. This represents a substantial contribution to informed decision making by a wide range of agencies that are intervening in domestic abuse.

Current Position

In the last three years, local specialist providers and the Community Safety Team have made significant progress around perpetrator related work and support. The available provision is as follows;

Inspiring Families

Calan DVS provide the Inspiring Families Programme which is an innovative intervention and assessment programme that can help strengthen and stabilise families. It is a structured 10 week programme for families that are affected by domestic abuse and provides professionals with a robust framework to assess the parents' behaviour, coercive control, disguised compliance, the level of current risk and the likelihood of future risk. Inspiring Families also identifies the potential for change and reduction of risk within the family, or indeed, whether the risk is too high or the potential for change too low to make working with the family a viable option.

The intervention has been designed to be an accessible tool that will provide professionals with the evidence they need to make an assessment of the family and to identify the need and level of intervention required moving forward.

The programme also supports professionals to make intelligent based decisions on what is the right intervention, for that family or individual members of that family at the right time and in the right order.

In 2022, Calan DVS was appointed to deliver the **REPROVIDE** Programme in key areas across South Wales including Neath Port Talbot, Bridgend and Swansea.

REPROVIDE is a research study looking at the effectiveness of a group behaviour change programme for men. The programme aims to:

- Support with safety planning in the early stages
- Work with men to increase capacity to 'straight talk' and explore denial
- Develop a critical awareness of attitudes, beliefs and expectations that support the use of violence and abuse (CBT)
- Build empathy for victims
- Identify and practice alternative behaviour

DRIVE

The Drive project is an innovative domestic abuse intervention rolled out in NPT in 2020 with funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner. It aims to reduce the number of child and adult victims by disrupting and changing perpetrator behaviour.

The project focuses on high-risk, high-harm and/or serial perpetrators, as this group carries the greatest risk of serious harm, and engagement with available services is low. Drive implements a whole-system approach using intensive case management alongside a coordinated multi-agency response, working closely with victim services, the police, probation, children's social services, housing, substance misuse and mental health teams.

The Drive Project focuses on reducing risk and increasing victim safety by combining disruption, support and behaviour change interventions alongside the crucial protective work by victim services.

Change That Lasts – CLEAR

Thrive Women's Aid launched their CLEAR programme in 2022, an awareness raising course aimed at motivating men to make positive changes, building on their existing strengths and resources as well as working with each man to address his identified needs.

The course provides a space for men to: -

- Identify the different forms of abusive behaviour and the impact of this behaviour on others
- Examine their own thinking and behaviour and how gendered cultural messages can influence their thinking and behaviour
- Identify and regulate emotions to promote pro-social behaviour
- Identify and encourage positive support networks
- Identify, set and work towards goals to promote well being

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

1. Ensure perpetrators of domestic abuse receive appropriate intervention to disrupt and change perpetrating behaviours

2. Promote interventions like Reprovide across the region to raise awareness and encourage participation

3. Ensure there are suitable referral pathways, to encourage referrals, use and attendance of all perpetrator programmes

4. Consider what measures we can take to improve the identification of perpetrators and engage them in programmes that tackle their behaviour and hold them to account

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7 The Respect document, published in 2010 – 'Domestic Violence Perpetrators: Working with the cause of the problem – is available at http://www.respect.uk.net/data/files/lobbying/lobbying_tool_with_refs_30.11.10.pdf
8 https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/ProjectMirabalexecutivesummary.pdf

5. Work with Housing Options to monitor the number of perpetrator evictions under the Renting Homes Wales Act, which states *'perpetrators of domestic abuse can be targeted for eviction to help prevent those experiencing domestic abuse from becoming homeless; supporting the aims of the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 to provide preventive, protective and supportive mechanisms in the delivery of services[9]'*

6. Explore opportunities to work with female perpetrators and perpetrators of sexual abuse

For 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

1. Continue to promote and develop clear referral pathways to CLEAR to support men who have identified concerns about their behaviour

2. Continue to work with local specialist providers to support families and identify the most effective interventions

3. Work with the Communications and Engagement Group to encourage workplaces to develop a zero tolerance environment to workplace harassment by raising awareness with organisations and sharing consistent messages

Objective 4

Make early intervention and prevention a priority – To reduce the number of repeat victims and reduce the number of high risk cases

Preventing violence and intervening at the earliest possible stage to prevent its occurrence is the fundamental building block to an effective strategy. The need to minimise reactive interventions once a crisis has occurred is pivotal to the ambition to end violence.

We know that adults in Wales who were physically or sexually abused as children or brought up in households where there was VAWDASV, alcohol or drug use are more likely to adopt health-harming and anti-social behaviours in adult life. Research is identifying the long-term harm that can result from chronic stress on individuals during childhood. Such stress may arise from the abuse and neglect of children, but also from growing up in households where children are routinely exposed to issues such as VAWDASV, or individuals with alcohol and other substance use problems. It is critical therefore, for the long term health and welfare of our nation that we intervene early to reduce and prevent the incidence of violence, reducing the harm to victims and their children.

Current Position

A high proportion of funding in NPT continues to be focused on medium / high risk victims. More focus is needed on prevention and early intervention to avoid violence escalating and victims needing the high risk services or crisis interventions. NPT has worked with Welsh Women's Aid, implementing elements of their Change That Lasts model to develop a community based approach to achieve an earlier, more informed and supportive response from community members and professionals.

For 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

1. Continue to work with Supporting People, the Area Planning Board, Community Safety and Families First commissioners to refocus funding in line with a new service model

2. Consider the work of the Dr. Jane Monckton Smith when planning or commissioning services

3. Continue to work with South Wales Police on the Early Action Together programme, incorporating ACE'S into their work and integrating services into the Social Services front door

4. Work with the Communications and Engagement Group to conduct research to identify unidentified need – working with local services to better understand the needs of marginalised groups in our area, identifying any gaps in current provision

5. Continue to support local services in developing targeted outreach provision to tackle violence against those experiencing harm or exploited by the sex industry

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

1. Continue to support the roll out of IRIS across the region

2. Consider further working with Welsh Women's Aid to deliver on their Change That Lasts Model

Objective 5

Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors

Current Position

A National Training Framework Sub Group has been developed involving representatives from Training & Development, Community Safety and Swansea Bay University Health Board. The group is responsible for the development of the training plan for roll out across the authority – identifying those who require varying levels of the training and how this will be rolled out, whilst learning from the experiences of the Swansea Bay University Health Board pilot and sharing best practice.

With the roll out of the National Training Framework it will undoubtedly increase referrals into local services and we need to be clear of a referral pathway for all professionals to follow. The VAWDASV Leadership Group will have an important role to play in how we overcome any issues that may arise as a result of this.

For 2023-26, on a local basis we will;

1. Provide Group 1 training to all new NPT staff as part of their induction and provide refreshers to existing staff in line with the National Training Framework

2 Work with local service providers to ensure they continue to receive appropriate training on complex needs in line with Groups 4 and 5 of the National Training Framework

3 Ensure all agencies in the local VAWDASV partnership continue to give a commitment to training plans within their own organisation over the next 3 years

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4   When delivering VAWDASV training, continue to give consideration to the recommendations of local Domestic Homicide Reviews, to ensure everyone feels confident to signpost victims to appropriate support services or VAWDASV champions

5   Continue to raise awareness, through our training roll out, of the 'Safe Leave' policy for NPT staff who are affected by VAWDASV

For 2023-26, on a regional basis we will;

1. Continue to roll out 'Ask & Act' Group 2 Training promoting the Ask & Act Pathway and regional specialist partners to priority groups of staff across NPT in partnership with Swansea

2   Roll out 'Ask & Act' Group 3 Training to organisational champions across the region in partnership with Swansea, Swansea Bay University Health Board and specialist regional partners

3   Provide accredited local authority and health board 'Ask & Act' trainers with additional training to support their continuous professional development and the sustainability of their training

4   Work with Welsh Women's Aid and partners to deliver Group 6 of the National Training Framework to all local members and senior leaders

Provide all victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs-led, strength-based, inter-sectional and responsive services across Wales.

Current Position

Current services within NPT are detailed in Chapter 5 of this strategy. A high proportion of funding supports high risk victims and whilst services are county borough wide, access points are principally in the two main towns of Neath and Port Talbot.

As outlined earlier in the strategy, we have 3 specialist Domestic Abuse providers in the area, offering refuge accommodation, move on accommodation, floating support, advocacy and advice.

Thrive Women's Aid have secured funding to develop a supported housing programme providing specialist accommodation to victims of domestic abuse and their families. Four properties will be available from March 2023, increasing to twenty properties by March 2024, along with 2 Housing Officers providing additional support.

Sexual Violence Counselling services are offered across the region by New Pathways.

The Council's Housing Options Service, also based in Neath, is available for anyone in housing difficulty, including those experiencing Domestic Abuse.

For 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

1. Continue to have regard for VAWDASV Commissioning Guidance in our practice so that those who commission services can ensure activity is better informed, more joined up and value for money, ensuring that specialist services in NPT meet victims' needs

2. Further develop links with local specialist providers who meet the needs of people affected by other forms of violence such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

3. Work with Supporting People to complete the commissioning exercise to implement a new service model for Accommodation and Support

4. Implement the findings of the Review of Social Services response to domestic abuse to improve support which is survivor informed and joined-up with good communication channels across all organisations

5. Continue to support the new RAPID project delivered in partnership by Thrive Women's Aid and South Wales Police

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

6. Consider ways to further expand the provision of the SWAN service across the region
    The SWAN Project, delivered by Swansea Women's Aid, supports women who are sex working. They provide practical and emotional support and aim to improve the safety and well-being of women accessing the service)

Increase focus on improving the recognition of, and responses to VAWDASV in all Criminal Justice proceedings.

An integral element of this strategy is justice and protection for survivors and their families according to their needs, within a criminal and civil justice framework and also within a wider social context.

Prosecution

It is well documented that many victims do not report VAWDASV related crimes to the police[10] and, that a significant proportion of those who do, later withdraw their complaints.[11]

There needs to be greater confidence in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) in order to increase reporting and as a result, increase victims' access to safety, support and justice and reduce the risk of re-victimisation.

A number of studies have shown that in the policing context, perceptions of fairness and decent treatment were at times more important than effectiveness and outcomes in determining satisfaction and confidence. Victims want to be treated with respect and dignity. Research also highlights that the outcomes and sentence are highly influential on victims' views of the CJS.[12]

The majority of perpetrators are men and boys. As most cases never come to the attention of the Criminal Justice System, there are few sanctions for their behaviour. Therefore, a drive to improve criminal justice system services, ensuring a renewed focus on prosecuting and convicting perpetrators is essential to driving victim and wider public confidence.

10 Statistical bulletin: Crime in England and Wales, Year Ending December 2012, Office for National Statistics
11 CEDAW Thematic Shadow Report on Violence Against Women in the UK, Sen and Kelly (2007)
12 Victims' views of court and sentencing (October 2011). Commissioner for Victims and Witnesses in England and Wales

Family Courts

For specialist service providers supporting victim the Family Court process has long been a cause for concern. Whilst improvements have been made in the criminal courts, there is an increasing need for the Family Courts to follow in their footsteps. Domestic Abuse is an issue in 70% of cases in the family courts across England and Wales. Providers have expressed concerns of victims having to participate in mediation with the perpetrator, needing to represent themselves at Court and sometimes being cross examined by the perpetrator during the process.

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

1. Work in partnership with South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner to further improve outcomes; to reduce the number of repeat victims; and to identify how we can intervene effectively much earlier

2. Continue to work in partnership with the Police and Courts, to identify what needs to change to better support victims, including victimless prosecutions and how evidence is gathered

3. Continue to increase awareness with local solicitors, magistrates, and legal reps of the importance of recognising all forms of VAWDASV and providing appropriate responses in family court situations

4. Continue to promote the use of remote evidence facilities across the region. To ensure victims are fully aware of the service and are appropriately supported throughout the court process

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LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

The strategic direction and oversight of the Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy is held by the VAWDASV Leadership Group, which is accountable to the Safer Neath Port Talbot Community Safety Partnership Board (CSP).
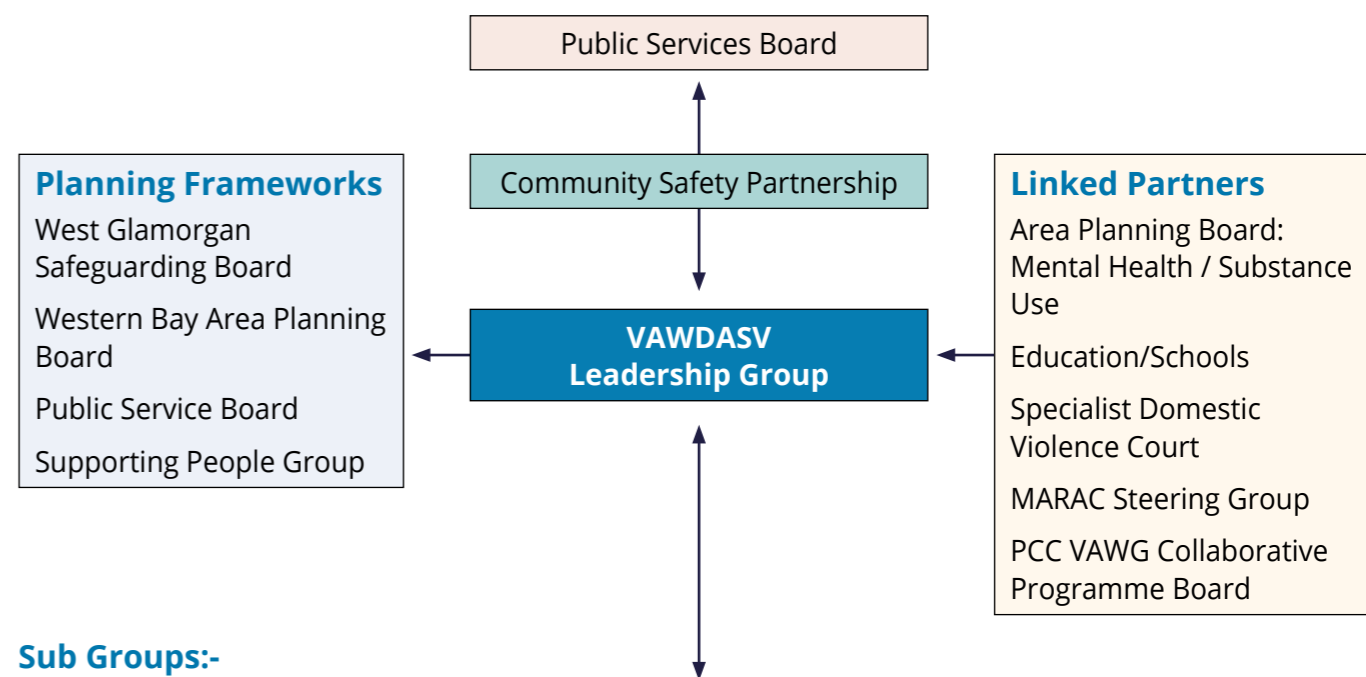
The Public Services Board will provide challenge and support to the Community Safety Partnership in progressing this Strategy.

The Leadership Group will continue to establish annual priorities drawn from this Strategy that will be progressed through clearly agreed actions plans. A delivery plan will be developed to highlight which aspects of the work will be delivered locally and regionally and to allow the Leadership Group to easily monitor progress.

The measures listed in this strategy will be regularly reported to the Leadership Group by the designated leads for each objective.

The diagram opposite illustrates the revised governance structure around this strategy for 2023-26.

For 2023-2026 the Leadership Group will;

- Publish an annual report to highlight progress made on all areas of this strategy
- Hold a regional annual event to discuss progress made and agree the priority area's for the following year
- Ensure membership of the Group remains appropriate and inclusive of all relevant services and partners

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                    │   Public Services Board  │
                    └─────────────────────────┘
                               ↕
┌────────────────────┐ ┌─────────────────────────┐ ┌────────────────────────┐
│ Planning Frameworks│ │Community Safety Partnership│ │   Linked Partners      │
│                    │ └─────────────────────────┘ │                        │
│ West Glamorgan     │              ↓               │ Area Planning Board:   │
│ Safeguarding Board │ ┌─────────────────────────┐ │ Mental Health / Substance│
│                    │ │        VAWDASV          │ │ Use                    │
│ Western Bay Area   │←│     Leadership Group    │←│ Education/Schools       │
│ Planning Board     │ └─────────────────────────┘ │ Specialist Domestic    │
│                    │              ↑               │ Violence Court         │
│ Public Service Board│                             │ MARAC Steering Group   │
│                    │                              │ PCC VAWG Collaborative │
│ Supporting People  │                              │ Programme Board        │
│ Group              │                              │                        │
└────────────────────┘                              └────────────────────────┘
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Sub Groups:-

Communications & Engagement Group	Raise awareness of VAWDASV and local partnership work Delivering on Objective 1 within the Healthy Relationship for Stronger Communities Strategy	Lisa Potterton
Relationship & Sexuality Education Group	Overseeing the continuous improvement of the RSE Lesson packs, ensuring age appropriate RSE lessons are delivered across all schools in NPT Delivering on Objective 2 within the Healthy Relationship for Stronger Communities Strategy	Corinne Fry
National Training Framework (inc Ask & Act) Group	To implement the National Training Framework, Ask & Act Model and identify / arrange other relevant training Delivering on Objective 5 within the Healthy Relationship for Stronger Communities Strategy	Rachel Dixon
Service Provider Forum	To share good practise and raise and formalise escalation of concerns	Lisa Potterton
MARAC Steering Group	To oversee the MARAC arrangements for Neath Port Talbot Council, ensuring it is fit for purpose and effective	Claire Jones

*Sub Groups to feed in to Quarterly Leadership Group meetings via a Highlight Report – Agenda Items to be scheduled.

Time Limited Task & Finish Groups:-

As Required by VAWDASV Leadership Group	Time limited Task & Finish Groups can be established by the VAWDASV Leadership Group, for any emerging issues that would not otherwise be appropriate for the Sub Groups to address or take forward

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Membership of the VAWDASV Leadership Group

- NPTCBC
  - » Community Safety
  - » Children's Services
  - » Commissioning
  - » Adult Safeguarding
  - » Substance Misuse
  - » Education
  - » Training and Development
  - » Youth Service
- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- South Wales Police
- Thrive Women's Aid
- Calan DVS
- Hafan Cymru
- BAWSO
- New Pathways
- Tai Tarian
- Police & Crime Commissioner
- Probation
- Welsh Women's Aid
- Welsh Ambulance Service
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

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In order to demonstrate the progress made on each of the seven objectives within this strategy, a set of key performance indicators will be developed.

Progress reports will be discussed at the VAWDASV Leadership Group meetings and integrated into every Annual Report.

MEASURES

How will we know we are making a difference?

Survivor Feedback

As outlined earlier on in this strategy, survivor engagement and feedback is vital to shaping future services and understanding whether the work we do and the services we offer are meeting the needs of our communities.

Objective 1 - Communications & Engagement

- The number of Clare's Law requests made within Neath Port Talbot and the number of those where VAWDASV related concerns were raised
- The social media reach of all VAWDASV campaigns promoted by the Communications & Engagement Group
- The number of people reporting VAWDASV and/or accessing specialist support services
- The number of calls made to the Respect Helpline from the Neath Port Talbot area and their outcomes

Objective 2 – Children and Young People

- The number of children in Neath Port Talbot schools who have received a Healthy Relationship lesson and the % of those children who retained some the key information from that lesson 6 months later

Objective 3 – Perpetrators

- The number of referrals made to the local Perpetrator Programme, including the % of those referred who have successfully engaged with the programme

Objective 4 – Early Intervention & Prevention

- Of the referrals into SPOC, the number of these that were VAWDASV related and the % referred for statutory services or early intervention. What were the outcomes?
- The number of referrals into services from those who are affected by any form of VAWDASV, but who identify as LGBT, are older, disabled, a male victim, or a member of the BAME community

Objective 5 – Training

- The number of staff who have been trained to the appropriate level of the National Training Framework, depending on their individual roles
- The number of staff within partner organisations who have completed VAWDASV related training

Objective 6 – Accessible Services

- Survivor Feedback
- Number of presentations to Housing Options as a result of VAWDASV and their outcomes
- Referrals to specialist providers, programmes offered, and outcomes
- % of cases known to Adult Services where VAWDASV is a concern

Objective 7 – Criminal Justice Proceedings

- Usage of the remote evidence facilities and the outcomes
- The number of high risk victims supported by the IDVA service; the % of those who engage with support and the % who are repeat victims
- The number of victims supported through a court process and the % of those that have a positive outcome

Appendix 1 - Glossary

ACE's	Adverse Childhood Experiences
APB	Area Planning Board
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
BAWSO	Black Association of Women Step Out
C&E	Communications & Engagement
CAFCASS	Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service
Calan DVS	Calan Domestic Violence Services
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CYP	Children and Young People
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review
EIP	Early Intervention & Prevention
EU	European Union
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GP	General Practitioner
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
IRIS	Identification and Referral to Improve Safety
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
NICE	National Institute of Clinical Excellence
NPT	Neath Port Talbot
NPTCBC	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
OSS	One Stop Shop
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
PSB	Public Services Board

RSE	Relationship & Sexuality Education
SBUHB	Swansea Bay University Health Board
SP	Supporting People
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
SSWBA	Social Services & Well-Being Act
SV	Sexual Violence
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
VAWDASV	Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
WA	Women's Aid
WG	Welsh Government
WWA	Welsh Women's Aid
YJEIS	Youth Justice Early Intervention Service

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Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy (2023-2026)

www.npt.gov.uk

Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

DRAFT
Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy (2023-2026)

Officers;

Elinor Wellington – Principal Officer, Community Safety
Lisa Potterton – Senior Policy & Engagement Officer, Community Safety

Introduction

- The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Act (Wales) 2015 placed a duty on Local Authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare a strategy for their local area in order to improve prevention, protection and support for victims.

- The first Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy was launched in 2017 and subsequently revised in 2020 and now 2023.

- The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Leadership Group has overseen the implementation of each strategy with various sub-groups commissioned to undertake certain objectives and actions

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- Significant developments have been made over the past 3 years, despite the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions. These achievements were outlined in our recent annual report.

  However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a number of actions contained within our 2020-2023 strategy inevitably had to be postponed, as the primary focus of our VAWDASV Leadership Group was to ensure we were working together to address the significant increases in demands across all services, and ensure victims were aware that they could still access help and support.

- As a result of this, a number of actions have been carried forward into the 2023-2026 strategy.

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Objective 1

Increase the reports of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Neath Port Talbot, through awareness raising and challenging attitudes

For 2023-2026, on a regional basis, we will;

- Continue the Regional Communications & Engagement group on a regional basis, and ensure the membership of the group remains inclusive.

  Continue to raise awareness of the following initiatives to further encourage victims to come forward and access appropriate help and support;

    Clare's Law / Bright Sky / Ask Angela

- Actively promote the Respect Helpline for victims and perpetrators during local engagement events

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- Continue to amplify Welsh Government campaigns regarding VAWDASV, to ensure we play our part in strengthening the messages and making them recognisable across all areas of Wales.

- Consider alternative approaches to engage with marginalised groups, encouraging more people to come forward if they are experiencing VAWDASV

Develop, launch and evaluate a local Sexual Violence Prevention campaign, using local data to ensure messages are targeted at those who may be at most risk within our communities

- Increase awareness of sexual exploitation and street harassment through local, regional and national campaigns

- Maintain an annual calendar of national and local events and activities

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Objective 2

Increase awareness in children, young people and adults of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and empowering them to positive personal choices.

For 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

- Continue to work towards a Whole School Approach across NPT

  Through the Relationship & Sexuality Education Group, ensure the Healthy Relationship lesson continues delivery to all schools

  Explore opportunities for challenging misogynistic behaviour and toxic masculinity with young people, considering the influence of social media

- Use existing initiatives to ensure all children are aware of services or points of contact with whom they can share any concerns they may have about their own relationships or their friends, family or others in the community.

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For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

- Raise awareness of all Welsh Government VAWADSV campaigns targeted at CYP with an emphasis on challenging misogyny and developing conversations about acceptable language and behaviour

- Consider increased opportunities to engage with those in higher education settings about healthy relationships, consent, misogyny and related topics.

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Objective 3

Increase the focus on holding those who commit abuse to account and supporting those who may carry out abusive or violent behaviour to change their behaviour and avoid offending

During 2023-26, on a local basis we will:

- Continue to promote and develop clear referral pathways to CLEAR, to support men who have identified concerns about their behaviour
- Continue to work with local specialist providers to support families and identify the most effective interventions
- Work with the Communications and Engagement Group to encourage workplaces to develop a zero tolerance environment to workplace harassment by raising awareness with organisations and sharing consistent messages

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During 2023-26, on a regional basis we will:

- Ensure perpetrators of domestic abuse receive appropriate intervention to disrupt and change perpetrating behaviours

- Promote interventions like Reprovide across the region to raise awareness and encourage participation

- Ensure there are suitable referral pathways, to encourage referrals, use and attendance of all perpetrator programmes

- Consider what measures we can take to improve the identification of perpetrators and engage them in programmes that tackle their behaviour and hold them to account

- Work with Housing Options to monitor the number of perpetrator evictions under the Renting Homes Wales Act

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Objective 4

Make early intervention and prevention a priority – To reduce the number of repeat victims and reduce the number of high risk cases

For 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

- Continue to work with Supporting People, the Area Planning Board, Community Safety and Families First commissioners to refocus funding in line with a new service model

- Consider the work of the Dr. Jane Monckton Smith when planning or commissioning services

- Continue to work with South Wales Police on the Early Action Together programme

- Work with the Communications and Engagement Group to conduct research to identify unidentified need

- Continue to support local services in developing targeted outreach provision to tackle violence against those experiencing harm or exploited by the sex industry

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For 2023-2026, on a regional basis we will;

- Continue to support the roll out of IRIS across the region

Consider further working with Welsh Women's Aid to deliver on their Change That Lasts Model

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Objective 5

Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors

For 2023-26, on a local basis we will;

- Provide Group 1 training to all new NPT staff as part of their induction and provide refreshers to existing staff in line with the National Training Framework.

- Work with local service providers to ensure they continue to receive appropriate training on complex needs in line with Groups 4 and 5 of the National Training Framework

- Ensure all agencies in the local VAWDASV partnership continue to give a commitment to training plans within their own organisation over the next 3 years.

- When delivering VAWDASV training, continue to give consideration to the recommendations of local Domestic Homicide Reviews

- Continue to raise awareness, through our training roll out, of the 'Safe Leave' policy for NPT staff who are affected by VAWDASV

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For 2023-26, on a regional basis we will;

- Continue to roll out 'Ask & Act' Group 2 Training promoting the Ask & Act Pathway and regional specialist partners to priority groups of staff across NPT in partnership with Swansea

- Roll out 'Ask & Act' Group 3 Training to organisational champions across the region in partnership with Swansea, Swansea Bay University Health Board and specialist regional partners

- Provide accredited local authority and health board 'Ask & Act' trainers with additional training to support their continuous professional development and the sustainability of their training

- Work with Welsh Women's Aid and partners to deliver Group 6 of the National Training Framework to all local members and senior leaders

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Objective 6

Provide all victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs-led, strength-based, inter-sectional and responsive services across Wales.

During 2023-26, on a local basis we will:

- Continue to have regard for VAWDASV Commissioning Guidance in our practice so that those who commission services can ensure activity is better informed, more joined up and value for money, ensuring that specialist services in NPT meet victims' needs

- Further develop links with local specialist providers who meet the needs of people affected by other forms of violence such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

- Work with Supporting People to complete the commissioning exercise to implement a new service model for Accommodation and Support.

- Implement the findings of the Review of Social Services response to domestic abuse to improve support which is survivor informed and joined-up with good communication channels across all organisations

- Continue to support the new RAPID project delivered in partnership by Thrive Women's Aid and South Wales Police

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For 2023-26, on a regional basis we will;

- Consider ways to further expand the provision of the SWAN service across the region

(The SWAN Project, delivered by Swansea Women's Aid, supports women who are sex working. They provide practical and emotional support and aim to improve the safety and wellbeing of women accessing the service)

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<u>**Objective 7**</u>

Increase focus on improving the recognition of, and responses to VAWDASV in all Criminal Justice proceedings

During 2023-2026, on a local basis we will;

- Work in partnership with South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner to further improve outcomes; to reduce the number of repeat victims; and to identify how we can intervene effectively much earlier

  Continue to work in partnership with the Police and Courts, to identify what needs to change to better support victims, including victimless prosecutions and how evidence is gathered.

- Continue to increase awareness with local solicitors, magistrates, and legal reps of the importance of recognising all forms of VAWDASV and providing appropriate responses in family court situations

- Continue to promote the use of remote evidence facilities across the region. to ensure victims are fully aware of the service and are appropriately supported throughout the court process

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Leadership & Governance

The strategy is overseen by the NPT VAWDASV Leadership Group, which remains a very strong partnership. During 2023-2026, the group will:

Publish an annual report to highlight progress made on all areas of this strategy

Hold a regional annual event to discuss progress made and agree the priority areas for the following year

Ensure membership of the Group remains appropriate and inclusive of all relevant services and partners

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- Present to relevant groups / forums

- Finalise draft strategy with any feedback or suggested amendments

- Public Consultation

- Strategy live from 1st June 2023

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Thank You

Any Questions?

Thank You
Any Questions?

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Social Care, Housing and Community Safety Cabinet Board

20th April 2023

Report of the Director of Housing and Social Services – Andrew Jarrett

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

All Wards

Report Title West Glamorgan Partnership Area Plan 2023-2027

Purpose of the Report:

The Area Plan sets out how the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board will respond to the findings of the West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment published on the 1st April 2022, which captured the health and social care needs of people across the West Glamorgan Region.

It explains how the Local Authorities and the Health Board, with partners, will address the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

The Area Plan is the longer-term five-year plan (2023-2027) and includes the regional priorities to be overseen by the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board.

Under these regulations, the report must be approved by the statutory partners – the Local Health Board and Swansea and Neath Port Talbot Local Authorities, after formal approval has been given by the RPB.

The Report was considered and approved by the RPB on the 25th of January 2023 however it needs to be formally approved by each of the statutory partners in the RPB.

Executive Summary:

Section 14A of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act requires local authorities and Local Health Boards to produce Area Plans setting out the range and level of services that will be provided in their area in response to regional Population Assessments.

This Area Plan has been developed by reviewing the Population Needs Assessment's core themes and the gaps in provision that were identified as part of the information gathering exercises. Future work to address these gaps forms part of the plan, along with the findings of the Market Stability Report (also developed in 2022).

The document has been endorsed though the governance arrangements of the Regional Partnership Board.

Members are asked to:
Endorse the West Glamorgan Area Plan 2023/2027 for consideration by the Health Board at the end of March and onward submission to Welsh Government

Background:

This Area Plan sets out how the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board will respond to the findings of the [West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment](#) published on the 1st April 2022, which captured the health and social care needs of people across the West Glamorgan Region. It explains how the Local Authorities and the Health Board, with partners, will address the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

This document is the longer-term five-year strategic plan (2023-2027) and includes the regional priorities to be overseen by the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board.

The second document (to be published later in the year) is the corresponding Action Plan, which is also a five-year plan (2023-2027), includes the key actions for the partnership to deliver, the timeline for delivery, along with the outcomes and impact those actions will have in delivering the regional priorities. This is a live plan and therefore iterative.

The former Western Bay Regional Partnership Forum was established on a non-statutory footing in 2014 to progress and oversee the work of the Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme. It also worked on the arrangements for implementing the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (the Act). The Act came into effect on 6th April 2016 and introduced a statutory role for a Regional Partnership Board and specific responsibilities.

The Western Bay Regional Partnership Forum was reformed to become the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board (WB RPB) in July 2016 to meet Part 9 of the Act.

Following the Bridgend Boundary Change, from 1st April 2019 the new Regional Partnership arrangements for West Glamorgan were established with the statutory partners, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Swansea Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board.

The governance structure for the West Glamorgan Transformation Programme, can be found in Appendix 1**.**

The objectives of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board are to ensure the partnership works effectively together with the following responsibilities:

- To respond to the Population Needs Assessment carried out in accordance with section 14 of the Act

- Plan and deliver initiatives using social value models to enhance health and social care.

- To ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements

- To promote the establishment of pooled funds, where appropriate

- To ensure that services and resources are used in the most effective and efficient way to improve outcomes for people across the region

- To prepare an annual report for Welsh Ministers on the extent to which the Board's objectives have been achieved

- To provide strategic leadership to ensure that information is shared and used effectively to improve the delivery of services and care and support, using technology and common systems to underpin this.

This Area Plan has been developed by reviewing the Population Needs Assessment's core themes and the gaps in provision that were identified as part of the information gathering exercises. Future work to address these gaps forms part of the plan, along with the findings of the Market Stability Report (also developed in 2022).

A review of the Population Needs Assessment and the Market Stability Report undertaken in the context of the new policies and guidance from Welsh Government (including the Models of Care linked to the Regional Integrated Fund and the Six Goal Programme) has served to reinforce the direction of travel for the region.

Additionally, the table identified where each action contributed to the policy agenda of "A Healthier Wales," Welsh Government Models of Care along with its enablers and the Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care

The region has co-developed the Area Plan by working in tandem with partners to engage with the population on the priority areas. As highlighted in the Population Needs Assessment's Introductory Chapter, organisations have been mindful of consultation fatigue and the importance of ensuring engagement efforts are not duplicated across agencies.

This approach involved collaborating with the PSB Wellbeing Assessment engagement activities. The regional care and support component formed part of Neath Port Talbot's 'Let's Talk' campaign and Swansea's Assessment of Local Wellbeing public engagement exercises.

In addition to the above, we were able to further the conversation via our series of virtual 'Possibilities for People' public engagement events, two in person Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Summits (June and October 2022), and the Your Voice Advocacy 'Keep Me Healthy' Learning Disability Event (October

2022). These discussions solidified our thinking in terms of agreeing the themed areas that the region is focussing on.

It is important to recognise that the work undertaken to date sets out a starting point for further, more detailed engagement on the region's priority areas. The breadth of the regional programme of work can be overwhelming, particularly for the wider population who may not be involved in this arena and whose awareness of the transformation agenda may be limited. To this end, we are/will be undertaking specific, targeted engagement on the priority themes and their practical implementation going forward.

West Glamorgan Regional Priorities for 2023-2027

In response to the key conclusions drawn from the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report, the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board has adjusted their priorities for the next five years.

A summary of the priorities are set out below – and these will form the basis of the detailed action plan which is being prepared:

Strengthening Communities

This priority focusses on how the statutory partners, third sector and volunteers will work collaboratively with and in communities. The partnership will adopt a strength-based and place-based model of prevention and community co-ordination. This will better support and promote good emotional health and wellbeing for individuals to remain living safe and well within their communities, without unnecessary recourse to statutory health and care services.

There will be a particular focus on:

- Support for carers of all ages
- Prevention and well-being services that support the delivery of a person-centred health and care approach
- Expanding the range of financially sustainable accommodation-based solutions for individuals who have or may develop care and support needs and reduce avoidable recourse to more institutionalised forms of care.

Transforming Health and Care Services at Home

This priority focusses on the development of new models of financially sustainable and integrated community health and care to support people to remain living safe and well within own homes and communities.

There will be a particular focus on:
Home from hospital services
Reducing unscheduled care admissions for people over 65
Reducing the time spent in an acute hospital setting following an unscheduled care admission for people over 65
Reducing unnecessary recourse to long term care for people over 65.

Transforming Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Services:

This priority focusses on the development of an increased range of opportunities and promoting good emotional health and wellbeing for children and adults who are struggling with their mental health and including dementia to access proportionate support across the continuum of need.

There will be a particular focus on:

Implementing a 'no wrong door' approach for access to emotional well-being and mental health support

Ensuring timely access to the right help, from the right person at the right time across the continuum of need

Increasing the range of opportunities for children and adults to access support that promotes emotional and psychological well-being and reduce avoidable recourse to specialist mental health services.

Transforming Complex Care

This priority focusses on the development of new models of financially sustainable and integrated health and community-based care that maximises the safety and independence of children and adults with complex needs, enabling them to live and be cared for closer to home, lead ordinary lives and avoids unnecessary recourse to more institutionalised forms of care.

There will be a particular focus on:

Establishing effective processes for joint assessment and care planning (including the associated funding arrangements) between the statutory partners that ensure a focus on the delivery of integrated health and care for children and adults with complex needs.

Improving the experience of an individual in the transition from children to adult services

Expanding the range of financially sustainable accommodation and care-based solutions for children and adults with complex needs and reduce avoidable recourse to more institutionalised forms of care

Expand the range of financially sustainable integrated health and care services across the continuum of need and support children to remain living safe and well within their families and communities.

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Conclusion

The Area Plan provides the strategic direction for the RPB programme for the next five years. It is a plan at a point in time and will therefore continue to iterate and develop and be continuously reviewed. The detailed action plan will set out the Goals, Methods and Outcomes, reflecting the Health Board's IMTP, to ensure clarity on delivery is available. The priorities in this strategic plan are reflected in, and aligned to, the Health Board's draft IMTP for 2023/26

The governance arrangements for the programmes are currently being reviewed to ensure they reflect the strategic direction set out in the Plan.

Financial Impacts:
There are no direct financial implications associated with this Report. Funding for programmes under the Regional Partnership Board come through various funding streams which are approved through the partnership and individual organisations as required.

Integrated Impact Assessment:

A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment has indicated that a more in-depth assessment is not required.

Valleys Communities Impacts:
No implications

Workforce Impacts:
No implications

Legal Impacts:
No implications

Risk Management Impacts:
All individual programmes and projects utilise a risk management strategy.

Crime and Disorder Impacts:
No impact

Counter Terrorism Impacts:
No impact

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Impacts:

No impact

Consultation:

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item

This Area Plan has been developed by reviewing the Population Needs Assessment's core themes and the gaps in provision that were identified as part of the information gathering exercises. Future work to address these gaps forms part of the plan, along with the findings of the Market Stability Report (also developed in 2022).

The document has been endorsed though the governance arrangements of the Regional Partnership Board

Recommendations:
Members are asked to:

- **Endorse** the West Glamorgan Area Plan 2023/2027 for consideration by the Health Board at the end of March and onward submission to Welsh Government.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:
Section 14A of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act requires local authorities and Local Health Boards to produce Area Plans setting out the range and level of services that will be provided in their area in response to regional Population Assessments.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period

Appendices:

- Integrated Impact Assessment

List of Background Papers:

West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Area Plan

Officer Contact:
Kelly Gillings
West Glamorgan Regional Director of Transformation
Kelly.gillings@swansea.gov.uk

Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

This Integrated Impact Assessment considers the duties and requirements of the following legislation in order to inform and ensure effective decision making and compliance:

- Equality Act 2010
- Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Version Control

Version	Author	Job title	Date
Version 1	Kelly Gillings	West Glamorgan Regional Transformation Programme Director	02nd March 2023

1. Details of the initiative

	Title of the Initiative: West Glamorgan Area Plan 2023-2027
1a	**Service Area:** Health and Social Care – West Glamorgan
1b	**Directorate: Social Services**
1c	**Summary of the initiative:** The Area Plan sets out how the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board will respond to the findings of the West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment published on the 1st April 2022, which captured the health and social care needs of people across the West Glamorgan Region. It explains how the Local Authorities and the Health Board, with partners, will address the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. The Area Plan is the longer-term five-year plan (2023-2027) and includes the regional priorities to be overseen by the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board.

		Under these regulations, the report must be approved by the statutory partners – the Local Health Board and Swansea and Neath Port Talbot Local Authorities, after formal approval has been given by the RPB.
		The Report was considered and approved by the RPB on the 25th of January 2023 however it needs to be formally approved by each of the statutory partners in the RPB.
1d	**Is this a 'strategic decision'? Yes**	
1e	**Who will be directly affected by this initiative?**	
	The Plan sets out how the West Glamorgan Region intends to response to Section 14A of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act requires local authorities and Local Health Boards to produce Area Plans setting out the range and level of services that will be provided in their area in response to regional Population Assessments.	
1f	**When and how were people consulted?**	
	This Area Plan has been developed by reviewing the Population Needs Assessment's core themes and the gaps in provision that were identified as part of the information gathering exercises. Future work to address these gaps forms part of the plan, along with the findings of the Market Stability Report (also developed in 2022).	
	A review of the Population Needs Assessment and the Market Stability Report undertaken in the context of the new policies and guidance from Welsh Government (including the Models of Care linked to the Regional Integrated Fund and the Six Goal Programme) has served to reinforce the direction of travel for the region.	
	Additionally, the table identified where each action contributed to the policy agenda of "A Healthier Wales," Welsh Government Models of Care along with its enablers and the Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care	
	The region has co-developed the Area Plan by working in tandem with partners to engage with the population on the priority areas. As highlighted in the Population Needs Assessment's Introductory	

Chapter, organisations have been mindful of consultation fatigue and the importance of ensuring engagement efforts are not duplicated across agencies.

This approach involved collaborating with the PSB Wellbeing Assessment engagement activities. The regional care and support component formed part of Neath Port Talbot's 'Let's Talk' campaign and Swansea's Assessment of Local Wellbeing public engagement exercises.

In addition to the above, we were able to further the conversation via our series of virtual 'Possibilities for People' public engagement events, two in person Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Summits (June and October 2022), and the Your Voice Advocacy 'Keep Me Healthy' Learning Disability Event (October 2022). These discussions solidified our thinking in terms of agreeing the themed areas that the region is focussing on.

It is important to recognise that the work undertaken to date sets out a starting point for further, more detailed engagement on the region's priority areas. The breadth of the regional programme of work can be overwhelming, particularly for the wider population who may not be involved in this arena and whose awareness of the transformation agenda may be limited. To this end, we are/will be undertaking specific, targeted engagement on the priority themes and their practical implementation going forward.

1g	**What were the outcomes of the consultation?**
	As above

2. Evidence

What evidence was used in assessing the initiative?
West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment published on the 1st April 2022, which captured the health and social care needs of people across the West Glamorgan Region.

3

3. Equalities

a) How does the initiative impact on people who share a **protected characteristic**?

Protected Characteristic	+	-	+/-	Why will it have this impact?
Age			Y	The Plan sets out how the West Glamorgan Region intends to response to Section 14A of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act requires local authorities and Local Health Boards to produce Area Plans setting out the range and level of services that will be provided in their area in response to regional Population Assessments.

The Regional Partnership Board supports the development of integrated services across the region and adds value and improves the services delivered to the population of Swansea. The culminative impact can be demonstrated as positive. This is evidenced within our Annual Reports and progress as reported though to the Regional Partnership Board. |
Disability			Y	
Gender reassignment			Y	
Marriage & civil partnership			Y	
Pregnancy and maternity			Y	
Race			Y	
Religion or belief			Y	
Sex			Y	
Sexual orientation			Y	

What action will be taken to improve positive or mitigate negative impacts?
Not applicable

b) How will the initiative assist or inhibit the ability to meet the **Public Sector Equality Duty**?

Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)	+	-	+/-	Why will it have this impact?

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To eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation			Y	The Plan will not directly affect these areas as this set's out the priorities any changes to services as a result of the Action Plan to deliver these priorities may impact on council services.
To advance equality of opportunity between different groups			Y	
To foster good relations between different groups			Y	

What action will be taken to improve positive or mitigate negative impacts?

4. Socio Economic Duty

Impact	Details of the impact/advantage/disadvantage
Positive/Advantage	
Negative/Disadvantage	
Neutral	The Regional Partnership Board supports the development of integrated services across the region and adds value and improves the services delivered to the population of Swansea. The culminative impact can be demonstrated as positive. This is evidenced within our Annual Reports and progress as reported though to the Regional Partnership Board.

What action will be taken to reduce inequality of outcome				

5. Community Cohesion/Social Exclusion/Poverty

	+	-	+/-	**Why will it have this impact?**
Community Cohesion			Y	The Regional Partnership Board supports the development of integrated services across the region and adds value and improves the services delivered to the population of Swansea. The culminative impact can be demonstrated as positive. This is evidenced within our Annual Reports and progress as reported though to the Regional Partnership Board.
Social Exclusion			Y	
Poverty			Y	

What action will be taken to improve positive or mitigate negative impacts?				

6. Welsh

	+	-	+/-	**Why will it have this effect?**
What effect does the initiative have on: – people's opportunities to use the Welsh language			Y	The Plan does not treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

– treating the Welsh and English languages equally		Y	

What action will be taken to improve positive or mitigate negative impacts?

7. Biodiversity

How will the initiative assist or inhibit the ability to meet the **Biodiversity Duty**?

Biodiversity Duty	**+**	**-**	**+/-**	**Why will it have this impact?**
To maintain and enhance biodiversity				Not Applicable
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.				Not Applicable

What action will be taken to improve positive or mitigate negative impacts?

8. Well-being of Future Generations

How have the five ways of working been applied in the development of the initiative?

Ways of Working	Details
i. **Long term –** looking at least 10 years (and up to 25 years) ahead	Yes – the Area Plan sets the Priorities for the Region for the next 5 years based on the Evidence from the Population Needs Assessment. This Area Plan has been developed by reviewing the Population Needs Assessment's core themes and the gaps in provision that were identified as part of the information gathering exercises. Future work to address these gaps forms part of the plan, along with the findings of the Market Stability Report (also developed in 2022).
ii. **Prevention** – preventing problems occurring or getting worse	A review of the Population Needs Assessment and the Market Stability Report undertaken in the context of the new policies and guidance from Welsh Government (including the Models of Care linked to the Regional Integrated Fund and the Six Goal Programme) has served to reinforce the direction of travel for the region.
iii. **Collaboration –** working with other services internal or external	Additionally, the table identified where each action contributed to the policy agenda of "A Healthier Wales," Welsh Government Models of Care along with its enablers and the Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care
iv. **Involvement –** involving people, ensuring they reflect the diversity of the population	The region has co-developed the Area Plan by working in tandem with partners to engage with the population on the priority areas. As highlighted in the Population Needs Assessment's Introductory Chapter, organisations have been mindful of consultation fatigue and the importance of ensuring engagement efforts are not duplicated across agencies.
v. **Integration –** making connections to maximise contribution to:	This approach involved collaborating with the PSB Wellbeing Assessment engagement activities. The regional care and support component formed part of Neath Port Talbot's 'Let's Talk' campaign and Swansea's Assessment of Local Wellbeing public engagement exercises.
	In addition to the above, we were able to further the conversation via our series of virtual 'Possibilities for People' public engagement events, two in person Emotional Wellbeing and

	Mental Health Summits (June and October 2022), and the Your Voice Advocacy 'Keep Me Healthy' Learning Disability Event (October 2022). These discussions solidified our thinking in terms of agreeing the themed areas that the region is focussing on. It is important to recognise that the work undertaken to date sets out a starting point for further, more detailed engagement on the region's priority areas. The breadth of the regional programme of work can be overwhelming, particularly for the wider population who may not be involved in this arena and whose awareness of the transformation agenda may be limited. To this end, we are/will be undertaking specific, targeted engagement on the priority themes and their practical implementation going forward.
Council's well-being objectives	
Other public bodies objectives	

9. Monitoring Arrangements

Provide information on the monitoring arrangements to:
Monitor the impact of the initiative on Equalities, Community Cohesion, the Welsh Measure, Biodiversity Duty and the Wellbeing Objectives.

The Area Plan will be monitored by the Regional Partnership Board.

10. Assessment Conclusions

Please provide details of the conclusions reached in relation to each element of the assessment:

	Conclusion
Equalities	

Socio Economic Disadvantage	The Regional Partnership Board supports the development of integrated services across the region and adds value and improves the services delivered to the population of Swansea. The culminative impact can be demonstrated as positive. This is evidenced within our Annual Reports and progress as reported though to the Regional Partnership Board.
Community Cohesion/ Social Exclusion/Poverty	
Welsh	
Biodiversity	
Well-being of Future Generations	

Overall Conclusion

Please indicate the conclusion reached:

- **Continue** - as planned as no problems and all opportunities have been maximised ☒
- **Make adjustments** - as potential problems/missed opportunities/negative impacts have been identified along
  with mitigating actions ☐
- **Justification** - for continuing with the initiative even though there is a potential for negative impacts or missed opportunities ☐
- **STOP** - redraft the initiative as actual or potential unlawful discrimination has been identified ☐

Please provide details of the overall conclusion reached in relation to the initiative

11. Actions

What actions are required in relation to obtaining further data/information, to reduce or remove negative impacts or improve positive impacts?

Action	Who will be responsible for seeing it is done?	When will it be done by?	How will we know we have achieved our objective?

12. Sign off

	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Completed by	Kelly Gillings	West Glamorgan Regional Transformation Programme Director	K L Gillings	02/03/22
Signed off by		**Head of Service/Director**		

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Mae'r dudalen hon yn fwriadol wag

Partneriaeth Ranbarthol Gorllewin Morgannwg | **West Glamorgan Regional Partnership**

WEST GLAMORGAN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

A R E A
PLAN
2023-27

This document is available in alternative formats.

Please contact the West Glamorgan Transformation Office via email at west.glamorgan@swansea.gov.uk with details of your requirements.

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 @WGlamPship

Contents

1. Foreword

On behalf of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership, I'm pleased to bring you our Area Plan for 2023-2027. This hugely important piece of work is the culmination of several months' of preparation and collaboration. It sets out clear, themed objectives based on the findings of our most recent Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report, and I must applaud the phenomenal efforts of all those involved in collating these findings into clear priorities for the Regional Partnership to focus on.

The past few years have been tremendously challenging for us all, but I'm proud to say that colleagues across all partner organisations and those working with us on a voluntary basis have pulled out all the stops to help us map out this clear path for meaningful progress.

You will see that the Area Plan sets out the ways in which our work programmes deliver against key Welsh Government policies (A Healthier Wales, the Welsh Government Models of Care linked to the Regional Integrated Fund, and the Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care). The Plan also accounts for the gaps in service provision as highlighted in the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report.

Devising the Area Plan has been a very valuable exercise, giving us a thorough understanding of where our gaps are and helping us to ensure that everything we do or plan to do aligns with local need as well as national principles. I'd like to extend my thanks to all those who have played a role in the development of this Plan.

Our Area Plan will, of course, be an evolving document that will change and grow in tandem with the shifting health and social care landscape. We look forward to this next phase of our transformation journey and will keep refreshing the Area Plan to reflect our progress.

Emma Woollett
Chair of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board

2. Introduction to the Area Plan and West Glamorgan Partnership

This Area Plan sets out how the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board will respond to the findings of the [West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment](#) published on the 1st April 2022, which captured the health and social care needs of people across the West Glamorgan Region. It explains how the Local Authorities and the Health Board, with partners, will address the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

This document is the longer-term five-year plan (2023-2027) and includes the regional priorities to be overseen by the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board.

The second document (to be published later in the year) is the corresponding Action Plan, which is also a five-year plan (2023-2027), includes the key actions for the partnership to deliver, the timeline for delivery, along with the outcomes and impact those actions in delivering the regional priorities. This is a live plan and therefore iterative.

The former Western Bay Regional Partnership Forum was established on a non-statutory footing in 2014 to progress and oversee the work of the Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme. It also worked on the arrangements for implementing the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (the Act). The Act came into effect on 6th April 2016 and introduced a statutory role for a Regional Partnership Board and specific responsibilities.

The Western Bay Regional Partnership Forum was reformed to become the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board (WB RPB) in July 2016 to meet Part 9 of the Act.

On 14th June 2018, Vaughan Gething, Cabinet Secretary for Health, and Social Services confirmed that, following consultation, that healthcare services for people in the area of Bridgend County Borough Council should be provided by Cwm Taf University Health Board (Cwm Taf) instead of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to align decision-making across health and local government.

This meant that from 1st April 2019, Bridgend County Borough Council regional partnership arrangements moved from the Western Bay Region to the Cwm Taf Region.

From 1st April 2019 the new Regional Partnership arrangements for West Glamorgan were established with the statutory partners, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Swansea Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board.

The governance structure for the West Glamorgan Transformation Programme, can be found in Appendix 1.

The objectives of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board are to ensure the partnership works effectively together with the following responsibilities:

- To respond to the Population Needs Assessment carried out in accordance with section 14 of the Act.

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- Plan and deliver initiatives using social value models to enhance health and social care.

- To ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements.

- To promote the establishment of pooled funds, where appropriate.

- To ensure that services and resources are used in the most effective and efficient way to improve outcomes for people across the region.

- To prepare an annual report for Welsh Ministers on the extent to which the Board's objectives have been achieved.

- To provide strategic leadership to ensure that information is shared and used effectively to improve the delivery of services and care and support, using technology and common systems to underpin this.

West Glamorgan Vision and Aims

We will drive transformational improvements in wellbeing, health and care for the populations we serve through better practice, better services, better technologies and better use of resources.

We will change the way that we work with citizens away from paternalistic care to shared responsibility and co-production.

We will secure the delivery of seamless care which will meet the outcomes that matter to the people we serve and support through integration, earlier intervention and prevention.

We will have a single and simple governance structure covering Public Service Boards, the Regional Partnership Board and sub-structures for the region.

We will manage our common resources collaboratively and pool resources wherever we can.

West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 introduced a duty on Local Authorities and Health Boards to prepare and publish an assessment of the care and support needs of the population, including Carers who need support across the region.

In order to do this, the West Glamorgan region of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Swansea Council, Swansea Bay University Health Board and

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Third Sector partners considered these care and support needs against a set number of core themes. These are:

- Older People
- Children and Young People
- Mental Health
- Learning Disability
- Autism

- Carers who need Support
- Health and Physical Disability
- Sensory Impairment
- Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Preparing the Population Needs Assessment involved gathering information on well-being and the barriers to achieving well-being for people who need care and support, and their Carers. The exercise also considered what could prevent people from needing care and support in the first place, and what could be done to prevent this need from increasing.

To view the West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment, please visit: West Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment 2022-2027

Development of the Area Plan

This Area Plan has been developed by reviewing the Population Needs Assessment's core themes and the gaps in provision that were identified as part of the information gathering exercises. Future work to address these gaps forms part of the plan, along with the findings of the Market Stability Report (also developed in 2022).

A review of the Population Needs Assessment and the Market Stability Report undertaken in the context of the new policies and guidance from Welsh Government (including the Models of Care linked to the Regional Integrated Fund and the Six Goal Programme) has served to reinforce the direction of travel for the region.

To view the full review of the gaps in service or identified services needs from the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Reports go to **Appendix 2** where each gap or service identified has an action identified to address the issue.

Additionally, the table identified where each action contributed to the policy agenda of "A Healthier Wales," Welsh Government Models of Care along with its enablers and the Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care.

The region has co-developed the Area Plan by working in tandem with partners to engage with the population on the priority areas. As highlighted in the Population Needs Assessment's Introductory Chapter, organisations have been mindful of consultation fatigue and the importance of ensuring engagement efforts are not duplicated across agencies.

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This approach involved collaborating with the PSB Wellbeing Assessment engagement activities. The regional care and support component formed part of Neath Port Talbot's 'Let's Talk' campaign and Swansea's Assessment of Local Wellbeing public engagement exercises.

In addition to the above, we were able to further the conversation via our series of virtual 'Possibilities for People' public engagement events, two in person Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Summits (June and October 2022), and the Your Voice Advocacy 'Keep Me Healthy' Learning Disability Event (October 2022). These discussions solidified our thinking in terms of agreeing the themed areas that the region is focussing on.

It is important to recognise that the work undertaken to date sets out a starting point for further, more detailed engagement on the region's priority areas. The breadth of the regional programme of work can be overwhelming, particularly for the wider population who may not be involved in this arena and whose awareness of the transformation agenda may be limited. To this end, we are/will be undertaking specific, targeted engagement on the priority themes and their practical implementation going forward.

Links to the national accelerated cluster development programme and Pan Cluster Plan

In 2022/2023, the Welsh Health Minister launched a national programme to accelerate cluster based working and strengthen links between clusters and the Regional Partnership.

"A cluster brings together all local services involved in health and care across a geographical area, typically serving a population between 25,000 and 100,000" **- National Strategic Programme**

Eight Local Cluster Collaboratives have been formed in the West Glamorgan region, and these include representatives from a series of professional collaboratives covering dental, pharmacy, optometry, community nursing, allied health professionals, and general medical practitioners. They also include third sector and mental health membership.

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Key:
- Upper Valleys
- Llwchwr
- Cwmtawe
- Neath
- Afan
- City Health
- Penderi
- Bay Health
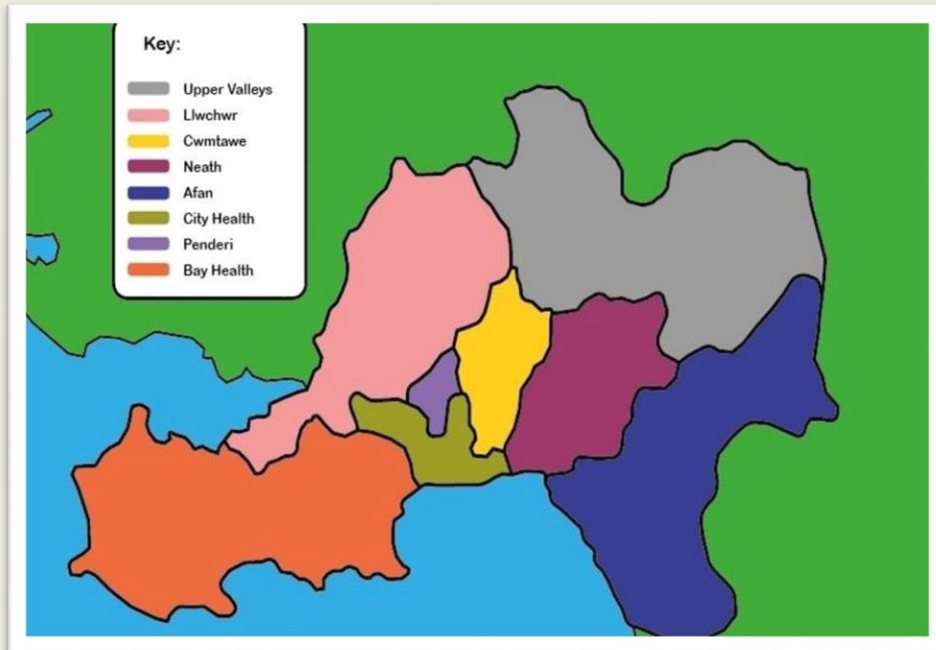
Local Cluster Collaboratives provide a very local form of partnership working to ensure a range of health and well-being services are organised and delivered for local communities as effectively as possible and that there is good join up between services.

An overarching Pan Cluster group has also been established, as required by the national programme, with representation from the Regional Partnership.

The programme is only currently in its transitional year. The cluster plans for 23/24 will focus on projects and services that will improve prevention of ill health and reduction of health inequalities, planned and unscheduled care, services for those with mental health problems or learning disabilities, and children and young people.

Joint work is underway to ensure we maximise opportunities to join up plans, priorities and actions going forward where it makes sense to do so and is likely to deliver better services and outcomes for local populations. This will include joint work on workforce planning and implementation of projects.

Themes identified for regional delivery

The following areas of work where partner organisations integrate to provide seamless services for the population will be addressed by the Regional Partnership:

- Older Adults
- Children and Young People
- Mental Health
- Learning Disability
- Autism

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- Carers

Themes identified for local delivery

The following areas of work are being addressed locally by partner organisations as part of their core business, or through existing partnerships between organisations across the region:

- Health and Physical Disability – Core Business of Statutory Partners
- Sensory Impairment – Core Business of Statutory Partners
- Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence – Regional VAWDASV Group).

That said, where these themes have identified cross cutting areas for the region in terms of integrating services, they will be incorporated into this Area Plan and Action Plan for implementation.

Co-production in West Glamorgan

The region has a long history of working with Service Users and Carers to support its work.

During 2018/19, the Regional Partnership Board reviewed the programme and its governance. This review highlighted a number of areas of improvement in how we engage with citizens and to that end, from 1st April 2019, citizens have been represented on the Transformation Boards as well as the Regional Partnership Board.

In addition, we have also been striving to capture more Carer and Service User voices across the programme, therefore we have established a Carers Liaison Forum, a Housing Liaison Forum, and we are developing a Well-being and Learning Disability Forum. We have held a number of events to allow individuals to assist us to design the priorities of the programme and the associated projects.

We have a web page dedicated to co-production on our website which demonstrates the commitment to this principle across West Glamorgan.

Equalities and Human Rights in West Glamorgan

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) was introduced by the Equality Act 2010 and places a duty on public bodies to eliminate unlawful discrimination and advance equality of opportunity on the basis of a series of protected characteristic groups. The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board is fully committed to the equalities agenda and ensuring due regard to the provisions of the PSED when developing and delivering services.

The Human Rights Act came into force in the UK in October 2000 and sets out sets out the fundamental rights and freedoms applicable to all citizens. People have a right to be heard, and this means involving them in shaping the services

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they use. Further work will take place under the direction of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board to ensure that people have their say when it comes to decisions that affect their personal well-being. Swansea became a Human Rights City; launched at the end of 2022.

Children have specific rights that are set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. In Wales, we must demonstrate the steps we take to listen to children and young people.

Persons with Disabilities have specific rights that are set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). In Wales, we must demonstrate the steps we take to listen to and to respond positively to this group.

Links to Public Services Boards and Well-being Plans

There are two Public Services Boards in the West Glamorgan area, established by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The purpose of the Public Service Boards is to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being in their area, strengthening joint working across all public services in West Glamorgan. Public Services Boards have undertaken a 'Well-being Assessment' in parallel with the Population Assessment and are in the process of revising their Well-being Plans.

It is clear from the Well-being Plans that there are strong links between the priorities of each Public Services Board and those included within the regional Area Plan. All Public Services Boards reference four priority areas and whilst the specific details vary, there is a strong focus on these common themes:

- Ensuring children receive the best start in life during their early years
- Building strong communities that are resilient and safe
- Enabling citizens to live and age well within their communities and promote well-being
- Sustaining natural environments and reducing the carbon footprint.

Additionally, the Well-being Plans contain specific actions and areas of work that each Public Services Board will oversee. These actions are reflected within the Area Plan chapters and support integration of services both at a local and regional level. The regional cross-cutting themes and ethos of West Glamorgan Regional Partnership are particularly evident with reference to digital improvement, data sharing, partnership working, prevention and well-being. There is also a cross-cutting theme across all three Public Services Boards around the use of green spaces, which aligns with the Health and Physical Disability chapter within the Population Needs Assessment.

How will we monitor and review the plan?

Progress for the regional priorities in the Action Plan will be monitored on a quarterly basis at the Regional Partnership Board. Any issues will be escalated

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through the West Glamorgan governance structure, as appropriate. Details of the West Glamorgan governance arrangements are included in **APPENDIX 1**.

Current Pooled Fund Arrangements

For some years, the Welsh Assembly Government has encouraged statutory organisations like Health Boards and Local Authorities to work together and develop joint funding arrangements often referred to as "pooled budgets," "funds" or "Section 33 agreements". A pooled budget is a mechanism by which the partners to the agreement each contribute to the delivery of the outcomes required by creating a discrete fund. The intention must be to enable flexibility in fulfilling the functions that are part of the pooled fund arrangement and therefore the use of these funds.

West Glamorgan already has several arrangements where funding from the Local Authorities and the Swansea Bay University Health Board have been pooled in order that services are integrated and seamless for service users.

These include:

- A Pooled Fund (Section 33 agreement) for Intermediate Care Services (Home First Programme) for the Swansea and Neath Port Talbot localities
- A Pooled Fund for Older Adults Care Homes (Section 33 agreement).
- A Pooled Fund (Section 33 agreement) for a Joint Equipment Store.

Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA)

IAA is organised and delivered locally, with a regional overview of the IAA position. Work is ongoing around linking the various IAA systems currently being utilised by all partners, which includes the Third Sector Infoengine system, the National Local Authority DEWIS platform and the Health Board's 111 system.

Further information can be found in **APPENDIX 3**.

Welsh Language

West Glamorgan partners recognise the importance of the Welsh language and ensuring the needs of the Welsh speaking population are taken into account during service planning and delivery. This is organised locally by each of the statutory bodies, details of which are included in **APPENDIX 4**.

Social Value

Commitment to delivering health and social care based on a social value model approach, including promoting social enterprises, co-operatives, user-led services, and the Third Sector.

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The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership funds the 'Well-being Enterprise Development Support Project' which is delivered by the two Councils for Voluntary Service. Officers support the development of Social and Micro Enterprises providing practical advice on the establishment, funding and running of new organisations to ensure a diverse and mixed economy of providers for the care and support needs of people across the region.

The project has strong links with the West Glamorgan Social Value Forum, which was established in 2019, in line with Welsh Government requirements. The Forum aims to support the development of a thriving social value sector and to help embed social value within the West Glamorgan programme. The ambition of the forum is to use the seven elements of a Social Value Model of Delivery as a framework for planning, funding, co-designing and evaluating project delivery and working towards the regional priorities.

Social Value Models of Delivery (sourced from 'Transforming Social Care', Cwmpas)

The Welsh Government's White Paper on rebalancing Care and Support sets out a vision for improving outcomes for people who need care and support and carers who need support. The paper seeks to rebalance the care and support market and outlines the system change needed:

- away from price towards quality and social value

- away from complexity towards simplification

- away from task-based practice towards an outcome-based practice

- away from reactive commissioning towards managing the market

- away from an organisational focus towards more effective partnership.

Social value approaches to commissioning will create an environment in which not-for-profit providers can grow, including co-operatives, whilst simultaneously encouraging all providers to develop their capacity for delivering social value.

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3. Strategic Policy

During the development of this Area Plan, the region has considered the Welsh Government Policies including:

- A Healthier Wales: Our Plan for Health and Social Care,

- Welsh Government Models of Care linked to the Regional Integrated Fund

- Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care.

A Healthier Wales

A Healthier Wales sets out the plan for a long-term future vision of a "whole system approach" to health and social care, focusing on health and well-being and preventing illness. The vision is supported by the Quadruple Aim outlined in the diagram below. The Regional Partnership supports the delivery of these national goals through the delivery of its programme and has been used as a tool to ensure that each priority for the region contributes to the aims of the nation.

External Goals

Of direct relevance to population and individuals, supported by communications, engagement and co-production, relatively stable long term objectives,

"Our vision for the future health and care system"

Population Health and Wellbeing

Better prevention and self-management

Health and Social Care Services

Better quality and experience, enabled by digital, supported by engagement

National Transformation Programme

Apply design principles
Develop and scale new models
Accountability and pace

Health and Social Care Workforce

Improve wellbeing, capability, engagement, leadership

Higher Value Health and Social Care

Rapid improvement and innovation, enabled by data, focussed on outcomes

Internal Goals

Developing capability and capacity to change, rapid adoption of new tools and understanding, relatively short term objectives,

"Making our health and care system fit for the future"
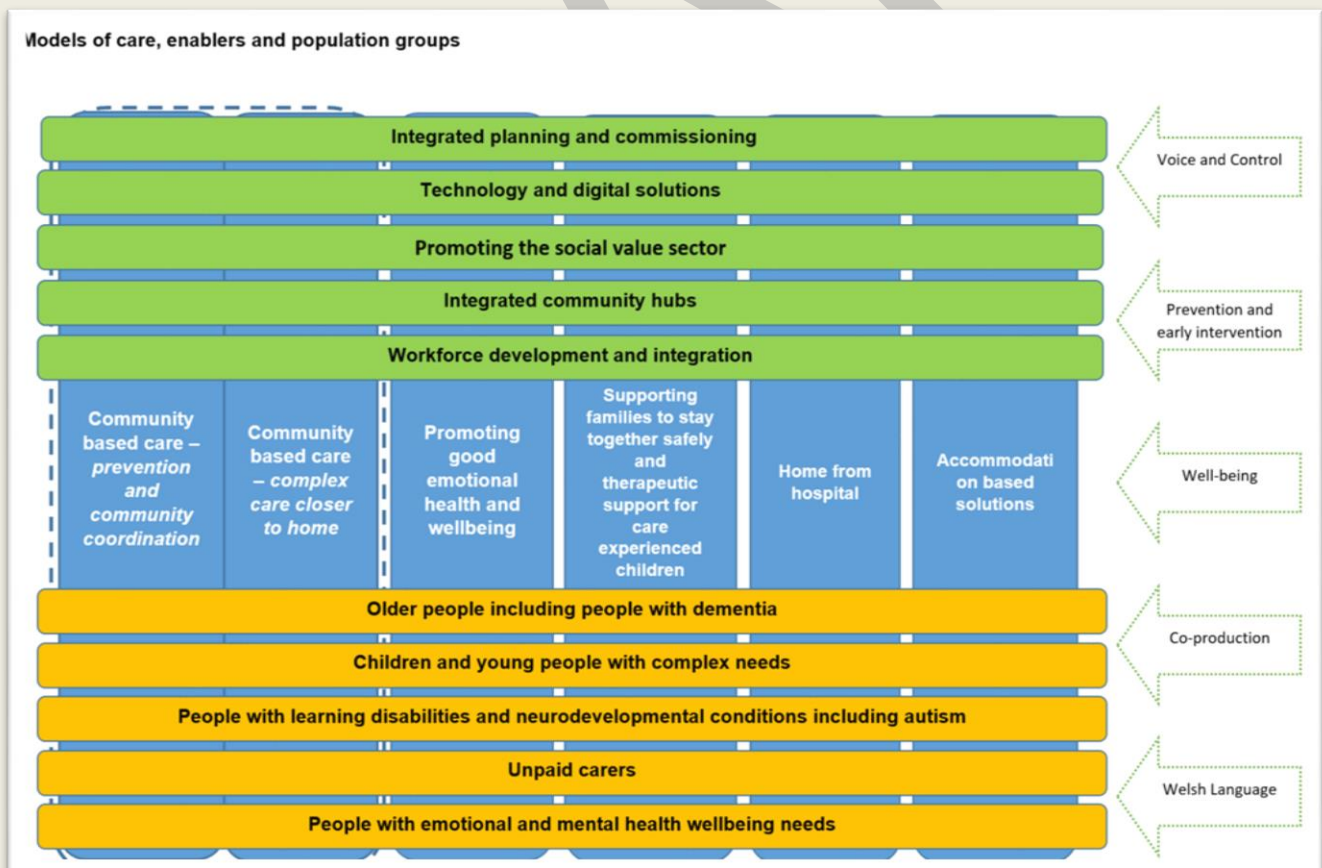
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Welsh Government Models of Care

Welsh Governments aim is that by the end of the current five-year programme, Wales will have established and mainstreamed at least six new national models of integrated care so that citizens of Wales, wherever they live, can be assured of an effective and seamless service experience.

Regional Partnership Boards will have the flexibility to determine which projects and services align to which model of care but essentially all RPBs will need to ensure that:

- They invest in the development and embedding of the six priority models of care.
- That they are able to demonstrate that they are meeting the needs of all the priority population groups within each of the models of care
- That they are maximising the use of key enablers to ensure their models of care are innovative, integrated, and transformative.
- Across all population groups every opportunity is seized to increase the 'active offer' of integrated services through the medium of Welsh. Partners are able to 'shift' core resources to invest as match funding to ensure sustainable long-term delivery of new models of care.

Models of care, enablers and population groups

Integrated planning and commissioning						Voice and Control
Technology and digital solutions						
Promoting the social value sector						
Integrated community hubs						Prevention and early intervention
Workforce development and integration						
Community based care – *prevention and community coordination*	Community based care – *complex care closer to home*	Promoting good emotional health and wellbeing	Supporting families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children	Home from hospital	Accommodation based solutions	Well-being
Older people including people with dementia						
Children and young people with complex needs						Co-production
People with learning disabilities and neurodevelopmental conditions including autism						
Unpaid carers						
People with emotional and mental health wellbeing needs						Welsh Language

A more detailed depiction of each of the Models of Care (above)

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Community Based Care – Prevention and Community Coordination

There is a need to focus on prevention and early intervention to make services sustainable into the future and ensure better health and wellbeing outcomes for people. Section 15 of the SSWBA places statutory duties on local authorities to provide and arrange the provision of services to prevent or delay the development of care and support needs. Local authorities and local health boards must, when exercising their functions have regard to the importance of achieving these purposes in their areas. There is a need to build the resilience of the Welsh health and social care system by investing in preventative community services and supporting citizens to use these services to best effect. We are again looking to work closely with the local cluster collaboratives to promote/ accelerate prevention and community co-ordination.

To achieve this, it is vital that people are able to access the right information, advice and support they need, as quickly as possible and in the right place at the right time.

Community based care – complex care closer to home

The 'Complex care closer to home' model should support implementation of the Discharge to Recover and Assess Pathways, helping people to have their health and social care needs met as close to home as possible in a seamless and integrated way.

Promoting good emotional health and well-being

Regional Partnership Boards should consider their population needs assessments and determine the level of Emotional Health and Well-being services that they invest in across all ages of their population. This should complement but not replace Welsh Government investment in acute mental health services including the child and adolescent mental health service.

Supporting families to stay together safely, and therapeutic support for care experienced children

In keeping with the principle of prevention and early intervention they should work with families to help them stay together safely and prevent the need for children to become looked after. Models of care should be clearly integrated across partner organisations to provide a cooperative response for the families and children.

Home from hospital

Where possible care and support should be offered to help people stay well at home, and our national models of **Community based care** are designed to provide preventative care and where needed a rapid response to prevent the need for people to be conveyed to hospital. However, recognising that some people will always require acute assessment/ treatment in a hospital environment, it is vital that we create a national model of care that helps people be discharged to recover

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at home as quickly and safely as possible. This will also support the generation of capacity within health and care settings, ensuring that those who do need acute care can access it in a safe and timely manner.
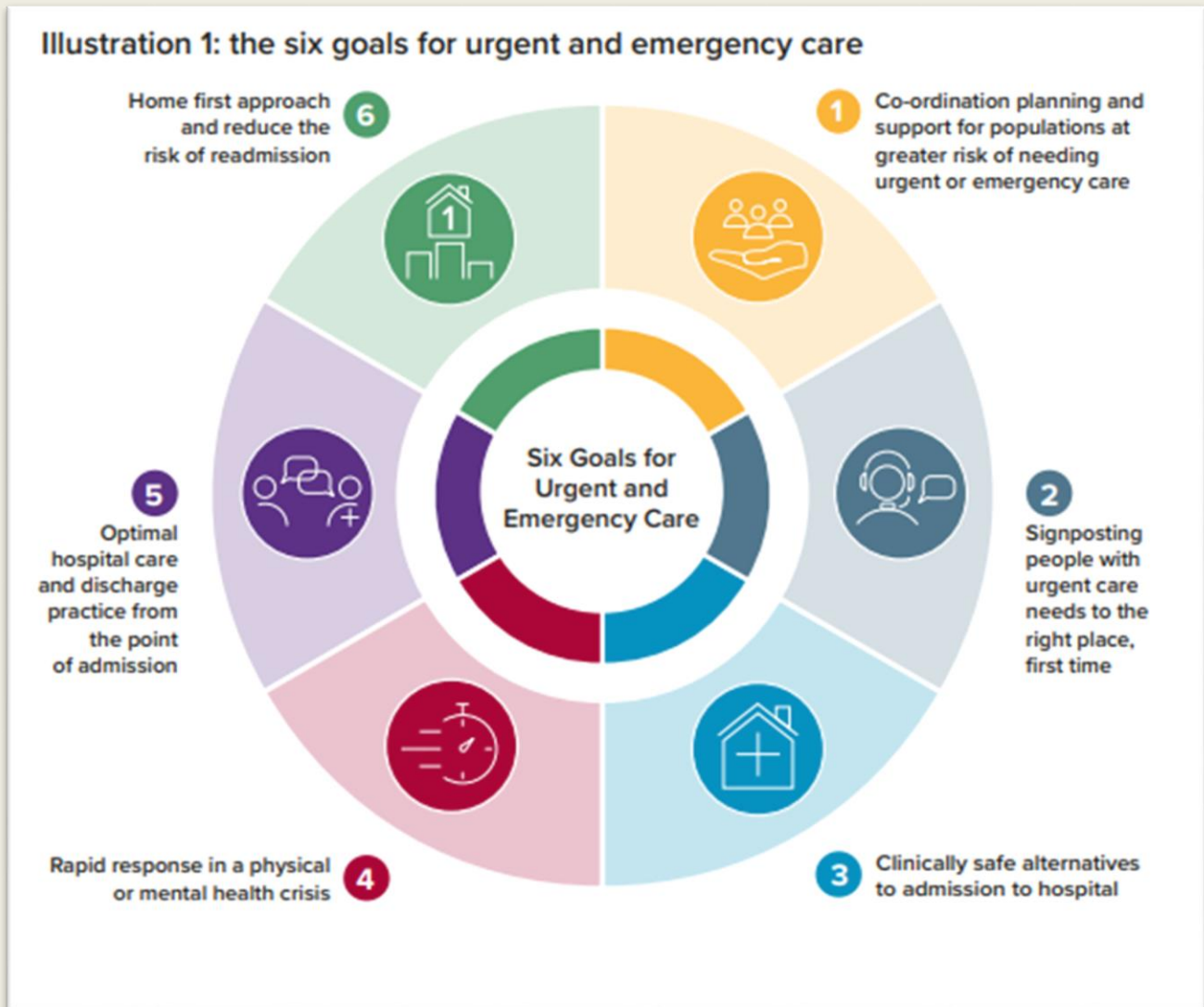
Accommodation based solutions

Developing accommodation that can support people's independent living and have their care and support needs met in a domestic or residential environment is an important part of our health and care system. Linking with housing, registered social landlords, residential care providers and other key partners, including those who can support home adaptations will be vital to delivering this model of care.

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Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care

The six goals, co-designed by clinical and professional leads, span the urgent and emergency care pathway, and reflect the priorities in the Programme for Government 2021–2026 to provide effective, high quality and sustainable healthcare as close to home as possible, and to improve service access and integration.

Illustration 1: the six goals for urgent and emergency care

- 6 Home first approach and reduce the risk of readmission
- 1 Co-ordination planning and support for populations at greater risk of needing urgent or emergency care
- 5 Optimal hospital care and discharge practice from the point of admission
- 2 Signposting people with urgent care needs to the right place, first time
- 4 Rapid response in a physical or mental health crisis
- 3 Clinically safe alternatives to admission to hospital

Six Goals for Urgent and Emergency Care

The priorities, aligned to each of the six goals, should be considered as part of a whole-system and integrated approach. Some of our priorities have medium or longer-term timescales for implementation. This is in recognition of the well-rehearsed challenges faced by health and social care organisations regarding recruitment and retention, and the difficulty associated with managing increasing and complex levels of patient demand. Longer-term milestones also recognise sustainable and effective change cannot be achieved overnight or without focus on continuous learning, sharing, and improving.

The Regional Partnership has considered the six goals while developing this Area Plan and demonstrates the areas of work being delivered by the partnership in support of the programme for government.

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- ➢ **GOAL 1: Coordination, planning and support for people at greater risk of Urgent and Emergency Care:**

  Health and social care organisations should work in collaboration with public service and third sector partners to deliver a coordinated, integrated, responsive health and care service, helping people to stay well longer and receive proactive support, preventative interventions, or primary treatment before it becomes urgent or an emergency.

- ➢ **GOAL 2: Signposting, information, and assistance**

  When people need or want urgent care, they can access a 24/7 urgent care service via the NHS 111 Wales online or telephone service where they will be given advice and, where necessary, signposted or referred to the right community or hospital-based service, first time. This will be achieved through the development of an integrated 24/7 urgent care service.

- ➢ **GOAL 3: Clinically safe alternatives to admission**

  People access appropriate and safe care close to home, and with as much continuity of care, as possible. Admission for ongoing care to an acute hospital bed should only occur if clinically necessary. Linked to Goals 1 and 2, and the establishment of an integrated 24/7 urgent care service, Health Boards.

- ➢ **GOAL 4: Rapid response in Crisis**

  Individuals who are seriously ill or injured or in a mental health crisis should receive the quickest and best response commensurate with their clinical need – and, if necessary, be transported to the right place for definitive care to optimise their experience and outcome.

- ➢ **GOAL 5: Optimal hospital care and discharge practice from the point of admission**

  Optimal hospital-based care provided for people who need short term, or ongoing, assessment or treatment for as long as it adds benefit to outcome, with a relentless focus on good discharge practice.

- ➢ **GOAL 6: Home first approach and reduce risk of admission**

  People will return home following a hospital stay – or to their local community with additional support if required – at the earliest and safest opportunity to improve their outcomes and experience, and to avoid deconditioning.

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4. Cross Cutting Regional Priorities

Access and Transport

A consistent theme in the development of the Area Plan (emerging from the Population Assessment exercise) is the issue of transport and access to services.

For example, within the Older People chapter of the Population Needs Assessment, some of the 'lifestyle factors" included:

- **Community Transport:** Based on research where people struggle from rural areas to access services, it is to provide easy transport to critical health and social care services if the capability doesn't allow for a digital solution.
- **Access to Services:** Developing digital services for the majority will be a benefit for non-invasive treatments but the solution should not be used to replace services but be offered as an alternative until such times as the population are comfortably using.

Within the Older People chapter, 'changes we need to plan for' included:

- Work is underway to consider where strategic planning for transport could be considered and progressed regionally, with a view to address the issues highlighted within the Population Assessment being progressed as specific actions in the Area Plan.

Housing

Another consistent theme emerging from the Population Assessment and included in the Area Plan concerns the links between housing and health and social care. There were a considerable number of different housing issues captured from the core chapters, including:

- To support independent living, future planned housing and accommodation should be built to **Lifetime Homes Standards** building regulations. Housing should support healthy ageing and promote independence through homes that are well designed, excellent value, appropriately located and energy efficient. Early support through aids and adaptations, handyperson schemes and telecare are fundamental (Health & Physical disability)

- **Adaptations**: Smart Homes but also adaptations to existing homes to make them fit for the future for people who are living longer and getter older to encourage independence. (Older People)

- Develop provision for sustainable settings for CYP in need of support, linking in with learning disabilities and mental health support including the suitability of living accommodation. (CYP)

- Development of a range of accommodation options in the region for young people with complex needs going through transition; younger adults with complex needs (LD)

- Housing suitable for adults with mental health needs.

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- The need to work strategically with new care home providers to develop a sustainable range of care home facilities across the region.

- Development of alternatives for older people awaiting placements / complex packages of care instead of remaining in hospital.

In order to address the significant number of issues raised, it has been acknowledged that a more strategic approach needs to be taken in relation to housing, health and social care in West Glamorgan.

Building on the work of the Regional Collaborative Committee for Supporting People and the former Swansea Bay University Health Board's Health and Housing Group, progress is being made to develop a West Glamorgan Regional Strategy for Housing, through the establishment of a Health, Social Care and Housing Group.

Data Collection and Information Sharing

The provision of Health and Social Care services requires the recording of essential information that creates and maintains individual care records. Such "record keeping" is often governed by professional standards, which are intended to outline the standards expected of professional staff. In addition, an expectation from effective integrated care is that information is easily shared between services so that staff have access to the right information at the right time. However, such ambitions are often frustrated by different methods of record keeping, which range from handwritten paper forms to separate electronic systems used by Local Authorities and Health Boards.

The inability to share information between health and social care is a frequent problem that has often frustrated the integration of services. West Glamorgan has recognised this issue and the potential to resolve this long-standing problem with the launch of the Digital Transformation for Health and Social Care (DTHSC) Programme.

The DTHSC Programme aims to bring together valuable data and information from different providers and services in order to enhance modelling and better predict demand on service and identify areas where service improvement is required in relation to integrated services. It provides an added focus on using digital technology to more accessibly capture outcomes for citizens, in order to understand what matters to the individual, as well as using this information to more broadly understand what matters to the region collectively, and informing, for example, the Population Needs Assessment. The programme is committed to collaborating with other regions across Wales to learn lessons and share best practice and successful innovations.

Digital Services to Support Better Care Delivery

For the Regional Partnership, we look at digital transformation as a key programme of change that spans across health and social care in the region.

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Historically, IT-enabled change has been an important part of the delivery of transformation within our partner organisations (including Swansea Council, Neath Port Talbot Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board). This has included elements of regional change delivery that is IT-enabled, which can improve how we deliver our health and social care services.

However, these changes have often been developed in isolation to other initiatives and as a component of a specific change instead of being the driving force between transformation. Through the launch of the DTHSC Programme, the Region has committed to embedding digital services and solutions across the regional transformation programme appropriately to maximise on opportunities and benefits.

The impact of Covid-19 further highlighted the importance of enhanced digital technology to support health and social care delivery, from facilitating virtual assessments, to collection of time-critical data and deploying technology necessary to support agile working practices, all at considerable pace. Through reflection on this period the DTHSC Programme is taking stock of what was achievable, learning the appropriate lessons from this, and cementing digital transformation across the various work-streams as a key-enabler of transformational change, in order to move towards a more cohesive end-to-end process for our citizens and seamless, joined-up models of care for our workforce.

Workforce

West Glamorgan are developing a regional workforce strategy and action plan that sets out our strategic commitment as the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership for the next five years.

We will develop a West Glamorgan Workforce Programme to create the strategy and action plan to support the region in having a joined-up approach to the workforce challenges and opportunities across Health and Social Care

This strategy will need to support the principles of the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014, along with principles from A Healthier Wales and the Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) Framework.

The programme will help to address the significant workforce issues that are experienced nationally and locally and seek to support integrated working across the sector.

The strategy will be a shared regional strategy which is clear about workforce analysis, planning and development resources and priorities, and how they will meet the wider regional transformation agenda. There are clear and paralleled workforce agendas as we move West Glamorgan further towards an integrated workforce.

The strategy will support the transformation of the workforce in the health and social care sectors where they are and can be integrated. These delivery models align to the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014,

A Healthier Wales, and the goals of the 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'.

The strategy will support a longer-term workforce planning agenda, working in closer partnership with the independent sector and local communities to look to prevent the escalation of health and care problems and take a more joined-up approach.

The workforce strategy is not a static document and will continue to grow and develop alongside changes in the sector; having a workforce strategy that responds to the needs of the social care and the community health workforce.

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5.   Summary of Conclusions for the Area Plan

After a full and detailed review of the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report which is located in Appendix 2. West Glamorgan has concluded that it will seek to address the following key issues though the implementation of its priorities:

Older Adults

- Enable individuals to remain as independent as at all possible and in the own home for as long as possible
- Increase Respite Services in line with increasing demand
- Strengthen the Discharge to Recover and Assess Pathways and ensure we support the individual in what matters to them
- Ensure safe and timely discharge from hospital
- Develop and enhance falls prevention care
- Reduce social isolation and loneliness
- Continue to make West Glamorgan a Dementia Friendly Region
- Develop and Enhance Prevention approaches to reduce the need for acute and long-term care
- Sustainable Care Provision
- High Quality Care Homes

Children and Young People

- Reduce social isolation and loneliness
- Continue to develop and implement the NEST/NYST Framework
- Develop and enhance the services to Emotional Wellbeing of Children and Young People
- Increasing the sufficiency of suitable placements for children and young people in the region
- Develop and enhance services that wrap around families to promote keeping families together
- Develop more community resources and support to prevent children needing to become looked after
- Develop and enhance the prevention and early intervention services
- Support the "Voice of the Child" being promoted across the programme to aid coproduction of services
- Develop housing solutions to support families, in particular in support of Children and Young People with Mental Health issues or a Learning Disability
- Ensure that planning is based on accurate data collection and demographics

Mental Health

- Develop a strategy in coproduction to support the changes in mental health issues across the region
- Promote the preventative services for Children and Young People and Adults
- Continue to implement the Welsh Dementia Standards and Action Plan
- Work with colleagues to reduce factors that increase mental health issues such as poverty, substance misuse, unemployment, and digital exclusion
- Develop and enhance Mental Health links into the Cluster Networks
- Develop and Enhance prevention and low-level support services for people with Mental Health.
- Develop a CAMHS Telephone Single Point of Contact
- Ensure that planning is based on accurate data collection and demographics

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Learning Disability

- Increase the uptake of Annual Health Checks of people with Learning Disabilities
- Increase and develop opportunities for employment for people with Learning Disabilities
- Reduce social isolation and loneliness
- Improve the child to adult transition services
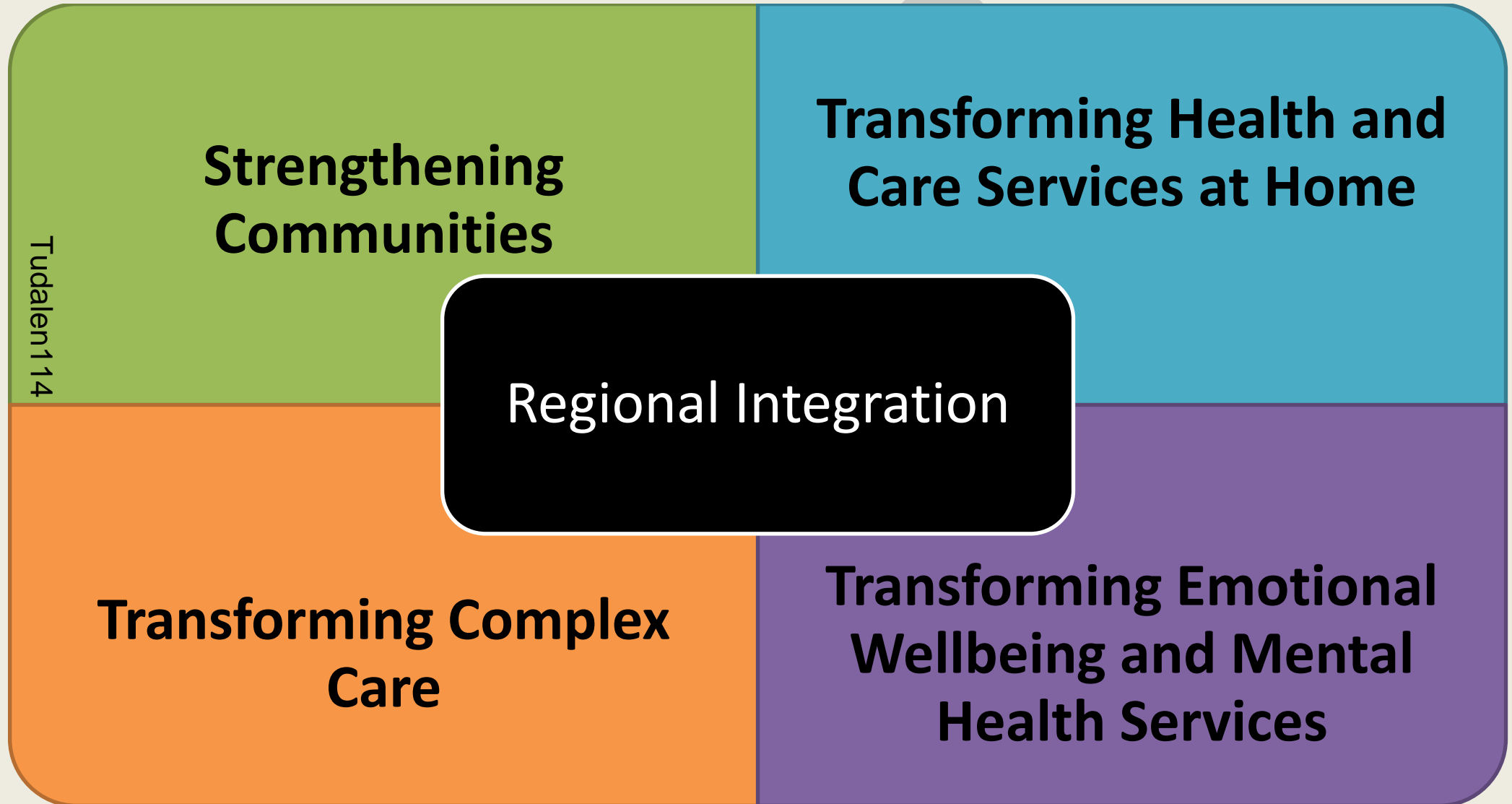- Develop a capital plan to develop accommodation for people with complex needs

Autism

- Review capacity and demand to provide and maintain the sustainability of appropriate support services to enable individuals with autism
- Ensure the groups are formed at a local level to support social interaction
- Ensure the groups are formed at a local level to support information and advice on channelling people with autism into work
- Reduce the number of people waiting for a diagnostic asessement
- Develop and enhance the availability of preventative services that would enable autistic people in their daily lives
- Provide appropriate and timely access to mental health and well-being services
- Improve child to adult transition services
- Further planning in terms of the requirements from the ALNWA Act around a fully inclusive education service needs to continue.
- Ensure a common understanding and consistency across the partners in the way the data is recorded and analysed.
- Carry out more analysis to plan for the needs of the population living in the region.
- Engagement with people with autism and their carers to inform future developments for autism services.
- Better sharing of information between partner organisations and people, particularly in terms of the services that are available across the region.

Carers

- Provide increased short breaks/respite - more innovative approaches are needed.
- Ensure that any services development for carers are coproduced which includes the views of young carers
- Reduce social isolation and loneliness for carers, providing then with opportunities to meet each other and engage with their communities.
- Engage with carers to plan services that would directly support loneliness and isolation (working in Conjunction with Public Service Boards)
- Improve information, advice and advocacy – good quality support is needed by carers to support their caring role especially in school and work environments
- Improve Carers assessments – under used and under offered.
- Improve information on Direct Payments – difficult to navigate and under used for carers needs.
- Improve Communication – accessible information given at the right time. Training – consistent training for staff on how to work with carers. Funding – sustainable funding of carers services is needed.
- Develop engagement opportunities for carers to identify themselves, and be identified by supporting organisations such as young carers need to be recognised in educational settings

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6.   West Glamorgan Regional Priorities for 2023-2027

In response to the key conclusions drawn from the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report, the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board has adjusted their priorities for the next five years.

Strengthening Communities

Transforming Health and Care Services at Home

Regional Integration

Transforming Complex Care

Transforming Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services

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Below is a more detailed explanation of each of the priorities:

Strengthening Communities

This priority focusses on how the statutory partners, third sector and volunteers will work collaboratively with and in communities. The partnership will adopt a strength-based and place-based model of prevention and community co-ordination. This will better support and promote good emotional health and wellbeing for individuals to remain living safe and well within their communities, without unnecessary recourse to statutory health and care services.

There will be a particular focus on:
- Support for carers of all ages
- Prevention and well-being services that support the delivery of a person-centred health and care approach
- Expanding the range of financially sustainable accommodation-based solutions for individuals who have or may develop care and support needs and reduce avoidable recourse to more institutionalised forms of care.

Transforming Health and Care Services at Home

This priority focusses on the development of new models of financially sustainable and integrated community health and care to support people to remain living safe and well within own homes and communities.

There will be a particular focus on:
Home from hospital services
Reducing unscheduled care admissions for people over 65
Reducing the time spent in an acute hospital setting following an unscheduled care admission for people over 65
Reducing unnecessary recourse to long term care for people over 65.

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Transforming Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Services:

This priority focusses on the development of an increased range of opportunities and promoting good emotional health and wellbeing for children and adults who are struggling with their mental health and including dementia to access proportionate support across the continuum of need.

There will be a particular focus on:

Implementing a 'no wrong door' approach for access to emotional well-being and mental health support

Ensuring timely access to the right help, from the right person at the right time across the continuum of need

Increasing the range of opportunities for children and adults to access support that promotes emotional and psychological well-being and reduce avoidable recourse to specialist mental health services.

Transforming Complex Care

This priority focusses on the development of new models of financially sustainable and integrated health and community-based care that maximises the safety and independence of children and adults with complex needs, enabling them to live and be cared for closer to home, lead ordinary lives and avoids unnecessary recourse to more institutionalised forms of care.

There will be a particular focus on:

Establishing effective processes for joint assessment and care planning (including the associated funding arrangements) between the statutory partners that ensure a focus on the delivery of integrated health and care for children and adults with complex needs.

Improving the experience of an individual in the transition from children to adult services

Expanding the range of financially sustainable accommodation and care-based solutions for children and adults with complex needs and reduce avoidable recourse to more institutionalised forms of care

Expand the range of financially sustainable integrated health and care services across the continuum of need and support children to remain living safe and well within their families and communities.

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West Glamorgan Governance Structure April 2023

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Local Cabinets and Health Board

West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board

West Glamorgan Regional Boards

Escalating Issues and Completed Products Only

Transformation Office Programme Manage

Business As Usual Programmes

Board 1 **Chair: Dave Howes**	Board 2 Chair: Sian Harrop-Griffiths	Board 3 Chair: Andrew Jarrett	Priority Colour Key
• **Home First Programme** • **Digital Transformation for Health and Social Care Programme**	**Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Programme**	• **Transforming Complex Care Programme** • **Children and Young People Programme**	**Strengthening Communities**
	Wellbeing and Learning Disability Programme		**Transforming Health and Care Services at Home**
			Transforming Mental Health Services
Prevention and Community Coordination	**Carers Partnership**	**Housing Partnership**	**Transforming Complex Care**

The table below highlights the gaps in service or identified services needs from the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Reports. Each gap or service identified has an action identified to address the issue.

Additionally, the table identified where each action contributed to the policy agenda of "A Healthier Wales," Welsh Government Models of Care along with its enablers and the Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care

Key for the Table

Quadruple Aim: A healthier Wales	Welsh Government Models of Care	Welsh Government Key Enablers	Six Goals of Urgent and Emergency Care
1. Population Health and Wellbeing – better prevention and self-management 2. Health and Social Care Services: Better quality and experience, enabled by digital, supported by engagement 3. Health and Social Care Workforce – Improve wellbeing, capability, engagement, leadership 4. Higher Value Health and Social Care – Rapid improvement and innovation enabled by data, focussed on outcomes	1. Place Based Care – Prevention and Community Co-ordination 2. Place Based Care – Complex Care Closer to Home 3. Promoting Good Emotional Health and Wellbeing 4. Supporting families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children. 5. Home from Hospital 6. Accommodation Based Solutions	1. Digital and Technology Solutions 2. Promoting the social value sector 3. Integrated community hubs 4. Workforce development and integration 5. Integrated planning and commissioning	GOAL 1: Coordination, planning and support for people at greater risk of Urgent and Emergency Care: GOAL 2: Signposting, information, and assistance GOAL 3: Clinically safe alternatives to admission GOAL 4: Rapid response in Crisis GOAL 5: Optimal hospital care and discharge practice from the point of admission GOAL 6: Home first approach and reduce risk of admission

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PNA Chapter	Gap or Service Need Identified by either PNA or MSR	Action Required	Quadruple Aim				Model of Care						Model of Care Enablers					Six Goals					
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tudalen 119 Older Adults	1. It is predicted that by 2030, the over 65 population across West Glamorgan will exceed 89,215. Of these: • 25,667 will struggle with daily activities relating to personal care and mobility around the home that are basic to daily living (e.g., eating, bathing, dressing, toileting, etc). ADLs are activities that are important aspects of living independently (e.g., money management, cooking, shopping, etc • The number of adaptations, recorded in each local authority, delivered across West Glamorgan is 283, which has declined by half from 555 in 2018/19 to 283 in 2020/21.	Review capacity and demand to provide and maintain the sustainability of appropriate support services to enable individuals to remain independent and at home.	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓											
		Continuous improvement and learning of the commissioning of care homes to ensure consistent high quality and sustainable care home provision.		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓											
		Based on the population increase in the over 65s cohort, services must be encouraged to embed preventative approaches earlier on in the life journey. This needs to enhance and build upon services currently provided by the Third Sector and requires further development.		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓											
	In 2015, 3,133 people in West Glamorgan had a diagnosis of dementia. By 2030 it is predicted that 7,098 will have dementia	Continue working towards a dementia friendly West Glamorgan, improving support and information for people with dementia, their family, and carers. Continue to develop the Dementia Action Plan and the Standards of Dementia services for the region	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓											
	9,959 people over 65+ were admitted to hospital in 2021	Identify capacity and demands for falls services. Review existing services in place to support falls.	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓											

Theme	Need	Action
Tudalen120	from community and residential settings including those who have suffered falls.	Identify areas for improvement and transformation for example: increase the use of assistive technology to its fullest potential to ensure appropriate support is available to those at risk of falls.
	Loneliness and isolation can lead to physical and mental health problems, such as depression and increased risk of premature death. In a recent analysis more than 75% of women and a third of men over the age of 65 live alone.	Reduce social isolation and loneliness while maintaining independence, enabling individuals to engage with their communities. Engage with older people to plan services that would directly support loneliness and isolation (working in Conjunction with Public Services Boards)
	The clinically optimised patients discharged from hospital are higher in 2021 compared to 2020. This links into the flow of patients out of hospital and to ensure there is capacity in the community care sector to provide the care they need to sustain a quality life.	Continue to develop the Discharge to Recover and Assess Pathways in line with Demand and available capacity. Continue to develop services that enable safe and timely discharge from hospital to home (or other appropriate residence e.g., step down beds in line with the West Glamorgan 'What Matters to Me Model') once medically fit providing appropriate reablement support.
	The demand for respite services received by adults over 65+, had increased from 518 in 2016-17 to 1,061 in 2018-19	Continue to develop respite services and capacity available in line with demands.
Children and Young People	Based on projections produced by Stats Wales in 2021, the population of those aged 0 - 15 years is expected to grow by approximately 2.5% by 2040 from 66,692 to 67,635. An increase of 943. Source: PNA 2022-27	Continue to ensure projected population growth is reflected in future planning and modelling of services.

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Insight	Objective																					
"The 'Age and loneliness' insight found that 23.3% of those aged 16–24 reported being lonely compared to 10.5% of those aged 75+. Source: PNA 2022-27	Reduce social isolation and loneliness while maintaining independence, enabling individuals to engage with their communities	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				
In the year ending March 2020, 7 out of 10 (70%) children aged 10 to 15 years who experienced an online bullying behaviour said this was by someone from their school." Research shows that 36% of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEND) experience frequent bullying, compared to 25% of those without. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAHMS) have struggled to meet demand locally over recent months due to staffing and resources. They report the most prominent issues for CYP to be anxiety, suicidal thoughts/ ideation, and low mood. Young people have become socially isolated during the pandemic. This may further enhance feelings of loneliness and social anxiety as we move out of the pandemic. This has had a severe impact on children and young people's mental health. Source: PNA 2022-27	To identify and recognise the factors that impact on Children and Young People (such as poverty, substance misuse, digital exclusion, etc.) which need to be addressed with our partners and stakeholders. Continue to take a regional, collaborative approach to the major transformation challenges, such as implementing the NEST/NYTH Framework across multiple sectors, services and organisations, specifically around universal prevention services and early intervention	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		

Need	Response
To identify and assess as early as possible those children who need care and support (including help to achieve emotional wellbeing and resilience). Source: PNA 2022-27	Continue to take a regional, collaborative approach to the major transformation challenges, such as implementing the NEST/NYTH Framework across multiple sectors, services and organisations, specifically around universal prevention services and early intervention to ensure that those children and young people who require care and support can access the right support at the earliest possible opportunity. Develop Emotional wellbeing support where there is a need to co-ordinate and shape well-being, mental health, counselling for under 18s, and post 18 services, including transition with all partners
The number of new foster placements made within the boundaries of West Glamorgan as of 31st March 2021 is 177. This shows a decline in the previous year where it was 277. Source: PNA 2022-27	Both local authorities have an ambition to increase the number of carers registered with their own service so they can (i) meet more of the need for foster care locally, especially complex care needs, (ii) have stronger options to make more effective placement matching decisions, thus reducing the need to place out of county and ensure each placement is design for the needs of each CYP, and (iii) reduce the need to use independent agencies.
The latest data available for 2020/21 from the Child Protection Register records 98 children in Neath Port Talbot and 253 in Swansea. For Swansea, the figures are about the same as they had been pre-pandemic. For Neath Port Talbot, this figure has remained stable since 2019. Source: PNA 2022-27	Continue to take a regional, collaborative approach to the major transformation challenges, such as implementing the NEST/NYTH Framework across multiple sectors, services, and organisations, specifically around prevention and early intervention services to ensure families are supported to remain together in a healthy and happy environment. Ensuring wrap around services for families are made available which will prevent CYP needing to be placed on the Child Protection Register.

		✓				✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	

Where children are not able to remain living with their parents, promoting keeping families together through the use of Special Guardianship Order.

The numbers of Looked after Children in 2020/21 may be impacted by the issues surrounding the impact of COVID-19 and is not a true reflection of actual figures. Swansea recorded 550 LAC, whereas Neath Port Talbot recorded 294.

Source: PNA 2022-27

Preventing the need to become looked after by helping Children and Young People and families to use their individual and collective strengths and resources in their communities; and provide timely prevention and early intervention services prevents needs escalating and becoming critical.

Where children are not able to remain living with their parents, promoting keeping families together through the use of Special Guardianship Order.

Co-production where further work is required to achieve effective and meaningful coproduction, and the need to develop the ability for CYP to shape the services they receive.

Co-production with Gypsy Traveller communities also needs to be strengthened in order to empower people to contribute to service design and operation.

Source: PNA 2022-27

Embedding the principles of co-production and taking a range of approaches to participation and engagement with CYP (to identify and hear the 'voice of the child,' and understand their lived experiences, prioritising our programme of work based on the needs of our population);

Youth Homelessness - In Swansea, the number of young people who presented to the youth homeless service between April 2015 – March 2020. were 485 presentations over the 5-year period.

Source: PNA 2022-27

To develop Housing provision for sustainable settings for CYP in need of support, linking in with learning disabilities and mental health support.

A strategic planning approach which incorporates the national, regional, and local priorities and activities across CYP services as well as the key dependencies with other areas of

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		transformation (e.g., capital investment in accommodation solutions)
	There are gaps in data collection where there is a need for information to understand the current numbers not only in the services provided but also in the assessment of the wider population. We need to develop and harness a culture of sharing data more easily and is accessible and it once source of the truth. We recognise it is critical to look beyond the numbers and use qualitative information to fully understand the needs of children and young people and those who care for them. Source: PNA 2022-27	Work collaboratively on a regional basis and retaining a child centred approach to the most complex cases - including agreeing how packages of health, educational and social care support are jointly funded. Agree with partners revised data sets to ensure we are collecting the right data at the right time to accurately inform planning and service redesign
Mental Health	Social Care Wales projections for the West Glamorgan area indicate a 65% increase in the number of people with dementia from 5,607 in 2020 to 8,661 in 2040. Source: PNA 2022-27	Use forecasting data of mental health inequalities and utilising the data taking a regional approach to the prevention of poor mental health. Recognising the factors that impact on mental health (such as poverty, substance misuse, employment, etc.) which need to be addressed with our partners and stakeholders. Continue to work regionally to implement the Wales Dementia Standards and Actions under the 5 national workstreams
	Data from the GP Quality Outcome Framework indicates during 2018- 2019, 4,688 patients were registered on the	The provision of Mental Health link workers into Local Cluster Collaboratives continues to expand to jointly manage the level of need within the community and primary care.

mental health disease register (Stats Wales). The majority of these patients will be managing their mental health within the community setting, with support and input from family, the voluntary sector, primary care, social care and community teams. Source: PNA 2022-27	Continue to work with third sector organisations to plan and develop their services to support prevention and low-level mental health need. The launch of a second Mental Health 'Sanctuary Service' within the region.
The latest information from Stats Wales indicates the largest referral avenue for young people attending counselling is through school staff and other education sources. Local data systems from SBUHB indicate the total number of referrals received by the Local Primary Mental Health Support Service [LPMHSS] for 2020/21 for children and young people was 489. Source: PNA 2022-27	Continue to develop CAMHS telephone single point of contact / referral line provides an open access service providing telephone advice, support, and referral triage. Promote the tidy Minds service - a mental health and wellbeing website for young people in Neath Port Talbot and Swansea designed to help young people understand any negative feelings they may be experiencing and finding the right advice and support. Develop and promote Kooth – a virtual counselling and support for children and young people who use the anonymous digital counselling and mental health support service. Work with regional partners to ensure that the principles of the NEST/NYTH Framework are incorporated across services
Findings of a survey conducted by the Children's Commissioner for Wales indicated less than half of 12–18-year-olds (47%) felt confident in seeking mental health support from a mental health team in their area. Even fewer (39%) were confident to	See above

	Description	Action	Indicators
Tudalen126	access counselling services offered through their school. Only 52% of these respondents felt confident to go to their own doctor for mental health support. Source: PNA 2022-27		
	The restrictions on seeing people, being able to go outside and worries about the health of family and friends affected mental health and loneliness was a key contributor to poor mental health. More than half of adults (60% of those over 25) and three quarters of young people (74% of those aged 13-24) said that their mental health has worsened during the period of lockdown restrictions, from early April to mid-May (2021) Source: PNA 2022-27	See above	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
	Gap in identifying all services provided across the partnership to identify gaps, threats, and opportunities, including regional commissioning. Gaps in data needed to inform future PNA development Source: PNA 2022-27	Work collaboratively and co-productively across the partnership to ensure that gaps are identified and agree a way forward	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Learning Disability	**Health Inequalities** People with a learning disability have worse health than people without a learning disability and are more likely to experience a	Increase uptake of the annual health checks with GPs	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

number of health conditions (co-morbidities)

Recovery from COVID-19

people with learning disabilities are more likely to contract COVID-19, have a more severe case of COVID-19, and are at least three times more likely than people without learning disabilities to die from COVID-19

Inequalities in health, wellbeing, social isolation, employment, and poverty that existed before COVID-19, along with separation from family and friends and changes to routines, may have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic

Increase uptake of the annual health checks with GPs

Increase opportunities in local communities with the support of third sector organisations

Education, training, and recreation

Some young people face a considerable change in how much support they receive after the age of 18 due to different thresholds rather than a sudden change in need

There are limited opportunities for work and apprenticeships, with no supported employment opportunities – despite evidence suggesting this is particularly effective.

Young people, parents and professionals all agree that young people with learning disabilities

Improve child to adult transition services

			Checkmarks
Tudalen128	are still expected to slot into services that already exist, with limited options if that doesn't fit their needs.		
	Social and economic well-being Disabled people in Wales were twice as likely as non-disabled people to live in a low-income household When the additional costs of disability are taken into account, 50% of working age disabled people in Wales were considered to be living in poverty 55% of disabled people in Wales were not in employment	Develop opportunities for employment working with organisations based in the region	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
	Suitability of living accommodation There is an increase year on year for accommodation for people with a learning disability. Residential placements have increased by 14% over the last 5 years. Supported living is the preferred option for people with a learning disability, however this is not available in high enough numbers for people with complex needs.	Development of a capital planning schedule of supported living schemes for people with complex needs across the region	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Autism	In the West Glamorgan region, future projections for autistic people taken from the Social Care Wales data platform for the under 17-year-old age group suggest that this cohort will only	Review, capacity, and demand to provide and maintain the sustainability of appropriate support services to enable individuals with autism	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

rise by 0.5% from 1,382 in 2020 to 1,391 by 2040. Source: PNA 2022-27 In the West Glamorgan Region, the number of autistic people over the age of 18 in West Glamorgan, the projected figure for the same time period rises by 6.5% to 3712 by 2040 Source: PNA 2022-27 The number of referrals to the Western Bay Regional autism service solely for NPT and Swansea increased on the pandemic with the number being 257 compared with 68 one year earlier. Source: PNA 2022-27		
The National Autistic Society (NAS) are delivering a project aiming to create new social groups for autistic adults across Wales. In 2020-21, a survey of autistic adults in Wales was undertaken to find out about current opportunities for socialising and the potential for setting up new peer support groups. 70% of respondents said they would like to participate in a group, and one in six would like to set up a group themselves. Source: PNA 2022-27	Ensure the groups are formed at a local level to support social interaction	✓
The Disability Employment Gap is still too wide, with around half of disabled people in work, compared to over 80% of non-	Ensure the groups are formed at a local level to support information and advice on channelling people with autism into work	✓

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disabled people. But the autism employment gap is even wider, with just 22% autistic people reported in paid work. We are really worried that out of all disabled people, autistic people seem to have the worst employment rate. Source: PNA 2022-27																								
In terms of mental health, autistic people are more likely to experience problems than the general population. Approximately 70%–80% of autistic children and adults experience mental health problems, most commonly depression and anxiety. Source: PNA 2022-27	Availability of preventative services that would enable autistic people in their daily lives	✓																						
A 2019 report, Autism Act: 10 years on, showed 76% of autistic people have reached out for mental health support in the past five years, with only 14% believing there are enough mental health services in their area to support their needs. Source: PNA 2022-27	Need to provide appropriate and timely access to mental health and well-being services	✓																						
Transition to adulthood: A reference to the need for a systematic transition process, a lack of support for parents and support to handle the legal and financial procedures associated with young adults with profound	Improve child to adult transition services	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓												

	Statement	Actions																							
	intellectual disability reaching adulthood (18 years old). Source: PNA 2022-27																									
	Of those children where the information is available, the number of children with an autistic spectrum disorder receiving care and support is increasing in the Region from 255 in 2016-17 to 310 for 2019-20. Source: PNA 2022-27	Further planning in terms of the requirements from the ALNWA Act around a fully inclusive education service needs to continue.	✓	✓	✓	✓																				
Tudalen131	The most significant gap identified in the development of the autism PNA chapter was the insufficient data for autism across all services. This means we are unable to clearly identify the gaps and demand for different services Source: PNA 2022-27	Ensure a mutual understanding and consistency across the partners in the way the data is recorded and analysed. Carry out more analysis to plan for the needs of the population living in the region. Engagement with people with autism and their carers to inform future developments for autism services. Better sharing of information between partner organisations and people, particularly in terms of the services that are available across the region	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓											
Carers	Many unpaid carers struggle to balance work and caring for someone. Carers Wales estimates that 149,812 people in Wales have had to give up employment to care. Of those who have been able to stay in employment, 74,906 have had to reduce their working hours to support the people they care for. Source: PNA 2022-27	Provide increased short breaks/Respite - more innovative approaches are needed. Provide increased workplace support for carers			✓	✓								✓											

Outcome	Actions
Co-production – carers must be involved in co-designing services that meet their needs. Co-production must be embedded as per the Regional Co-production Framework. Source: PNA 2022-27 New developments and changes are co-produced with carers. Carers services are funded sustainably Carers are actively offered direct payments. Carers' positive and negative experiences are used to inform service improvements. Carers have responsive and flexible access to mental health and well-being services. Source: PNA 2022-27	Ensure that any services developed for carers are coproduced Ensure carers are involved in meaningful discussions about their needs and the people they care for (including young carers).
Carers have flexible and responsive respite opportunities. Carers have support with developing contingency plans. Carers have access to wellbeing workshops. Carers have workplace and educational support. Source: PNA 2022-27	Provide increased short breaks/Respite - more innovative approaches are needed. Provide young carers with support for tuition and homework clubs. Provide young carers with help choosing subject options and careers advice
Carers have opportunities to meet each other. Carer led groups are commonplace. Source: PNA 2022-27	Reduce social isolation and loneliness for carers, providing then with opportunities to meet each other and engage with their communities. Engage with carers to plan services that would directly support loneliness and isolation (working in Conjunction with Public Services Boards) Ensure Young carers have opportunities where they can meet up with other young carers

	Description	Actions																													
	Carers are informed of their rights. Carers have dedicated and tailored information and advice portals/places across all statutory providers. Carers have information and advice about contingency planning. Carers are informed about Assessments and how they can be of benefit. Easy read options and minority languages are catered for appropriately. Source: PNA 2022-27	Improve information, advice, and advocacy – excellent quality support is needed by carers to support their caring role. Improve Carers assessments – under used and under offered. Improve information on Direct Payments – difficult to navigate and under used for carers needs. Ensuring direct payments work well and meet carers' needs Improve Communication – accessible information given at the right time. Training – consistent training for staff on how to work with carers. Funding – sustainable funding of carers services is needed. Improve the information that is targeted at schools and employers about supporting the needs of carers and young carers	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓												
	Carers are recognised even if they do not self-identify. Carers are actively identified by organisations and staff supporting them. There is shared responsibility across and within organisations for identifying carers. Source: PNA 2022-27	Develop engagement opportunities for carers to identify themselves, and be identified by supporting organisations which includes the identification of young carers Develop a young carers leads network in educational settings Ensure young carers are identified in schools for signposting to early support.	✓	✓	✓	✓																					

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Neath Port Talbot CBC has worked with partners and imbedded the national well-being directory, DEWIS CYMRU; this works alongside the Family Information Service and with the directory used by the third sector, Infoengine. These platforms make it easier for citizens of Neath Port Talbot to access the information they require.

The Adults and Children's Single Point of Contact operate an integrated "front door" to the Social Services Health and Housing Directorate, where contact officers respond to queries from the public and appropriate information, advice and assistance is provided based on the needs of the caller.

Swansea Council

Swansea is implementing the national well-being directory, DEWIS CYMRU so that people can obtain information directly from the website in order to access a wider range of well-being care and support services. This national system, implemented locally, is expecting to build important links to the Family Information Service and Third Sector's Infoengine directories.

These developments are a part of an overall approach to providing information, advice and assistance that fits with the Council's approach to Corporate Contact, the Single Point of Contact in Child and Family Services and the Adult Common Access Point at the front door of community-based health and social care services.

Swansea Bay University Health Board

111 is the new free-to-call number for people to access general health and mental health advice from the correct professional in the quickest time possible and is part of a plan to improve urgent and unscheduled care.

The 111 Wales pilot was launched in October 2016 by Swansea Bay University Health Board and is live across the whole of the West Glamorgan region. Further enhancements to the NHS 111 service are planned throughout the next 12 months.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Services will seek to match suitable members of Welsh speaking staff with a person/persons who would wish to discuss their well-being through the medium of Welsh.

Swansea Council

Swansea Council and Social Services recognises the importance of meeting the individuals' Welsh language needs, and we are committed to offering, providing, and developing Welsh language services. During the year, the Directorate has been working towards increasing capacity to deliver a bilingual service, as there is a current lack of capacity in the teams, reflected in the small number of fluent Welsh speakers.

Service plans and commissioning plans are tackling the challenges linked to increased citizen expectations, higher demand, and less resource. Work is still in progress both regionally, locally and within partnerships. These are informed by co-production with citizens, and any public facing events will be held with an 'active offer' in place. All such strategic plans are screened for Equalities considerations via an Impact Assessment, and contract specifications are reviewed regularly with providers and monitored routinely against a range of quality standards, including Welsh Language standards. Provider forums held with residential and domiciliary care sectors have helped to raise awareness of the Active Offer.

Swansea Bay University Health Board

Swansea Bay University Health Board is fully committed to providing a bilingual service and wants to improve the quality of the treatment, care and services people receive. We wish to ensure that people are treated with dignity and respect, and that we offer Welsh language services to people without them having to ask for them (in line with guidance within the Welsh Government's Strategic Framework "More than just words...." and The Active Offer).

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Glossary of Acronyms

Acronym	Full definition
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
CCN	Complex Care Needs
CCN	Commissioning for Complex Needs
CVS	Council for Voluntary Service
CWSA	Cluster Whole Systems Approach
CYP	Children and Young People
DCP	Discretionary Capital Programme
DTOC	Delayed Transfers of Care
EOI	Expression of Interest
H2H	Hospital 2 Home
HR	Human Resources
IAA	Information, Advice and Assistance
ICF	Integrated Care Fund
LD	Learning Disabilities
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (the 'Plus indicates inclusion of all orientations and identities)
MAPSS	Multi-Agency Placement Support Service
MCP	Main Capital Programme
NPTCBC	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
ONA	Our Neighbourhood Approach
PNA	Population Needs Assessment
PSED	Public Sector Equality Duty
RBA	Results Based Accountability
RI&I	Research, Innovation & Improvement
RII	Research, Innovation and Improvement
RPB	Regional Partnership Board
SBUHB	Swansea Bay University Health Board
SC	Swansea Council
SCH&H	Social Care, Health & Housing
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound
SVF	Social Value Forum
TMHS	Transforming Mental Health Services
ToC	Theory of Change
ToR	Terms of Reference
TUC	Trades Union Congress
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
VAWDASV	Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
WCCIS	Welsh Community Care Information System

Glossary of Terms

Term	Description
Benefits	We use the term '**Benefits**' to describe a measurable impact on an organisation or business, in our case primarily on our partner organisations. As opposed to Outcomes (which impact on People in general), a benefit will impact on the organisation in either a positive way (e.g. a reduction in operational running costs) or a negative way known as a Dis-benefit (e.g. changing a service may result in an increase in calls to a helpline or contact centre, which comes with an associated cost).
Business As Usual	We use the term '**Business as usual**' to mean a service provided by the Regional Partnership, either directly to our People or to the Regional Partnership Board and its partner organisations.
Capital Expenditure	The purchase or creation of assets that are intended to be used for a period of at least one year or more, including items such as land, buildings and equipment
Commissioning	We use the term '**Commissioner**' to represent an individual that plans the services that are needed by our People and ensures that they are available, including potentially paying for the service to be delivered by another individual or organisation. • We use the term '**Local Commissioning**' to mean when an organisation commissions a service either within their own local area or community, or only to their own Service Users directly. • We use the term '**Regional Commissioning**' to mean when the Regional Partnership (or another regionally-focused entity) commissions a service either across multiple areas or communities, or with the involvement of multiple organisations to reach a greater number of Service Users directly. • We use the term '**Tender**' to mean a written invitation to potential Service Providers who may be interesting in providing the services we commission. The Tendering Process means a series of tasks that allow Commissioners to identify the most suitable Service Provider and appoint them in a fair, open competition (usually resulting in a Contract being issued from the Commissioner to the successful Service Provider).
Continuous Improvement	We use the term '**Continuous Improvement**' to represent a process by which we are constantly checking to see if our service is delivering the right results (e.g. achieving the right outcomes for our People) and making changes where we believe they are needed. The difference between transformation and continuous improvement is that we ensure continuous improvement is built into the service so that it is always happening (and we do not have to wait until a certain time or when funding is available to make a change).
Dependencies	We use the term '**Dependencies**' to describe the link between different tasks or responsibilities. For example, we cannot deliver an event until we have created a plan so the two tasks are dependent (one has to be completed before the other can be started). This is especially important if different individuals or organisations are responsible for each task, as they need to know what is dependent on their work and what their work is dependent upon. Understanding and mapping dependencies can help us

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	to manage the work to ensure that we can successfully deliver our Plans and achieve our Strategies.
Drivers	We use the term '**Drivers**' to describe the various influences on our transformation initiatives, providing a clear direction in terms of "why are we doing this". Strategic Drivers can include national policies, recommendations from major reviews, regionally co-produced strategies, legislation and other important factors. These Drivers not only motivated us to transform but provide clear rationale and boundaries within which we can deliver change.
Framework	We use the term '**Framework**' to describe "how we will manage our work" which enables us to deliver our Strategies. Frameworks provide us with the structures, processes and mechanisms that we can use repetitively across all of our areas of work. For example, a Communications Framework helps us to communicate consistently and in line with the same principles regardless of which Service, Programme, Project or Function we are delivering.
Function	We use the term '**Function**' to mean a service provided by the Regional Partnership Transformation Team that enables the partnership to operate. These are internal processes such as managing budgets and co-ordinating regional reporting which are necessary to enable us to work together and delivery our Portfolio of transformation initiatives.
Goals	We use the term '**Goals**' to describe the purpose of our transformation initiatives, in terms of what needs to be achieved and by when. We often use the SMART technique to ensure that our goals are described in a clear and effective way.
Indicators	We use the term '**Indicators**' to describe how we quantify the achievement of our Outcomes (e.g. if we delivered a change, what number or percentage of people did it help).
Issues	A previously uncertain event that is now certain to have an impact on some aspect of our work
Measures	We use the term '**Measures**' to describe how the changes we are delivering will impact on our Outcomes (e.g. if we delivered a change, how well did it work).
Mission	We use the term '**Mission**' to describe how we intend to move forward and achieve our Vision, either in terms of a clear task or a commitment to working in a specific way to ensure that we can successfully deliver the tasks needed.
Objectives	We use the term '**Objectives**' to describe the stated aims of an initiative to be achieved. This could include delivering a number of Outputs or implementing a number of tasks within a Plan. We often use the SMART technique to ensure that our Objectives are described in a clear and effective way.
Outcomes	We use the term '**Outcomes**' to describe a measurable impact on a key condition for some or all of our People (e.g. better wellbeing for carers). We may have lots of different initiatives contributing to a single Outcome over a long period of time.
Outputs	We use the term '**Outputs**' to describe something that is created by an initiative in order to help us achieve our Objectives. It could be a document, a process, an important message to be shared…anything that is created by a Programme or Project. Some of our outputs are co-

	produced in line with our **Regional Co-production Framework**. Other terms for Outputs include 'Products' or 'Deliverables'.
Plan	We use the term '**Plan**' to describe "how we will do it" in order to implement our Strategy and achieve our Vision for the future. The Plan is important to explain what action we plan to take in a way that everyone can understand what is going to happen and the impact of it happening. A Plan document combines information about the actions that will be taken during the life of the Programme or Project that is responsible for delivering it.
Portfolio	We use the term '**Portfolio**' to mean the totality of our investment in transformation. This means all of initiatives that we fund (regardless of their funding sources, timescales or resources) combined as a single collection of the following types of initiatives: • We use the term '**Programme**' to represent an initiative that delivers one or more Outcomes in line with our regional priorities and strategies. These initiatives are time-bound and usually take several years in total to complete (although some programmes are continuously refreshed with new Outcomes and timescales, these are known as "rolling programmes"). • We use the term '**Project**' to represent an initiative that delivers one or more Outputs that contribute to one or more Outcomes. These initiatives are time-bound and usually take between several months and two years to complete. • We use the term '**Work Package**' to represent a set of tasks and actions required to deliver an Output. Whereas a Programme or Project may have specific funding and resources assigned to it, a Work Package may not and would therefore need to be delivered within our funding and resource constraints. • We use the term '**Task & Finish Group**' to represent an initiative that is established to deliver a specific aim, task or Output. These initiatives are temporary and usually take weeks or months to complete.
Programme	A temporary structure responsible for implementation of a set of projects that will collectively deliver outcomes and strategic benefits
Project	A temporary structure responsible for delivering key outputs or changes that will contribute to achieving outcomes and strategic benefits
Revenue Expenditure	Expenditure incurred on day-to-day running costs which would include rent, utilities and salaries
Risks	An uncertain event that, if it happens, may have an impact on some aspect of our work
Schedule	We use the term '**Schedule**' to describe the tool we use for detailing the specific actions within the Plan including what tasks are required, who will do them, and when they will be started/finished. A Schedule is created for programmes and projects using our Project Server system
Section 33 agreement	A joint funding arrangement between organisations – often referred to as "pooled budgets" – which allow each organisation to contribute to achieving a shared outcome.
Service Manager	We use the term '**Service Manager**' to represent the individual who is accountable for a service, often the senior leader on a team within the Service Provider's organisation.

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Service Provider	We use the term '**Service Provider**' to represent the individuals, organisations or groups who provide a service (in this case, generally a health or social care service).
Service User	We use the term '**Service User**' to represent the People who use the services provided by a Service Provider.
Social Value	The quantification of the relative importance that People place on the changes they experience in their lives
Strategy	We use the term '**Strategy**' to describe "what we plan to do" in order to achieve our vision for the future. A Strategy document combines various elements such as the mission, goals and drivers to describe the future state we want to achieve and why it is important. A strategy is not only about defining the scope and purpose of transformation, it is about engaging and inspiring the people who will help us to make that change happen.
The Act	The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014
Tolerances	A set variance on key criteria against which change is delivered (e.g. Time, Cost, Quality, Scope)
Vision	We use the term '**Vision**' to describe how we see the future either in terms of our regional partnership, our key priorities for transformation or in specific programmes of work. A Vision Statement is a simple, clear and concise statement of what the future will look like which inspires us all to achieve our vision.
Workstream	We use the term '**Workstream**' to mean the structure for us to manage a number of programmes, projects, work packages and other activities related to a key theme or priority (such as Housing).

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Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Social Servies, Housing and Community Safey Cabinet Board

Thursday 14ᵗʰ April 2023

ACCESS TO MEETINGS/EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Purpose:	To consider whether the Public should be excluded from the following items of business.
Item (s):	10,11,12,13,14 &15
Recommendation(s):	That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the Paragraphs listed below of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 subject to the Public Interest Test (where appropriate) being applied.
Relevant Paragraph(s):	13 & 14

1.   Purpose of Report

To enable Members to consider whether the public should be excluded from the meeting in relation to the item(s) listed above.

Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales)

Order 2007, allows a Principal Council to pass a resolution excluding the public from a meeting during an item of business.

Such a resolution is dependant on whether it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present during that item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as defined in section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

2.   Exclusion of the Public/Public Interest Test

In order to comply with the above mentioned legislation, Members will be requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in the recommendation(s) to the report on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the Exclusion Paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Information which falls within paragraphs 12 to 15, 17 and 18 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended is exempt information if and so long as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The specific Exclusion Paragraphs and the Public Interest Tests to be applied are listed in Appendix A.

Where paragraph 16 of the Schedule 12A applies there is no public interest test. Members are able to consider whether they wish to waive their legal privilege in the information, however, given that this may place the Council in a position of risk, it is not something that should be done as a matter of routine.

3.   Financial Implications

Not applicable

4. Integrated Impact Assessment

Not applicable

5. Valleys Communities Impact

Not applicable

6. Workforce Impact

Not applicable.

7. Legal Implications

The legislative provisions are set out in the report.

Members must consider with regard to each item of business the following matters.

(a)   Whether in relation to that item of business the information is capable of being exempt information, because it falls into one of the paragraphs set out in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended and reproduced in Appendix A to this report.

and either

(b)   If the information does fall within one or more of paragraphs 12 to 15, 17 and 18 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, the public interest test in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information; or

(c)   if the information falls within the paragraph 16 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in considering whether to exclude the public members are not required to apply the public interest test by must consider whether they wish to waive their privilege in relation to that item for any reason.

8.   Risk Management

To allow Members to consider risk associated with exempt information.

9.   Recommendation(s)

As detailed at the start of the report.

10.   Reason for Proposed Decision(s):

To ensure that all items are considered in the appropriate manner.

11.   Implementation of Decision(s):

The decision(s) will be implemented immediately.

12.   List of Background Papers:

Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

13.   Appendices:

Appendix A – List of Exemptions

NO	Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A
12	Information relating to a particular individual
13	Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
14	Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
15	Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority
16	Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
17	Information which reveals that the authority proposes: • To give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person, or • To make an order or direction under any enactment.
18	Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

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Yn sgil paragraff(au) 14 yn Rhan 4 Atodlen 12A% Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972

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Mae'r dudalen hon yn fwriadol wag

Yn sgil paragraff(au) 13 yn Rhan 4 Atodlen 12A% Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972

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