

To: Members of the Partnerships  
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 8 September 2023

Direct Dial: 01824 712554

e-mail: [democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk)

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2023** in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCE.**

Yours sincerely

G. Williams  
Monitoring Officer

## **AGENDA**

### **1 APOLOGIES**

### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 3 - 4)**

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at this meeting.

### **3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 5 - 16)**

To receive the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 6 July 2023 (copy enclosed).

**10.05am – 10.15am**

**5 NORTH DENBIGHSHIRE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL PROJECT**

To discuss with a representative from the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board the progress made to date in relation to delivering this project.

**10.15am – 10.45am**

**6 NORTH WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022 TO 2023 (Pages 17 - 72)**

To consider the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board on its activities during 2022/23 (copy enclosed) and provide observations on its contents and the Board's work.

**10.45am – 11.30am**

**7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 73 - 96)**

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Coordinator (copy enclosed) seeking a review of the committee's forward work programme and updating members on relevant issues.

**11.30am – 11.50am**

**8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

To receive any updates from Committee representatives on various Council Boards and Groups.

**11.50am – 12pm**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Councillors**

Councillor Joan Butterfield (Chair)

Councillor Peter Scott (Vice-Chair)

Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones  
Kelly Clewett  
Pauline Edwards  
Bobby Feeley  
Terry Mendies

Raj Metri  
Arwel Roberts  
David Williams  
Elfed Williams

**COPIES TO:**

All Councillors for information  
Press and Libraries  
Town and Community Councils

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

---

### Code of Conduct for Members

### DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, ( <i>name</i> )	<input type="text"/>
a *member/co-opted member of <i>(*please delete as appropriate)</i>	<b>Denbighshire County Council</b>
<b>CONFIRM</b> that I have declared a <b>*personal / personal and prejudicial</b> interest not previously declared in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, in respect of the following:- <i>(*please delete as appropriate)</i>	
Date of Disclosure:	<input type="text"/>
Committee ( <i>please specify</i> ):	<input type="text"/>
Agenda Item No.	<input type="text"/>
Subject Matter:	<input type="text"/>
Nature of Interest: <i>(See the note below)*</i>	<input type="text"/>
Signed	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>

\*Note: Please provide sufficient detail e.g. 'I am the owner of land adjacent to the application for planning permission made by Mr Jones', or 'My husband / wife is an employee of the company which has made an application for financial assistance'.

This page is intentionally left blank

## **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin and by Video Conference on Thursday, 6 July 2023 at 10.00 am.

### **PRESENT**

Councillors Joan Butterfield (Chair), Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Kelly Clewett, Pauline Edwards, Bobby Feeley, Terry Mendies, Peter Scott (Vice-Chair) and Elfed Williams

Observers – Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts and Councillor Andrea Tomlin

**Lead Members** – Lead Member Health and Social Care, Councillor Elen Heaton and Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Economic Growth and Tackling Deprivation, Councillor Jason McLellan were in attendance at the Committee's invitation.

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Corporate Director Economy and Environment (TW), Corporate Director: Governance and Business (GW), Head of Adult Social Care and Homelessness (AL), Service Manager, Adult Social Care & Homelessness Service (AP), Economic and Business Development Manager (JCE), Business Support Manager (PB), Revenues Team Manager (EE), Scrutiny Coordinator (RE and KE) Senior Committee Administrator and Zoom Host (KJ) and Committee Administrators (SJ and SW)

Public Speakers – Abigail Pilling (Manager of Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID)) and Nadeem Ahmed (Chair of Rhyl BID Board) were in attendance for agenda item 6.

The Chair welcomed Hedd Vaughan Evans - Head of Operations for the Portfolio Management Office of Ambition North Wales and Stuart Whitfield – Digital Programme Manager representing the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (Agenda item 5).

### **1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Arwel Roberts and David Williams.

### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No interests of a personal, or a personal and prejudicial nature were declared.

### **3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

No matters of an urgent nature had been drawn to the Chair or the Scrutiny Co-ordinator's attention prior to the commencement of the meeting.

#### 4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 18 May 2023 were submitted. The Committee:

***Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2023 be received and approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.***

No matters were raised in relation to the accuracy or the contents of the minutes.

#### 5 NORTH WALES ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Economic Growth and Tackling Deprivation, Councillor Jason McLellan introduced the annual report (previously circulated) to the Committee. The report provided members with an opportunity to scrutinise the work of North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) and its progress in delivering its work. He confirmed quarter 1, 2 and 3 reports were submitted to members for information with quarter 4 and Annual Report presented to Committee for further discussion.

He thanked the Head of Operations for the Portfolio Management Office of Ambition North Wales and Digital Programme Manager for attending the Committee meeting to present to the Committee.

Hedd Vaughan Evans, Head of Operations for the Portfolio Management Office of Ambition North Wales, presented members with a PowerPoint presentation. He introduced to the Committee Stuart Whitfield the Digital Programme Manager for the Board.

Members were provided with background information on the Board and advised that the Programme Office reported directly to the Board which set the direction of the work and took any decisions required. The NWEAB had been in existence since 2016, setting a vision for North Wales. Members heard the Board had secured £240m investment into North Wales. With a total investment target of £1billion over a 15 year period, creating 4200 new jobs. Members were guided through the aims of the Board including building a more vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy in North Wales. Building on strengths to boost productivity whilst tackling long term challenges. It was hoped this would be done in a sustainable way that was in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Members were provided with information on some of the challenges the Board had faced over the previous 12 months. It was stressed progress in some areas had not been as quick as had first been hoped. A number of project delays had been encountered and a number of challenges around cost inflation had impacted some projects.

Further business cases had initial outline cases approved by the Economic Ambition Board. This allowed projects to complete procurement processes and return to the Board for a final investment decision. These were:

- Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre
- Last few %

- Smart Local Energy

Members heard funding had been acquired from Welsh Government to deliver Local Area Energy Plans. The team were co-ordinating the delivery of those plans.

A mobile connectivity survey on the quality of 4G connectivity across the region had been conducted, data received would feed into a digital programme in the plan. Members were guided through further highlights detailed in the presentation. Reallocation of funding had been agreed redirecting monies from projects which had been withdrawn due to a change in Welsh Government (WG) roads infrastructure policy. This had resulted in an additional £7million being allocated to some mature projects to support them with cost associated inflation. The remainder of the funding available for reallocation was then made available for projects to bid for. A total of 26 project applications had been received, ongoing review of those projects was taking place.

The Digital Programme Manager provided members with further information on the growth deal projects under the Digital Connectivity stream. Within the Growth Deal, there were 3 infrastructure based projects that were to be introduced across all counties. Details of the projects was provided to members. The Digital Signal Processing (DSP) Centre was the first project that had progressed to the delivery stage. A full 12 months of delivery had been observed with a number of jobs being created both at the centre and on a wider range.

The Corporate Director Economy and Environment thanked the representatives for the detailed presentation and for attending the Committee to present to members and answer any questions.

In response to members' questions the officers and representatives provided further detail on the following:

- A number of changes had been observed since the Growth Deal had been original agreed. The agreement with Government on the North Wales Growth Deal was at programme and portfolio level allowing for some flexibility for the projects. A review was conducted post covid to review the interventions in the growth deal were correct for the North Wales economy, which was supported by external consultants. It concluded the programme areas identified continued to be the right areas for intervention. The individual projects were subject to significant scrutiny and challenge.
- Flexibility within the deal to withdraw and select replacement projects. The project in Bodelwyddan had been withdrawn. The funding which had been originally allocated had been set aside to allow for alternative projects to bid for the funding. 26 project bids had been submitted across the region. It was hoped a recommendation of a project would be proposed at the next Board meeting. As the Growth Deal was a regional programme of work the proposed new project may not lie within Denbighshire.
- The Growth Deal did not allocate projects or funding to each authority. Each project had to go through a vigorous process to assess their suitability and viability for inclusion in the Deal's programme portfolio. The projects were regional and would benefit the whole of North Wales economy not just the area they were based in.

- The Llysfasi Net Zero Farm project had originally been part of the Growth Deal. However, this project had since been identified as an educational project rather than an agri-food and tourism economic growth project. The project had been withdrawn and the college was seeking different funding streams to fund the project. It was understood that the project was still progressing with WG support
- Resources and capacity would always be a challenge for the regional team. The first three years of operation been funded by a split of local authority contributions and a significant contribution from European funding. The European funding had since ceased which created a gap. The Board was committed to sourcing alternative sources of funding without seeking extra contributions from the partners. It had been agreed by both governments that the Board could top slice a proportion of the growth deal funding to support staffing costs with the aim of pursuing and securing alternative funding sources.
- Members were pleased to note the additional funding being made available for the North Wales Hospital project in Denbigh. Whilst officers echoed the thoughts of members and were pleased the project could progress, they did stress that this was a high risk project.
- All of the projects did have a contingency budget included in the original budgets. Due to the scale of the cost inflation it was noted some of those budgets may not be sufficient. Unfortunately, the scale of cost inflation could not have been predicted. It was hoped that construction costs were stabilising. Projects were being asked to source any funding gaps from the project sponsors or identify any savings. The risk was constantly monitored and reviewed.
- The Growth Deal would not be delivered with just the funding from Government. Investment from the public and private sector was vital for the delivery of projects. It was a significant risk at the wider portfolio level and for each individual project. When seeking market investment, extensive engagement with the private sector took place with a view to leveraging in private investment.
- £35million had been allocated from the North Wales Growth Deal for the Holyhead Gateway project. The funding was essentially required to facilitate the expansion of the port, including land reclamation that would future proof the port's operations. The additional £20million announced by UK Government for the breakwater project was additional funding and not part of the Growth Deal. The funding would support the work on the breakwater. It was an important additional investment to support the project.
- Corporate Joint Committees (CJC) were in existence and had been created by legislation; a lot of activity was currently taking place in respect of a creating the governance arrangements and constitutional arrangements for the CJCs. This was being led by the Monitoring Officer in Gwynedd. All partner authorities had in principle agreed that Growth Deal should eventually be governed by the CJCs.

At the conclusion of an in-depth discussion the Chair thanked the Leader, Corporate Director: Environment and Economy and officers from the North



Wales Economic Ambition Board's Portfolio Management Officer for attending the meeting and answering members' questions. It was:

**Resolved: subject to the above comments and observations to –**

- (i) receive the North Wales Economic Ambition Board's Quarter 4 report and its Annual Report on its work and progress during 2022/23; and***
- (ii) recommend to officers that the aims and objectives of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board be communicated to Denbighshire's city, town and community councils in order that they may actively engage with the Board and its work for the benefit of the county's communities.***

## **6 RHYL BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID) RE-BALLOT**

Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Economic Growth and Tackling Deprivation, Councillor Jason McLellan introduced the Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID) Re-ballot report (previously circulated).

The report provided an opportunity for members to scrutinise the proposal for a second term of the BID. Members were reminded the Rhyl BID was established in November 2018, following a successful ballot with a mandate to operate for a maximum of 5 years. In order to continue operating, a new set of proposals were required to be put to a ballot. The BID provided a form of local democracy, it gave local businesses the power to collectively raise funds to deliver agreed improvements to the local area. The BID was funded by local businesses contributing a small portion of business rateable value levy. A BID could only be formed following a successful ballot taking place, and any additional monies levied could only be utilised on items or services not provided by the local authority. Members heard the proposed business plan was attached to the agenda papers as Appendix 1.

It was stressed the BIDs were independent to the Council. Denbighshire County Council were a key stakeholder and had a statutory duty to conduct any BID ballots and to collect and enforce the BID levies. The authority was a significant levy payer in the BID area and therefore had a number of votes within the ballot process.

The Council was represented on the Rhyl BID Board by the Corporate Director Economy and Environment, Tony Ward.

The Corporate Director Economy and Environment thanked the Leader for the overview of the report. He introduced to the Committee Abigail Pilling who was employed by the Rhyl BID as the Rhyl BID manager and Nadeem Ahmed owner of Jean Emporium in Rhyl Town Centre and Chair of the Rhyl BID Board.

The purpose of the report was threefold; firstly, to examine the proposals for a second five-year term for the Rhyl BID, secondly to inform members about the steps involved in arranging and holding a ballot and finally to enable the Committee to raise and ask any questions regarding the BID or the ballot process.

He guided members to paragraph 4.11 and 4.12 of the covering report, which informed members that part of the role of the Council was to decide whether there were any grounds to veto the BID proposals. The Council could veto the proposals if they conflicted with any corporate policy of the Council or if it felt that they placed

a significantly disproportionate financial burden upon any person or class of persons. Ultimately Cabinet would ask those questions in September 2023, prior to allowing the BID to take place. Members heard it was officers' opinion that the proposals did not fall under either area to veto the proposals.

Abigail Pilling addressed the Committee providing a brief overview of what the BID had been able to facilitate and deliver to date. She stated the original BID identified 4 action areas - safe and welcoming, cleansing and maintenance, marketing and business support. One of the more well-known projects was the Town Ranger Project which crossed over all 4 action areas. She made members aware of the events programme which detailed signature events proposed to take place. Alongside these events a training programme was timetabled to offer in-house training on certain areas for businesses. The BID was also involved in some community initiatives with a number of partnerships developed. The Chair of the BID Board, Nadeem Ahmed, added that the proposed new business plan attached to the report built on what had been established during the first 5 year term of the BID and aimed to progress and go further.

The Chair thanked the speakers and officers for the introduction Committee members were given an opportunity to ask questions to the Leader, public speakers and Officers. In response to the questions and observations raised confirmation was provided:

- Contact had been made with Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL). Discussions around potential projects had taken place. The main contact had been in relation to supporting the Rhyl Air Show. Communication with officers at the Rhyl Pavilion had also taken place regarding the upcoming Safari Trail which was taking place during the summer in the hope they would have an attraction or focus point to draw visitors to that area of Rhyl.
- Denbighshire County Council did not have more than 50 % of the overall votes in total. There were a number of rules that governed the ballot process. The rules were set by the Business Improvement District (Wales) Regulations and were therefore set out in law. It provided details of which businesses were eligible to vote and how the ballot must be conducted. Included in the rules was information on how a result was achieved.
- Eligible businesses were required to cast their vote(s) for the vote to be counted. If people were against the proposal they needed to submit a their ballot and not disregard the ballot paper or abstain. That was made clear on the accompanying documentation. A consultant had been employed by the BID Board to assist with the engagement with businesses.
- A survey had been issued to eligible businesses in the area asking for comments on areas that were in need of support. The business case was then formed in response to the survey. The survey was still open and businesses were encouraged to complete the questionnaire. This formed the basis of how projects were agreed. A number of areas had been identified that were ongoing from the current Rhyl BID.
- Once the business case was finalised a detailed list and potential allocation of funds would be published.
- The business case would be made available to businesses prior to the ballot.
- The potential investment with floral displays in Rhyl was a future proposal. The Rhyl BID Board was in discussion with Rhyl Town Council. It was hoped

it would support and expand the work of the Town Council in relation to floral displays.

- The BID decided its own priorities. It was up to the businesses to discuss and agree the action plan within the BID's business plan priorities. The BID had to deliver things over and above what would be provided to the town by the local authority.
- The Rhyl BID was a collective voice for Rhyl businesses, offering collaborative opportunities to all.
- The local authority was one business who was entitled to vote. Businesses should participate to ensure their vote contributed towards the outcome.
- There had been 33 cases where the Authority had to pursue enforcement action on businesses to pay the levy. The total cost of the enforcement action was circa £900.
- The BID enforcement rules mirrored the rules set out by council tax and business rates enforcement. Empty business properties were exempt for three months and then would be required to pay the levy.
- All businesses were included in the discussions including those businesses that fell under the levy threshold. The Rhyl BID included all in the designated geographic area. The objective was that all would benefit from the BID including the small businesses.
- A decision would be made by Cabinet if Denbighshire County Council would be exercising its votes for, against or abstaining from voting on the Rhyl BID.
- The final business plan would be issued to all key stakeholders and would be made available on the Rhyl BID website.

The Chair thanked both public speakers for attending the meeting and answering members' questions. Also, thanks were given to the Leader and officers.

At the conclusion of a comprehensive discussion the Committee, having considered the report and draft business plan:

**Resolved:**

- (i) subject to the above observations to receive the contents of the draft Business Improvement District (BID) Business Plan 2024-2029 (Appendix 1 to the report);***
- (ii) subject to there being no significant change(s) to the current BID proposals which would impact on the factors which influence the use of the power of veto as identified in Section 51(2) of the Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005, to support the Officer recommendation that there were no grounds for the Council to exercise the power of veto in relation to the ballot; and***
- (iii) to support the steps and timescales involved in the re-ballot process, including the steps to take the process through Denbighshire County Council's democratic process.***

**At this juncture the Committee adjourned for a 15 minute comfort break.**

## **7 ANNUAL REPORT ON SAFEGUARDING ADULTS IN DENBIGHSHIRE 1ST APRIL 2022 - 31ST MARCH 2023**

The Lead Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Elen Heaton introduced the annual report on Safeguarding Adults in Denbighshire 2022/23 (previously circulated). The report provided members with data from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The Lead Member highlighted several achievements made by the team over the 12-month period. She stressed the team had maintained excellent performance levels with 99.1% of Section 126 enquiries being completed within the 7 day target period. Appendix 2 to the report demonstrated the complexity of some of the cases the team dealt with. It also highlighted the challenging nature of the work.

Listed in the report were the risks and areas of concern noted by officers, it was stressed the risks listed were not unique to Denbighshire. They were national trends observed by other local authorities.

The Service Manager, Adult Social Care & Homelessness Service provided further summary of the report's contents. A slight increase had been observed in the number of alleged adults at risk reports that had been reported in the 12 month period. There had been a significant increase in the number of referrals made under Section 5 of the Wales Safeguarding procedures - Allegations/Concerns about Practitioners and Those in a Position of Trust. The previous year 25 referrals had been made under this process, this had increased to 46 referrals made the 2022/23 year. Officers were of the view that the increase had been due to a better understanding and knowledge of that section of the guidance. Officers when completing referrals under other sections considered if any other concerns under different sections should be raised.

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards had also seen an 11% increase in the number of applications received. Only two members of the team could authorise referrals for further investigation. It was hoped that further training and recruitment into roles would allow more team members to authorise applications in due course. A further 7 applications had been submitted to Court in relation to Deprivation in Domiciliary Settings. This was ongoing work that was incorporated within routine casework in Complex Disability team.

Members were guided through the key performances noted in the report including the high level of performance completing 99.1% of the Section 126 enquiries within 7 working days. Members heard quarterly random audits were carried out to ensure work remained at a high standard. Vacant posts within the team had been filled and the team was currently at its full capacity.

The Section 5 process still proved to be a challenge in many areas, but specifically in relation to the operational element of this process. The section 5 National Task and Finish Group had concluded its work and the team were awaiting to be consulted on the outcome. The initial feedback suggested that additional clarity may not be available and may now require further consideration from the regional boards prior to reviewing the principles to support joint working with partner agencies.

Court proceedings continued to increase and the impact of this work on the capacity of the Council's operational teams as well as colleagues within the legal team could not be underestimated. Often this was further impacted by requests from the Court to lodge updated information. Updated information was requested where previous documentation had expired whilst awaiting judicial consideration. This was a situation experienced by all Local Authorities and not unique to Denbighshire.

The Chair thanked the Lead Member and officers for the detailed report and introduction. In response to further discussion the following points were discussed in greater detail:

- Members thanked officers for the figures along with the pie chart information. It was noted the number of referrals tended to be higher from care home settings due to every potential case being reported. All referrals were investigated to ascertain any wrongdoing. Very few reports proceeded to a criminal proceeding.
- The delay in the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) had been instigated by UK Government which the Welsh Government were having to follow. Officers awaited further information of the outcome of the consultation.
- Members congratulated the team on the continued hard work and performance levels during the last 12 months.

The Chair thanked the Lead Member and officers for answering members' questions. At the conclusion of the discussion the Committee:

**Resolved: subject to the above observations to acknowledge –**

- (i) the work and efforts undertaken during 2022/23 in relation to safeguarding adults in Denbighshire; and***
- (ii) the importance of the Council's corporate approach towards the safeguarding of adults at risk and its responsibility in viewing it as a key priority area.***

## **8 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

The Scrutiny Co-ordinator introduced the report and appendices (previously circulated) seeking Members' review of the Committee's work programme and which provided an update on relevant issues.

The next Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting was due to be held on the 14 September 2023. There were 3 substantial items listed for the next Partnerships Scrutiny Committee:

- Community Safety Partnership
- North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2022/23
- North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project

Confirmation had been received from the Health Board that a representative would be in attendance to discuss the latter item.

Members agreed that the September meeting was at full capacity. The Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs Group was due to meet the last week of July 2023. Committee members were encouraged to complete a scrutiny proposal form (Appendix 2) in respect of any topic which in their view merited detailed examination by Scrutiny.

Appendix 3 was the Cabinet's forward work programme for members' reference. Appendix 4 provided the Committee with further information regarding the recommendations from the previous meeting.

Appendix 5 to the report was the table of members who represented the Committee on each of the Service Challenges Groups. The Scrutiny Co-ordinator was seeking nominations to sit on the vacant seats on the Service Challenge Groups in Housing and Communities, Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital & Assets and Corporate Support Service: People. The Service Challenge Groups meet once a year and the meetings were held remotely. Councillor Butterfield nominated herself to serve on the Housing and Communities Service Challenge Group. Councillor Peter Scott put himself forward to attend the Corporate Support Service: People Service Challenge Group and Councillor Pauline Edwards agreed to attend the Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital and Assets Service Challenge Group.

The Chair thanked all members for agreeing to attend the Service Challenge Group meetings and emphasised the importance of members attending and reporting back to the Committee.

The Committee:

**Resolved: to –**

***(i) confirm its forward work programme as set out in Appendix 1 to the report; and***

***(ii) to appoint the following representatives to serve on the respective Service Challenge Groups:***

- ***Councillor Joan Butterfield – Housing & Communities***
- ***Councillor Pauline Edwards – Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital & Assets***
- ***Councillor Peter Scott – Corporate Support Service: People***

## **9 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

The following feedback from Committee representatives was received:

### **Service Challenge Group meetings:**

**Highways and Environmental Services** – Councillor Pauline Edwards reported on the recent meeting of this Group during which recycling, environmental enforcement, repair cafes, Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) monies and projects had been discussed. As a result of this meeting improvements to the level and type of information provided to councillors' enquiries via the C360 system had been

realised. This was proving to be extremely helpful to councillors for the purpose of reporting progress on service-related enquiries to residents.

**Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services** – Councillor Peter Scott reported on a recent meeting of this Group, advising the Committee that one of the Service’s biggest concern, similar to other services at present, was staff retention. Every effort was being made to recruit staff, but consultant periodically had to be engaged particularly in very specialist areas of work.

**Bwthyn y Ddôl Sub Regional Children’s Assessment Unit** – Councillor Bobby Feeley, Scrutiny’s representative on the Project Board for this specialist unit informed the Committee that the funding for this scheme had now been confirmed and secured by the Welsh Government. Following a re-tendering process for development of a purpose-built facility the construction contract had been awarded to Wynne Construction. Work had commenced on site and it was anticipated that the facility would be completed by September 2024. Despite the delays encountered with the building the Service itself was up and running, with staff operating from temporary accommodation in the Colwyn Bay area. Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) was expected to certify the service provision by the end of July 2023.

Meeting concluded at 12:55pm

This page is intentionally left blank



<b>Report to</b>	<b>Partnerships Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>14 September 2023</b>
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	<b>Cllr Elen Heaton &amp; Cllr Gill German / Nicola Stubbins</b>
<b>Head of Service</b>	<b>Nicola Stubbins, Corporate Director</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Catrin Roberts, Head of Regional Collaboration</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2022/23</b>

## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1. This report is the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board for 2022/23 (Appendix 1). It is a requirement within the Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 that each Regional Partnership Board prepares, publishes and submits its annual report to Welsh Government.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

- 2.1. This report is to provide information to partners with regard to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2022/23.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

- 3.1. That the Committee confirms that it has read, understood and taken into account the work that is required to be undertaken by the Regional Partnership Board.
- 3.2. That the Committee provides observations on the work and progress in 2022/23 on the work areas that are being taken forward through the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

## 4. Report details

- 4.1. The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 requires that each Regional Partnership Board produces and publishes an annual report on its work and submits this to Welsh Government.
- 4.2. In March 2018 the Welsh Government issued Guidance for the completion of the Regional Partnership Board Annual reports and Boards were to use this guidance for the completion of its report. The attached report contains all the information which was required to be included within that Guidance. The North Wales Regional Partnership Board report is written in a format that captures all information required. The report also includes views of a number of members of the Board.
- 4.3. The Regional Partnership Board is the Board which has been set up to meet the requirements of Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014. The Act requires that local authorities make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to, the local authorities for the purposes of their social services functions.
- 4.4. Part 9 of the Act also provides for partnership arrangements between local authorities and Local Health Boards for the discharge of their functions. The Act also provides Welsh Government Ministers with regulation making powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements, resources for partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.
- 4.5. The purpose of Part 9 of the Act is to improve outcomes and well-being of people, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. The key aims of co-operation, partnership and integration can therefore be described as:
  1. To improve care and support, ensuring people have more say and control
  2. To improve outcomes and health and wellbeing
  3. Provide co-ordinated, person centred care and support
  4. Make more effective use of resources, skills and expertise.

- 4.6. The purpose of the Annual Report is to set out the progress that Regional Partnership Boards have made and reflect on how boards are achieving the principles of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.

## **5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?**

- 5.1. Working in partnership across health and social care services will help support a healthier and happier, caring Denbighshire and also ensure a seamless service for individuals that require care and support.

## **6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

- 6.1. The 6 Local Authorities and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) in North Wales pool funding to support regional working across the region, this also funds the Regional Collaboration Team and there is a formal partnership agreement to underpin this.
- 6.2. Through the Regional Partnership Boards, Welsh Government is channelling grant funding streams such as the Regional Integration Fund for Health and Social Care and the Housing with Care and Integrating and Rebalancing capital funds. Where it is possible to charge regional partnership activity to these grants this is being actioned.

## **7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

- 7.1. An overall Well-being impact assessment has not been completed for the Annual Report but Equality Impact Assessments EIA's will have been completed for the individual elements contained within.

## **8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

- 8.1. Members will be aware of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 and will have received information about Part 9 of the Act and the development of Regional Partnership Boards. There has been no formal consultation, other than with members of the Regional Partnership Board which includes a wide range of membership and includes Lead Members, citizens and carers.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1. There is no direct financial impact to this report.

## **10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

10.1. There is a risk ensuring compliance with the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 and with the Guidance on regional partnership board annual reports issued in March 2018 in producing the annual report. The main risk is that the North Wales Regional Partnership Board is able to progress the various requirements as required in the Part 9 Guidance and that the partnership develops to enable further partnership working and integration of services in the future.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

11.1. Social Services and Well-Being Act 2014, Part 9

11.2. Scrutiny's powers in relation to this matter are set out in Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and Section 7 of the Council's Constitution



CYDWEITHREDFA GWELLA GWASANAETHAU  
GOFAL A LLESIANT **GOGLEDD CYMRU**

**NORTH WALES** SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING  
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

# North Wales Regional Partnership Board

**Annual Report**

**2022/23**



*Working together to ensure the health and wellbeing of people of all ages in  
North Wales*

## Table of Contents

1	Foreword by the Chair of North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB) ..	3
2	Overview of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.....	4
2.1	Purpose.....	4
2.2	Vision statement.....	4
2.3	Guiding principles.....	4
2.4	Role of the NWRPB .....	5
2.5	Membership .....	5
2.6	Governance Structure .....	6
3	What have we achieved? .....	9
3.1	Area Plan .....	9
3.2	Autism Code of Practice.....	9
3.3	Capital.....	10
3.4	Children and Young People Programme.....	11
3.5	Commissioning.....	14
3.6	Dementia Care Pathway of Standards (All Wales).....	15
3.7	Learning Disability Transformation Programme .....	17
3.8	Market Stability Report.....	20
3.9	Population Needs Assessment .....	20
3.10	Regional Integration Fund (RIF).....	20
3.11	Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub .....	21
3.12	Together for Mental Health Transformation Programme.....	22
3.13	Workforce .....	23
4	Communication, engagement and social value.....	25
4.1	North Wales Engagement .....	25
4.2	North Wales Social Value Steering Group .....	25
4.3	North Wales Carers Groups.....	26
4.4	North Wales Young Carers .....	27
5	Forward Look .....	28
5.1	Priorities for 2023/24 and beyond .....	28
	<b>Appendix 1 – Membership of the NWRPB.....</b>	<b>29</b>
	<b>Appendix 2 – Annual Delivery Plan .....</b>	<b>31</b>
	<b>Appendix 3 – Regional Integration Fund – End of Year Report .....</b>	<b>36</b>

# 1 Foreword by the Chair of North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB)

Mary Wimbury, Chief Executive,  
Care Forum Wales

I am pleased to present this year's annual report for the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

This report outlines just some of the work that has been achieved by partners and which have had a significant impact on the lives of residents across North Wales. There is so much for the Board and all its members to be proud of this year and sometimes we can lose sight of the good that has been done. This report is therefore a good reminder to us all of what we achieved together during the last 12 months.



This year has continued to be a challenging year for health and social care sector and there is no indication that there will be any change as we go into the 2023/24. It is important that we continue to work together to address these issues and to build on the excellent work that has already been achieved.

I hope you enjoy our report, if you would like any further information please visit our website <https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/regional-partnership-board/>

Finally, my personal thanks go to all members of the RPB and the wider partnership for their support and all their hard work in bringing about the considerable achievements presented in this report. This is my last year as Chair and I would like to wish Councillor Dilwyn Morgan all the very best as the incoming Chair of the RPB.

Best wishes – Mary Wimbury.

## 2 Overview of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board

### 2.1 Purpose

The North Wales Regional Partnership Board was established as part of the Social Services and Wellbeing Wales Act (SSWB) to:

- Improve the wellbeing of the population;
- Improve how health and care services are delivered.

We bring together health, social services, housing, the third sector and other partners to co-ordinate the continued transformation and integration of health, social care and well-being services across the region.

The NWRPB meets virtually on a monthly basis with translation facilities which has ensured continued engagement for members.

### 2.2 Vision statement

Working together to ensure the health and wellbeing of people of all ages in North Wales

### 2.3 Guiding principles

The NWRPB agreed its guiding principles in November 2016 and these remain fit for purpose:

- Whole system change and reinvestment of resources to a preventative model that promotes good health and well-being and draws effectively on evidence of what works best;
- Care is delivered in joined up ways centred around the needs, preferences and social assets of people (service users, carers and communities);
- People are enabled to use their confidence and skills to live independently, supported by a range of high quality community based options;
- Embedded co-production in decision making so that citizens and their communities shape services;
- We recognise the broad range of factors that influence health and well-being and the importance of the links to these areas (including education, housing, welfare, reduced homelessness, economic growth, regeneration, leisure and the environment).



## 2.4 Role of the NWRPB

The Regional Partnership Board will:

- Ensure that there is an agreed shared vision and a clear direction of travel for service development and integration of health, care and wellbeing in line with the SSWB Act 2014 and A Healthier Wales
- Ensure that there are shared plans and strategies in place (supported by appropriate business cases) for delivering on the vision
- Ensure that the strategic plans are evaluated and reviewed against agreed and understood outcomes and performance indicators
- Lead a strategic approach to communicating and publicising the direction of travel and the progress made
- Maintain an effective overview of the objectives
- Report to the Regional Leadership Board on progress, key issues and exceptions, escalating any barriers to progress within the Regional Partnership Board for resolution
- Ensure that an annual report on progress is prepared and delivered as required to the Welsh Government

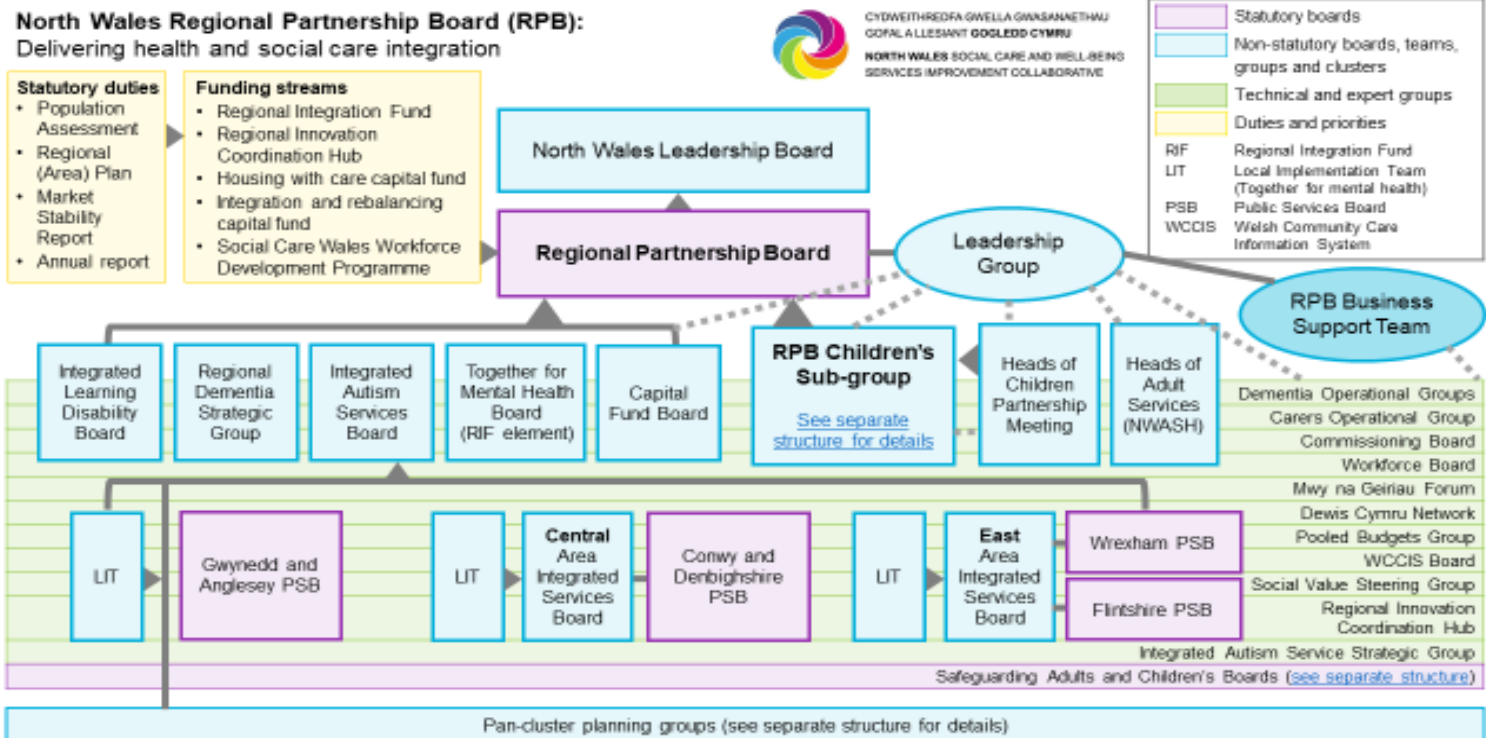
## 2.5 Membership

The full membership as at March 2023 is detailed in Appendix A.

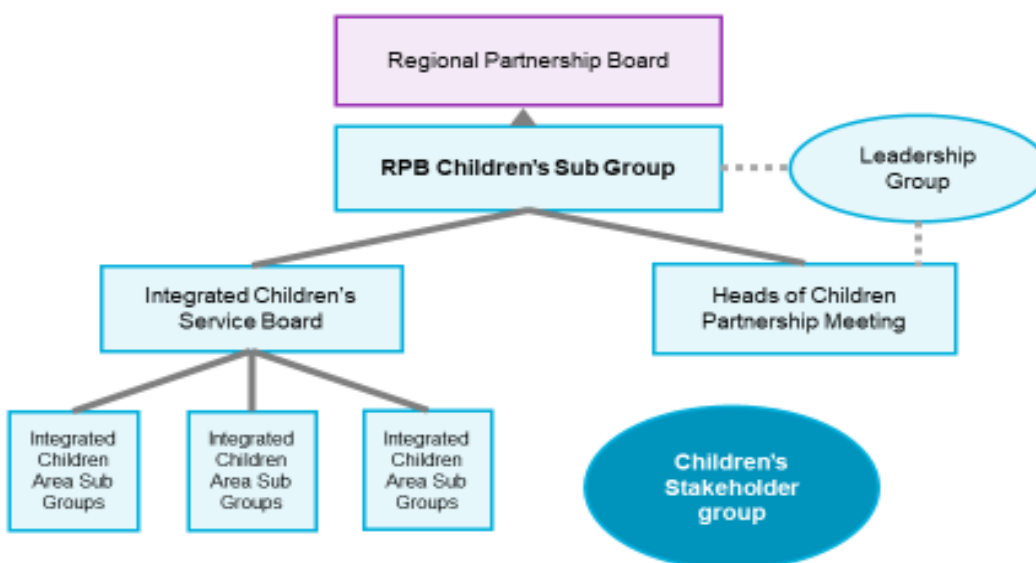
## 2.6 Governance Structure

The NWRPB formally reports to the North Wales Leadership Board. The NWRPB's business and the business of the regional sub-groups is managed by the Head of Regional Collaboration and members of the Regional Collaboration Team.

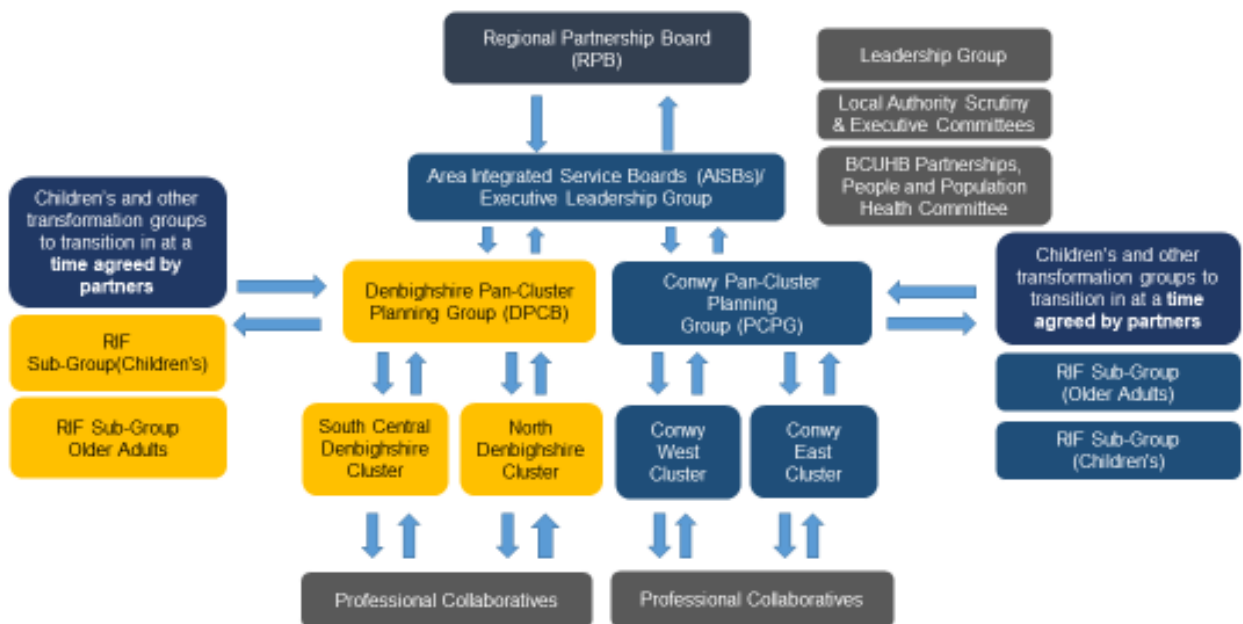
Below is the Governance Structure for the NWRPB.



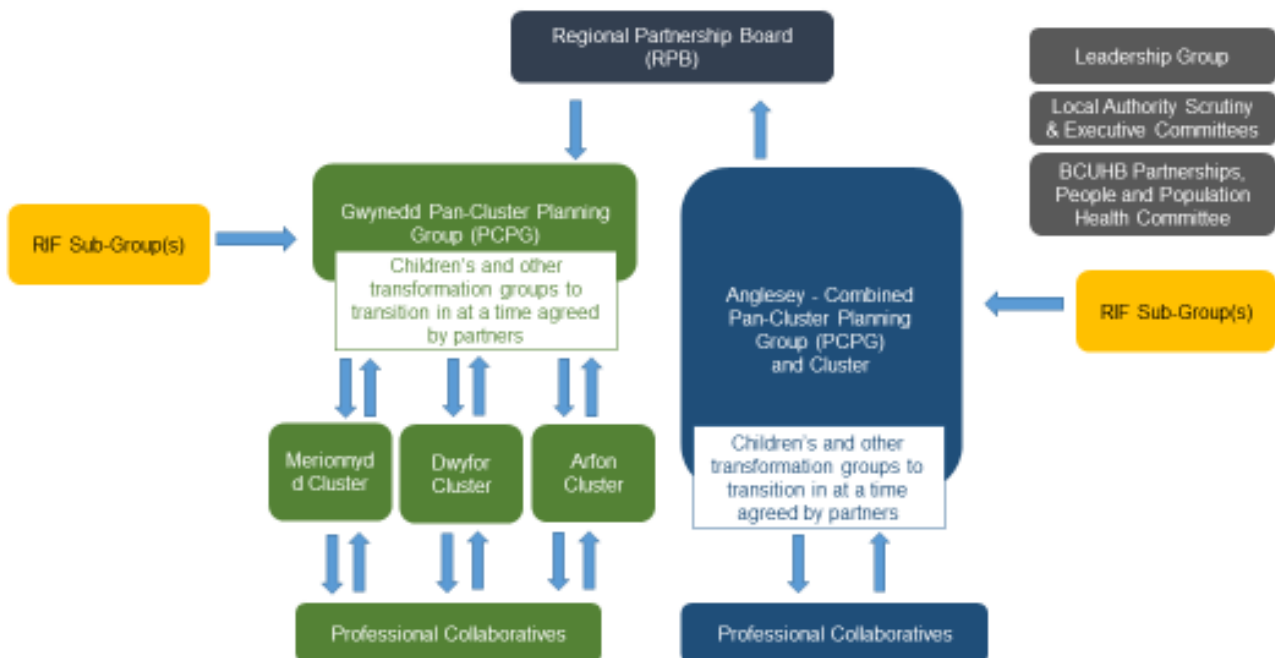
**North Wales Regional Partnership Board (RPB):**  
Children's governance structure



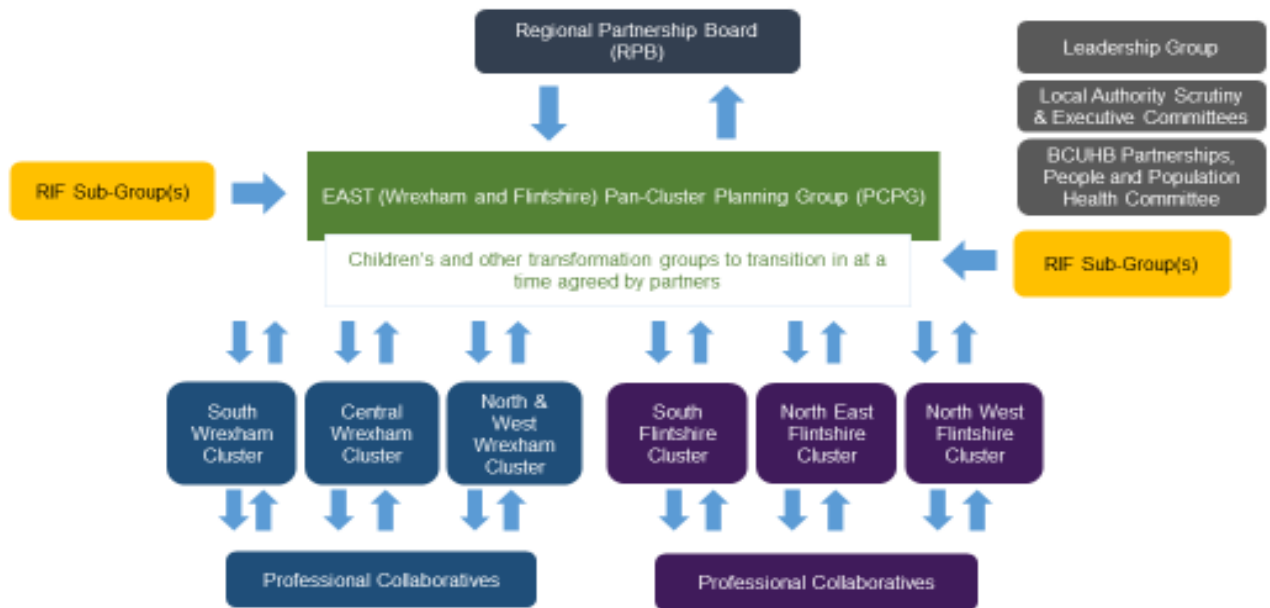
## Conwy and Denbighshire Governance



## Anglesey and Gwynedd Governance



# Wrexham and Flintshire Governance



## 3 What have we achieved?

### 3.1 Area Plan

The Regional Area Plan was reviewed and published this year. The plan details the priority areas for integration of services between health and social care and sets out the direction of travel for the Board. It details how the region will address the priority areas identified in the Population Needs Assessment, and is the golden thread to specific areas of work within the region.

<https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/NW-Regional-Area-Plan-2023-1.0.pdf>

### 3.2 Autism Code of Practice

The Code of Practice (CoP) on the Delivery of Autism Services was developed in response to feedback from autistic people and their families and/or carers, seeking clarity on the services they should expect to be available in Wales. It relates to the social services functions of local authorities and health services functions of local health boards and NHS trusts. This Code refers to the legal frameworks already in place and requires that the relevant bodies exercise their respective functions in accordance with requirements in the code when arranging or delivering services for autistic people.

The Code is for:

- autistic people, including those with other co-existing conditions
- providers of social care and health support for autistic people and their families and/or carers
- practitioners in social care and health who work with autistic people and their families and/or carers
- commissioners and people with a strategic role in assessing and planning local services for autistic people and their families and/or carers
- practitioners in other related services providing support for autistic people and their families and/or carers, for example employment, education and criminal justice
- service providers and practitioners providing services for autistic people with co-existing conditions.

The RPB Business Support team is providing coordination and support for Local Authority and Health Board partners across North Wales in pulling together an overarching baseline assessment. Partners across North Wales have been working towards providing evidence on each of the codes. The aim of the baseline assessment is to review the extent to which the duties are being met across North Wales partners since its implementation, and to develop recommendations for improvements. The baseline assessment will be completed in June 2023 and this will enable a Strategic Autism Group to be established to oversee both an Autism Code of Practice overarching action plan and key task and finish groups to address the gaps and challenges across autism services.

The RPB Business Support team will work with partners to identify any key gaps in data, understand what additional data is required and explore potential barriers and enablers to implementation. The RPB Business Support team will then propose recommendations to support partners in meeting the duties of the Code, including sharing good practice and leading task and finish groups if these are needed.

### 3.3 Capital

In April 2022, two new regional capital funds were introduced and replaced the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) Capital grant funding stream. The two new funding streams are the Housing with Care Fund (HCF) and the Integration and Rebalancing Capital Fund (IRCF)

**HCF** - The purpose of the Housing with Care Fund (HCF) is to support independent living in the community for people with care and support needs, and to provide intermediate care settings in the community so that people who need care, support and rehabilitation can return to living independently or maintain their existing independence. It is a 4-year funding programme which funds schemes under 3 objectives:

**Objective 1: Increase the existing stock of housing with care significantly**

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for 4 Objective 1 schemes supporting people with physical and learning disabilities across Wrexham, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Conwy. These Projects included purchasing and adapting accommodation to support people to live more independently and to bring people back into their local area to live.

**Objective 2: Increase the stock of intermediate and short-medium term care settings**

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for 7 Objective 2 schemes developing provision for the elderly, children and young people and people with learning disabilities across Flintshire, Denbighshire, Anglesey, Gwynedd and Conwy. These schemes included refurbishing care facilities and developing new facilities such as children's residential homes and supported accommodation.

**Objective 3: Minor Projects – refurbishments, equipment and adaptations**

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for over 30 minor projects across the region to support all priority groups including refurbishments to existing care provision, adaptations to support care from home and purchasing of assistive technology such as interactive sensory equipment to improve and develop service provision.

**IRCF** – The purpose of the Integration and Rebalancing Capital Fund (IRCF) is to support the development of Integrated health and social care hubs and centres and to support rebalancing of the social care market. It is an all- Wales 3-year programme. Each region can apply for funding for schemes under the following priorities:

**Priority 1 - Development of integrated health and social care hubs and centres**

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for 3 priority 1 schemes which will support the delivery of dementia and well-being hubs for Anglesey, Gwynedd and Conwy.

The NWRPB also secured priority 1 funding to deliver 6 dementia centres across the 6 counties in North Wales in partnership with Carers Trust who will provide these facilities as identified in the All Wales Dementia Standards.

### **Priority 2 - Rebalancing the residential care market**

In 2022/23 the NWRPB secured funding for feasibility studies to develop schemes to rebalance adult residential care provision, to allow development of these schemes in the coming years.

### **Priority 3 – Eliminating profit from the provision of children’s residential care**

In 2022/23 the NWRPB secured funding to undertake feasibility studies to develop future not for profit Local Authority children’s residential care provision to allow development of these schemes in the coming years.

Some of the schemes which have been developed and progressed in 2022/23 are:

- **Flintshire: Croes Atti** – The project will provide a brand new 56 bed care facility in Flint, providing additional capacity to support discharge from hospital and intermediate care and reablement accommodation as well as increasing the community based care provision.
- **Wrexham: Care Closer to Home** – The project will provide additional accommodation for registered care homes for children in Wrexham.
- **Gwynedd: Canolfan Lleu** – The project will provide a large multi-purpose health & well-being hub in the centre of Penygroes providing extra care, residential care and social housing solutions plus community and primary care, local authority and third sector services.
- **Anglesey: Amlwch Integrated Community Well-Being HUB** – The project will provide a facility which will enable the promotion of good mental health and emotional wellbeing, providing advice support and activities for all, including citizens with disabilities within the Amlwch community.
- **Denbighshire: Llys Awelon Phase 1 Refurb** – The project will refurbish part of the building to provide a seamless link between the current facility and the new building currently being developed.
- **Conwy: Glan yr Afon Children’s Residential Home** – The project will provide a new children’s home

## **3.4 Children and Young People Programme**

### **Governance**

The governance structure that has been implemented for children and young people, is currently under review. Primarily, the requirement for a review was set out in the Terms of Reference, but it has also been recognised that it is not functioning as effectively as it could be with some of the meetings being less well attended and consequently not quorate and unable to make decisions.



A 'Meetings that Matter' workshop was held on 24<sup>th</sup> May with representation from the Children Sub Group, Integrated Children's Service Board, Stakeholder Reference Group and Integrated Children's Area Sub Group in attendance. The partnership is sufficiently mature to have a serious discussion around how to make the current structure work smarter and become more effective.



### ***CSG Focus on children and young people***

The board has developed a 'focus on' approach to look in-depth at a single priority every two or three meetings. Before the meeting information packs are compiled by the RIC hub, about the situation in North Wales from statistics, research and engagement activities to aid the discussions on the relevant focus topic. We worked closely with the Developing Evidence Enriched Practice (DEEP) Programme to develop the "focus on' approach and were asked to share it at their conference as an example of good practice.

Using this approach our first focus on Young Carers took place during October 2022. An information pack, presentation and videos were shared that summarised the evidence including statistics and data, feedback from young carers and examples of what's working well in other areas. Following time for reflection and conversations about the presentation and videos, the groups worked together to generate questions to discuss and had the chance to talk and think together about as part of a Community of Enquiry approach.

A further focus session relating to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children was held in December and disability and illness in March a session on early years is planned next. Based on the findings from each focus, the board puts together an action plan based on the topic for how to improve services for children and young people. For example, exploring the possibility of a Guardianship Scheme to improve support for young unaccompanied asylum seekers.

The findings from each focus topic are published on the RPB Children's Sub-Group webpages <https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/children/>

### ***Developing our approach to Nyth /Nest whole system approach***

As part of the Welsh Government Nyth / Nest whole system approach, we have been working closely with colleagues leading the children's transformation programmes across North Wales including: Learning Disabilities (LD); Neuro-developmental (ND); CAMHS Transformation; Early Years and No Wrong Door - the Right Door Approach. We are being supported by colleagues in the Public Health Team and their Best Start programme and 5 Ways to Wellbeing.

Welsh Government has asked for a self-assessment tool to be completed for the North Wales region to establish how we are implementing the approach. To achieve this, we are working jointly with all the transformation programme leads and the Public Health Team and will work with Stakeholder Reference Group to expand collaboration to co-produce the toolkit. In addition, we are collectively developing a maturity matrix.



### ***The No Wrong Door Strategy – Implementation of The Right Door approach***

The first phase of the No Wrong Door implementation has been supported across the three areas with well attended workshops in each area to consider the Single Access Arrangement to mental health and emotional wellbeing services for children, young people and their families. The change has included:

- The identification of all areas delivering a ‘single front door’ model, however they vary. As a consequence, a report on all the models is expected which will identify good practice and the critical success factors to be shared across all partners in the region.
- Mapping of services has also commenced which will provide a significant amount of information across the areas around the services available.
- Through co-production with children the implementation phase of the No Wrong Door has been renamed to the ‘Right Door Approach’. This is thought to be far more positive and was endorsed by the Children’s Commissioner.
- The Right Door web series - The children at Ysgol y Gogarth, a day and residential Special School currently catering for approximately 276 pupils between the ages of 3 and 19, have developed a web series to explain the Right Door from a child’s perspective. This will continue to be developed and fully launched in 2023/24.
- The launch of the web series was attended by BBC Wales (aired on the evening news) and The Children’s Commissioner for Wales. There is a commitment to continue the work and Hope Productions who are in really good shape from a creative/delivery point of view to work on new episodes.

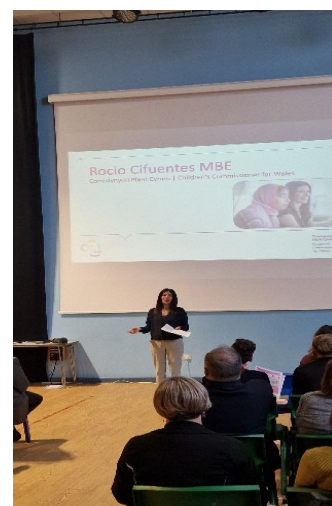
It’s been great sharing this work with people. It is co-creation at its best, and TAPE have thanked us for the way in which we’ve supported this project to date and welcome the chance to discuss the expected and unexpected outcomes of our collaboration, in support of future projects and opportunities.



The Children’s Commissioner shared the following comment on the Right Door web series and keen to be kept updated on further work:

*“It’s been fantastic to meet and hear today from the young people and professionals involved in putting together this important new resource – the Right Door Web Series. I’ve been particularly impressed by the partnership working approach which has enabled this, and by the true commitment to young people co-producing the resource. I know that ‘The Right Door’ name was a term inspired by my office’s No Wrong Door Approach, and I’m thrilled that young people themselves came up with that name, taking the concept and making it something positive and rights-affirming for them! I’d like to congratulate everyone involved and wish you all the best for your continued work.”*

*Rocio Cifuentes, Children’s Commissioner for Wales May 2023*



### **Other achievements:**

- Launch of the Staywise Cymru Website at the Urdd on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The development of the Staywise Cymru website has been supported by the Children's Team and funded through RIF. Local North Wales teachers have provided the quality assurance and new curriculum alignment, along with Conwy Translation service translating all of the resources, and a local Ruthin graphic design team have provided their expertise. The website is a national collaboration between the Fire and Rescue Service, Police Service, Ambulance Service, Network Rail, Natural Resources Wales, RNLI, Swim Wales and the North Wales Collaborative Team. Website link: <https://staywise.cymru/>
- Emotional Health, Wellbeing and Resilience Framework has been developed for ages 0 -18 years with the 19-25 years under development and set around the 5 ways to wellbeing – be active, connect, give, keep learning and take notice. The framework sets out a number statements by age to guide children and young people, parents or trusted adults around the emotional health at that particular age.

A number of pilot projects are being delivered to explore how the framework can be utilised. There are already some successes including schools using the framework as part of their parent evening discussions to guide parents / trusted adults. A series of animations are being developed to explain the benefits of the approach and to demonstrate that in some case small changes to people's daily lives can make considerable impacts on the children and young people's emotional health.

## **3.5 Commissioning**

The North Wales Regional Commissioning Board supports and underpins the development and practice of strategic commissioning across Social Services and Health in both Adults and Children's services in North Wales identifying best practice and providing a consistent strategic approach across the region.

### **Children & Young People's Fees Group and Children & Young People's Quality Group**

These are two new groups that have been set up over the last 12 months.

Both groups facilitate the sharing of information on fee uplift requests received from external 'C&YP Residential Care' / 'C&YP Residential Care with Education' providers and from 'Independent Fostering Agency' providers where looked after children from North Wales are placed, as well as sharing the quality of care and support of the providers.

Both groups have been working well and are informal in their approach but gives partners an opportunity to share information and intelligence to help them make decisions in terms of fee uplifts, but also to talk through any quality issues that may arise. Partners are keen to continue these groups as see value in coming together to discuss these different aspects.

## Escalating Concerns

A new The North Wales Escalating Concerns Process titled Quality Services: Delivering what Matters, for commissioned care and support services for children, young people, and adults as been agreed and implemented.

## Pre Placement Agreement

During the last 18 months, considerable work has been undertaken on the developing a North Wales Pre Placement Agreement.

## 3.6 Dementia Care Pathway of Standards (All Wales)

The All-Wales Dementia Care Pathway of 20 Standards has been developed following consultation with people living with dementia, third sector and voluntary organisations, and health care professionals, to identify what people living with dementia believe will make a positive difference to dementia care. The standards are person centred and provide a proactive approach to meet each person's language needs.

Improvement Cymru have designed a delivery framework which is designed to assist the region in implementing the standards through a 2-year programme, with a readiness year followed by an implementation planning year

In North Wales, partners are working towards achieving these 20 standards through the 5 five work streams shown below. Five task groups have been established to take this work forward with good representation from the health board, six local authorities, third-sector partners, and people living with dementia and their carers.



These standards have been mapped to the 34 actions within the North Wales Regional Dementia strategy so that we can track progress and delivery against both through the work of the work streams

Great progress has been made during 2022-2023 (the readiness phase) and we are on track for the implementation stage in 2023-2024. Some of the achievements across the work streams to date:

- ✓ The Community Engagement workstream has undertaken engagement and scoping exercises to identify current services and any gaps. This has provided opportunities for learning and sharing good practices.
- ✓ Identified Denbigh town as the first community to engage with as part of the dementia care listening campaign in North Wales.
- ✓ A face-to-face engagement event was hosted in Denbigh town with over 60 people in attendance as part of the listening campaign.
- ✓ Questionnaires have been developed to understand the needs of communities across North Wales as part of the listening campaign. The data will be analysed to develop a plan for what dementia care means to that community.
- ✓ A service has been commissioned to engage with older people living with dementia and family and friends who care for them to seek their views within the following communities:
  - People with sensory impairment – hearing and/or visual
  - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual or Queer (LGBTQ) community
  - Welsh speaking rural communities
  - People with young onset dementia
  - Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups (BAME)
  - People who have suffered domestic abuse
  - Homeless people
  - People leaving prison
- ✓ Collaborative work with the North Wales Police to promote and raise awareness of the Herbert Protocol. The Herbert Protocol provides people living with dementia and their carers with the facility to pre-record key details so that if they are subsequently reported missing the information can be used to assist in locating them.
- ✓ A training gap analysis was undertaken with the six local authorities, the health board and third sector partners to establish the current level of training, e.g., informed, skilled, and influencer within the good work framework.
- ✓ Regional audiology memory assessment service has been rolled out across the region.
- ✓ Butterfly scheme implemented for patients with suspected or diagnosed dementia.



### 3.7 Learning Disability Transformation Programme

The foundation of the programme is the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy. The strategy is being implemented by the team through 6 workstreams: Integrated structures, Workforce development, Commissioning and procurement, Community and culture change, Assistive technology and Employment



TREAT ME WELL	LET ME BE IN CHARGE OF MY OWN LIFE	HELP ME BE THE BEST I CAN BE	ALWAYS BE HONEST
<p>Everyone is an individual and should be treated with dignity and respect</p> <p>"respecting me includes respecting my space, my things, my decisions and my relationships"</p> <p>"listen to me and take the time to get to know me!"</p> <p>"Be kind"</p> <p><b>TOP TIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate in an open, accurate and straightforward way</li> <li>• Don't use jargon</li> <li>• Protect and respect peoples confidential and personal information</li> <li>• Use humour appropriately</li> <li>• Check how people want to be addressed</li> <li>• Be on time and do what you say you will do</li> </ul>	<p>Voice, choice, control and independence is at the heart of everything we do</p> <p>We embrace coproduction</p> <p>"I want to have choice about where I live and who I live with"</p> <p>"support me to do what I want to do and listen to me"</p> <p>"I want to feel important and be able to make my own decisions"</p> <p><b>TOP TIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empower, encourage and enable people who need care and support to do things for themselves and to make their own decisions.</li> <li>• Support individuals to maximise their decision making and have control over their own lives</li> </ul>	<p>We deliver person centred care, putting the person at the heart of everything we do and helping them achieve their potential</p> <p>"learn from me and recognize what I am good at"</p> <p>"help me learn new things"</p> <p>"give me just enough support"</p> <p><b>TOP TIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be prepared to take positive risks, clearly explaining the consequences to others</li> <li>• Look at tackling new and emerging problems creatively.</li> <li>• Don't see mistakes as a bad thing, see them as an opportunity to learn and grow</li> <li>• Be warm, kind, empathetic, reliable and compassionate in your actions</li> </ul>	<p>We are always honest and transparent and not afraid to say when something goes wrong</p> <p>We are self-aware and regularly reflect on the work we do, how we do it and the impact we have on those being supported.</p> <p>"I want people to just be honest with me and tell the truth"</p> <p><b>TOP TIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We learn from others and share knowledge and best practice</li> <li>• Seek, reflect on and learn from feedback from colleagues, individuals and families</li> <li>• Have the courage to speak up and challenge others when you have concerns about the quality or safety of care being provided</li> </ul>

#### Employment.

A new employment workstream has been established to co-produce a Supported Employment Strategy for people with learning disabilities. The supported employment service model is the foundation of the strategy – it has been designed to directly respond to the evidence base and input from people with learning disabilities across the region

#### Person Centred Planning (PCP) Training Programme, Strategy and Network

The region's PCP training programme has begun with Introduction, Refresher and an in-depth Person Centred Thinking Courses. A PCP network event is (provisionally) planned for the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, where feedback from the Training and the Consultation exercises will be shared with the PCP and LD community.

The team have been part of developing a bilingual **'Supported Decision Making' Guide**, facilitated by Paradigm and others from around the UK.

<https://paradigm-uk.org/2023/05/05/new-practical-guide-to-supported-decision-making/>.



**Community activities.** Part of the funding is used to fund third sector led community activities, the purpose being to seed fund and encourage the development of resources within the community that will meet the care and support needs of people with learning disabilities outside the health and social care arena. To date, the programme has invested almost £1m in such activities. This year, the North Wales Flyers (the North Wales self-advocates network), helped decide how to allocate the community grant funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

**Direct Payment Resources.** The electronic version of the Direct Payment leaflets has been circulated to Service Managers across the area. Hard copies of the leaflets are available through contacting

[Ruby.jones@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ruby.jones@flintshire.gov.uk)



## Technology

The Technology workstream is supported by a technology strategy developed in 2020. The strategy identifies the barriers to the use of technology as threefold. They are:

- Access to equipment and the internet
- Confidence in the use of equipment, and
- Skills and knowledge of the equipment and applications available

Training is key to addressing these barriers and the first 2 sessions (of 8) have been held for the Assistive Technology Awareness course. These courses are being piloted in Wrexham and Gwynedd and will be rolled out across the region from next year onwards. The training is aimed at all those who support people with learning disabilities and sessions are designed to improve confidence and knowledge in relation to the use of technology with people with intellectual disabilities.

The programme has a technology library which loans or otherwise provides equipment to people with LD and their carers. The workstream lead also provides access to applications that help support various aspects of individuals' lives and support needs. Examples being trialled are the paincheck app, which identifies pain in individuals who are not able to communicate that pain, and the PBAS app which helps support people schedules to enable them to participate in daily activities.

**Life After School videos launch.** The series of short films called 'Life After School' were launched at Ysgol y Gogarth on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The team is proud to have worked alongside TAPE Music and Film's Backstage Youth Club on this project. The young people in the youth club helped animate, voice over and create the films, which are aimed to help young people with learning disabilities make choices for their lives after school. The videos include topics like finding somewhere to live, going to college, and getting a job. These films can be found on our YouTube page [North Wales Together - Gogledd Cymru Gyda'n Gilyd](#). Or by scanning this QR code:



**Funded Activities for Children and Young People.** Activities has also been funded for children and their families which include activity days at Glan Llyn, soft play activities in Mon, drama groups for children, a transition project run by Conwy Connect and many more.





### 3.8 Market Stability Report

We published our first [Market Stability Report](#) which includes information about the availability of care and support across the region. This includes care homes, home care, children’s homes, fostering, adoption, advocacy and support for unpaid carers. The report assesses how well current provision meets people’s needs and recommends ways to make sure enough support is available in future.

### 3.9 Population Needs Assessment

As Census 2021 data has begun to be published, we have produced a series of reports about the initial results for North Wales including demography and equalities data.

We have provided a range of bespoke data reports for partners on topics including older people’s needs, children and young people’s mental health and to inform the Gogledd Cymru Actif North Wales Strategy. We have produced statistical profiles for North Wales which include information about the wider social and physical environment that can impact on health and well-being for local council areas, the health board areas and Public Service Board areas in North Wales. We are also reviewing topics as part of our [focus on children and young people](#) work for the RPB Children’s Sub-Group, including updates about young carers, young refugees and asylum seekers.

[View the statistics and research pages on the regional collaboration website.](#)

### 3.10 Regional Integration Fund (RIF)

In April 2022 the new Regional Integration Fund was introduced and replaced the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) Revenue and Transformation grant funding streams.

The RIF is a five-year funding programme to support NWRPB’s long term planning and is a key lever to drive change and transformation across the health and social care system. The aim is that by the end of the five-year programme we will have established and mainstreamed at least six new national models of integrated care so that citizens of Wales, where ever they live, can be assured of an effective and seamless service experience.

All activity funded by the RIF must directly support development and delivery of the six national models of integrated care which are:





The investment in 2022/23 in each of the national models of care from Welsh Government RIF monies and from partner organisations is shown in the table below:

Model of Care	Total Cost £	Welsh Government Funding £	Partner Match Monetary £	Partner Match Resource £
Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination	£8,702,362	£7,225,965	£1,294,823	£181,574
Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home	£13,804,024	£7,100,244	£4,829,106	£1,874,674
Home from hospital	£5,631,881	£4,755,991	£614,240	£261,650
Supporting families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children	£12,247,846	£9,164,837	£1,723,974	£1,359,035
Accommodation Based Solutions	£1,034,308	£712,934	£280,635	£40,739
Promoting good emotional health and well-being	£2,339,406	£1,203,936	£654,712	£480,758
<b>Total</b>	<b>£43,759,826</b>	<b>£30,163,907</b>	<b>£9,397,489</b>	<b>£4,198,430</b>

Just over £7m was spent on projects that directly supported carers and £5m investment went to support social value projects.

The complete end of year report for the RIF is attached in Appendix 3.

### 3.11 Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub

The hub aims to coordinate health and social care research, innovation and improvement activity in North Wales.

In 2022-23 we evaluated innovative ideas, such as the [Community Catalysts project](#) and [RITA devices](#) to support reminiscence, rehabilitation and interactive therapy activities for people living with dementia. We look forward to sharing the positive impacts these projects have made during the next year.

To support the new regional Digital, Data and Technology Board, we began mapping the innovative digital projects taking place in North Wales.

We worked closely with the Developing Evidence Enriched Practice (DEEP) to improve the ways we collect, talk about and use research evidence. This includes story-telling methods of collecting evidence and using a method called [Community of Enquiry](#) to reflect on evidence we'd gathered to support the work of the RPB Children's Sub-Group.

We supported regional programmes with searches to identify research evidence about topics they're working on. This included searches around [digital inclusion](#), [children who do not attend school](#) and [young carers of adults with mental health issues](#).

Working closely with the other regional hubs and national organisations, we shared, promoted and developed new ideas, including membership of a new North Wales Innovation Network. By the end of the year we had increased our Twitter followers to 400 and had 172 subscribers to the RIC hub mailing list.

Please follow us on [Twitter @\\_NW\\_RICH](#), [sign up to our newsletter](#) and visit the [RIC hub webpages](#) for more information.

*In 2022-23, the hub rebranded as a Regional Innovation Coordination Hub (previously Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub), part of the Welsh Government Innovation, Technology and Partnerships Programme.*

### 3.12 Together for Mental Health Transformation Programme



The Healthier Wales funded iCAN (“Independent, Connected, Active, Networked”) Programme sits within this broad strategy. Its overall aim is to implement a more integrated, innovative care system and culture which prevents, but where necessary, responds

effectively to episodes of acute mental health need and crisis. This funded programme seeks to scale up ‘what works’ and increase the pace of transformation across North Wales to create a sector-leading integrated urgent care system. Underpinning this is the creation of an integrated iCAN pathway that improves collaborative working, within and between health and social care, statutory partners and third sector organisations.

The components of the iCAN offer have changed and developed during the course of the Programme. They have developed into the following key components:

- iCAN Hubs - 8 community hubs located in each of the main towns across the region working with third sector partners to offer easily accessible support and signposting and a safe environment.
- iCAN Primary Care - A pilot project locating specialist Occupational Therapists in GP Surgeries offering counselling, advice, signposting and onward referral.
- iCAN Work - Employment support.
- iCAN Digital - access to support for mental wellbeing making use of a variety of apps and online resources.

### 3.13 Workforce

The Regional Workforce Board are currently reviewing the North Wales Regional Workforce Strategy to support the National Health & Social Care Workforce Strategy and will ensure that the seven strategic themes identified within the national strategy, are fully integrated into the delivery programme.

The Regional Workforce Board continues to support existing national strategies and priorities which include the national WeCare campaign for attraction, recruitment and retention of care workers. Planning meetings have been conducted with Careers Wales, to discuss how to showcase the WeCare campaign when engaging with schools in particular. Similar discussions have also taken place with DWP. Local authority employability teams have been contacted and presentations have been provided to demonstrate the resources available to them for promoting the sector.

A North Wales Ambassador Programme has been developed that includes visits to schools, provision of online events and attending jobs fairs. Opportunities for Ambassadors to share their experiences and ideas is also being developed. A strategic alliance has been formed with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), in respect of their Step Into Work adult volunteer programme. The programme identifies work placements opportunities for a variety of groups, which include, but is not limited to, workless households, long term unemployed, higher and further education students.

As a consequence of this allegiance, it has been possible to develop an alternative programme which has been branded as 'Taster to Care'. This programme aims to identify those individuals solely interested in working within the social care arena. It is a shorter programme, consisting of one day per week for a total of four weeks' work experience. E-learning modules are undertaken, which map across to the All Wales Induction Framework, should they wish to pursue a career within the care sector.

Another joint initiative with BCUHB is the development of a regional staff bank. This was first initiated during the Covid pandemic, with a view to providing additional support to care homes within the region. It is acknowledged that this may not have been a suitable solution for everyone at the time, due to a number of mitigating circumstances. However, it has afforded the opportunity to discuss how this may be beneficial to all parties in the future, provided that the difficulties already experienced can be overcome. To this end a small steering group has been formed in order to discuss a way forward, with a view to conducting a pilot project. An evaluation can then be undertaken to identify what components of the initiative work, or do not work, whether value for money is being realised, and what the long term benefits of such an initiative may bring.

An area of concern recently highlighted to the Regional Workforce Board is the shortage of Occupational Therapists (OT's) for both the health board and local authorities in the region. A small working group was formed and through discussion, potential regional and national solutions have been identified that may address this in the future. With this in mind and to highlight these issues the Regional Workforce Board has recently communicated with both Social Care Wales (SCW) & Health Education in Wales (HEIW) expressing these concerns, giving an indication as to how they may be resolved. It is anticipated that the working group will engage further with SCW and HEIW over the coming months.

The Regional Workforce Development Action Plan, funded through the Social Care Wales Workforce Development Grant, has been approved and shared with each local authority. There is an expectation within each local authority, to develop workforce training plans, in line with priorities within Health and Social Care Workforce Strategy Priorities and the Regional Population Needs Assessment.

## **4 Communication, engagement and social value**

### **4.1 North Wales Engagement**

NWRPB continues to engage with people through different platforms e.g. social media; online; via Teams/Zoom etc. and face to face engagement work was undertaken during 2022/23 as a result of the decline of Covid restrictions. Local events were attended and the first North Wales Dementia Listening Campaign took place in the town of Denbigh.

Excellent working relationships have been forged allowing for engaging with seldom heard groups, minority ethnic groups and protected characteristic groups. Continual engagement with our people, partners, stakeholders is pivotal.

The NWRPB Engagement Officer was a member of the Task & Finish Group in drawing up the Engagement & Voice Charter commitments for all Wales RPB's. The Charter sets our meaningful participation of service users, cares, third sector and provider members on the RPB's. NWRPB adopted the Charter in December 2022.

The NWRPB Engagement Officer continues to have an excellent working relationships with communication and engagement officers of partner organisations and continues the current arrangements for engagement and communication relating to the Board and its work. Having a dedicated Engagement Officer for the NWRPB is enabling the communication and engagement activities to be accelerated and build upon the work that has been progressed to date.

### **4.2 North Wales Social Value Steering Group**

The North Wales Social Value Forum (NWSVF) has grown since it was formed in 2016, with new members joining the group. These new members consist of partners from BCUHB, local authorities and third/voluntary sector, however, now is a good time to re-look at the membership and the terms of reference for this group. This work will be undertaken in May at a face-to-face meeting. This group will continue their support to the delivery of the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014.

The NWSVF will continue to work with the North Wales Social Value Network to promote the development of not for private profit organisations (including social enterprises, co-operative organisations, co-operative arrangements, user led service and third sector) to provide care and support and support for carers, and preventative services.

The group will continue to promote collaboration, partnership and networking opportunities across sectors with an aim of maximising social value and co-production across all providers delivering health, social care and /or wellbeing services in North Wales.

Over the next 3 years, the group will focus on:

- An action plan will be devised by the forum for the next three years.
- The Forum will continue to work with the North Wales Social Value Network.
- The Forum will also aim to measure the impact of social value and how it is being delivered in North Wales, yet to be agreed whether this will be measured through WG's TOMS (Themes, Outcomes, Measures) Framework, to be agreed regionally and then locally.
- Members of the Forum will continue to work closely with Cwmpas as part of a sub-group of the National Commissioning Board to focus on *"Promoting Social Value Models of Delivery in Social Care"*. A guidance document aimed at commissioners, procurers and service providers to help them understand why and how the promotion of Social Value Models of Delivery in tendering might impact on their activities.
- Working with the Voluntary Services Councils, the Forum will focus on Third Sector projects particularly utilising RIF funding to maximum benefit.

### 4.3 North Wales Carers Groups

The North Wales Carers & Young Carers Operational Group (NW(Y)COG) has continued to deliver on the North Wales Regional Carers Strategy. It has been agreed by the group that the action plan which supports the Welsh Government's Strategy for Unpaid Carers and the national priorities will be reviewed and refreshed for the year ahead by the operational group.

Our GP & Hospital Facilitation Service, funded through Welsh Government's Annual Carers Grant, have continued to support unpaid carers in primary and secondary care. There has been a particular focus on the Hospital Carers Facilitators with support provided during hospital discharge. This focus will continue for the next year, with the Welsh Government's Annual Carers Grant stipulating that the focus should be on the supporting unpaid carers when the person they care for is admitted to or discharged from hospital. This change is intended to aid timely discharge of patients from hospital by supporting and involving their unpaid carers in the process.

Between April and December 2022, over 800 unpaid carers have been identified and supported within primary care by our two commissioned providers, Carers Outreach and NEWCIS. A similar number of unpaid carers have also been identified and supported within secondary care whilst supporting an in-patient or whilst the unpaid carer has had a hospital stay themselves.

## 4.4 North Wales Young Carers

The identified number of young carers in North Wales has grown in the last few years due to an increase in referrals through successful awareness raising and positive relationships with partner agencies. As of November 2021, when the data was collected for the Population Needs Assessment, 1,752 young carers were being supported across North Wales.

The national Young Carers ID card was launched across North Wales in March 2021 in response to a WG consultation, to identify and raise awareness of young carers as well as provide recognition of their important and often invisible caring role. The aim of this national initiative, supported by Carers Trust Wales is to help young carers access the right support at the right time; whether this be in their school, a pharmacy or whilst shopping for the person cared for.

Over the past year, Ynys Môn and Gwynedd have piloted an app, [AIDI](#), which includes a digital identity card as well as a communication feature “Ping My School” which enables young carers an easy way to contact their school if they are experiencing any problems and need support with their school work due to their caring role at home. AIDI officially launched last month and is now accessible to all young carers across the two counties.

Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham initially launched a physical card to ensure it was accessible to all young carers, including those without electronic devices and to date over 200 cards have been issued. Further work is underway this year to launch an app with similar features to AIDI in the West.

## 5 Forward Look

### 5.1 Priorities for 2023/24 and beyond

The priorities for the Regional Partnership are drawn from the:

- Population Needs Assessment
- Market Stability Report
- Regional Integration Fund Guidance
- Strategic Capital Plan
- Welsh Government Initiatives
- Partner Priorities

We have finalised our priorities and focus for the short and longer term and these are contained within our Regional Area Plan.

<https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/NW-Regional-Area-Plan-2023-1.0.pdf>

In support of the Plan there is detailed annual Delivery Plan which outlines against each workstream what we want to achieve in the next 12 months. A copy of this plan is attached in Appendix 2.

**This report has been produced to meet the requirements set out by the Welsh Government in the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014**



## **Appendix 1 – Membership of the NWRPB**

As at 31 March 2023

**Alwyn Jones**

Chief Officer Social Care, Wrexham County Borough Council

**Alwyn Williams**

Chief Inspector North Wales Police

**Ann Woods**

Chief Officer, Flintshire Local Voluntary Council

**Catrin Roberts**

Head of Regional Collaboration

**Cyng/Cllr Alun Roberts,**

Isle of Anglesey County Council

**Cyng / Cllr Christine Jones**

Flintshire County Council

**Cyng/Cllr John Pritchard**

Wrexham County Borough Council

**Cyng/Cllr Liz Roberts**

Conwy County Borough Council

**Cyng/Cllr Dilwyn Morgan**

Gwynedd Council

**Cyng/Cllr Elen Heaton**

Denbighshire County Council

**Dr Lowri Brown**

Head of Education Services, Conwy County Borough Council

**Dylan Owen**

Statutory Director of Social Services, Gwynedd Council

**Estelle Hitchon**

WAST, Director of Partnerships and Engagement

**Ffion Johnstone**

BCUHB Integrated Health Community Director (West)

**Fôn Roberts**

Director of Social Services, Isle of Anglesey County Council

**Gill Harris**

BCUHB, Executive Director

**Jenny Williams**

Director of Social Services, Conwy County Borough Council

**Karen Higgins**

BCUHB, Director of Primary Care, Palliative Care & Children's Services

**Libby Ryan-Davies**

BCUHB Integrated Health Community Director (Central)

**Liz Grieve**

Head of Housing & Communities Service, Denbighshire County Council

**Mary Wimbury**

Chief Executive Officer and Senior Policy Advisor, Care Forum Wales

**Meinir Williams-Jones**

Barnardo's Cymru Assistant Director for North Wales

**Michelle Green**

BCUHB Integrated Health Community Director (East)

**Neil Ayling**

Director of Social Services, Flintshire County Council

**Nicola Stubbins**

Corporate Director: Social Services & Education, Denbighshire County Council

**Rhun ap Gareth,**

Chief Executive, Conwy County Borough Council

**Roger Seddon**

Service User Representative

**Siân Elen Tomos**

Chief Executive, GISDA

**Steve Gadd**

Head of Finance and Audit, Denbighshire County Council

**Teresa Owen**

BCUHB Executive Director of Public Health

## Appendix 2 – Annual Delivery Plan

Each workstream considers the cross-cutting themes: Welsh language - 'Active Offer', equality and human rights, socio-economic disadvantage, housing, homelessness, loneliness and isolation, social value, co-production and citizen voice, prevention, safeguarding, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence and Covid-19.

Workstream	Action	Links to key documents	Regional Lead	Workstream Lead(s)	Timescale
Regional Integration Fund	Delivery of the RIF Programme of Schemes for each Model of Care	<a href="#">RIF webpages</a>		Siobhan Gothorp Sharon Hinchcliffe Kathryn Whitfield Lisa Goodier	
Regional Integration Fund	To establish an outcomes framework which enables consistent reporting of performance measures across all projects and Models of Care so that difference made and distance travelled can be monitored.			Siobhan Gothorp Sarah Bartlett	
Regional Integration Fund	To develop an evaluation framework to enable regular robust evaluation of schemes to inform future programme planning			Siobhan Gothorp Sarah Bartlett	
Children and young people	Implementation of The Right Door Strategy (in response to the No Wrong Door report)	<a href="#">The Right Door Strategy</a>	Fon Roberts Louise Bell	Sharon Hinchcliffe	
Children and young people	Development of priorities for children and young people, considering the different needs of different age groups.	<a href="#">RPB Children's sub-group webpages</a>	Fon Roberts Louise Bell	Sharon Hinchcliffe	
Children and young people	NYTH/NEST framework: whole system approach for mental health	<a href="#">The NEST framework</a>	Fon Roberts Louise Bell	Sharon Hinchcliffe	
Dementia	Implementation of the North Wales Dementia Strategy	<a href="#">North Wales Dementia Strategy</a>		Siobhan Gothorp	
Dementia	Dementia accommodation needs into the Strategic Capital Plan			Siobhan Gothorp	
Learning disabilities	Implementation of North Wales Together Programme, underpinned by co-production focussing on	<a href="#">North Wales Together website</a>	Neil Ayling	Kathryn Whitfield	

Workstream	Action	Links to key documents	Regional Lead	Workstream Lead(s)	Timescale
	communities and cultural change, accommodation, assistive technology, employment and children and young people.				
Autism	Implementation of the statutory code of practice on the delivery of the Autism Services Delivery Plan 2021-22			Alison Lowry	
Mental Health	Review and implementation of T4MH strategy for North Wales			Vicky Jones	
'Further, Faster' – Our mission to build an Integrated Community Care Service for Wales	To support the development of a Community Care Service for Wales			Catrin Roberts	
'Further, Faster' – Our mission to build an Integrated Community Care Service for Wales	To review the RIF Programme to identify any opportunities to further increase community capacity as part of the Further Faster work			Catrin Roberts	
Strategic Capital	To develop a 10 year Strategic Capital Plan in line with Welsh Government guidance		Neil Ayling	Siobhan Gothorp Joseph Griffiths	
Workforce	Scope out the programme of work for the Workforce Stream		Jenny Williams	Llinos Howatson	
Workforce	Recruitment and retention		Jenny Williams	Llinos Howatson	
Workforce	Taster to Care programme: provides an insight into the care sector for people interested in a new career		Jenny Williams	Rebecca Szekely	
Commissioning	Market Stability Report annual reviews	<a href="#">Market Stability Report</a>		Llinos Howatson	

Workstream	Action	Links to key documents	Regional Lead	Workstream Lead(s)	Timescale
Commissioning	Completion of the Older People Audit Wales Action Plan to include drafting, agreeing and implementing a Regional Commissioning Strategy		Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman	Llinos Howatson	
Commissioning	Implementation of a Pre Placement Agreement for Service Providers to include the co-ordination of the Workshops and setting up a process for collating the completed PPA.		Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman	Llinos Howatson	
Commissioning	Complete the Escalating Concerns Policy and implement		Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman	Llinos Howatson	
Commissioning	To develop a Commissioning Strategy for Older People Placement		Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman	Llinos Howatson	
Commissioning	To review the True Cost of Care arrangements for the region		David Soley	Llinos Howatson	
Regional Innovation Coordination Hub	Coordinate research, innovation and improvement activity Population needs assessment updates	<a href="#">RIC hub webpages</a>	Jenny Williams	Sarah Bartlett	
Mwy Na Geiriau	Drive progress under the overarching theme of <b>culture and leadership</b> and the three themes 1. Welsh language planning and policies including data 2. Supporting and developing the Welsh language skills of the current and future workforce 3. Sharing best practice and an enabling approach	<a href="#">Mwy na geriau: 5 year plan 2022 to 2027</a>	Ffion Johnston	Eluned Yaxley	
Safeguarding	To respond effectively to the learning identified from Regional Adult / Child Practice reviews, Regional Multi-agency professional's forum and the National and UK reviews.		Jenny Williams Neil Ayling	David Lewis	
Safeguarding	Effective engagement and communication: To improve engagement and consultation with children		Jenny Williams Neil Ayling	David Lewis	

Workstream	Action	Links to key documents	Regional Lead	Workstream Lead(s)	Timescale
	and adults at risk, vulnerable groups, professionals and partnerships				
Safeguarding	To support the implementation of new and existing legislation including End Physical Punishment and Liberty of Protection Safeguards alongside responding to national action plans on Child Sexual Abuse and preventing abuse of Older People.		Jenny Williams Neil Ayling	David Lewis	
Safeguarding	To continue to ensure a robust, resilient and consistent approach to safeguarding practice.		Jenny Williams Neil Ayling	David Lewis	
Regional Partnership	To develop a partner agreement to cover the regional partnership work to include financial strategy.		Dilwyn Morgan	Catrin Roberts	
Regional Partnership	Implement the revised Part 2 and Part 9 Guidance.		Dilwyn Morgan	Catrin Roberts	
Regional Partnership	Links with PSBs			Catrin Roberts	
Engagement	To review the Regional Partnership Board's current engagement, voice and coproduction arrangements.	<a href="#">Engagement and communication strategy</a>			
Digital, Data Transformation	Develop a North Wales approach to using digital, data and technology to enable seamless, integrated services		Dylan Roberts	Sarah Bartlett	
Accelerated Cluster Development (ACD)	Support the development and implementation of the ACD to include governance. Develop relationship between PCPG (Primary Care Planning Group).			Jo Flannery	
Unpaid carers	Update North Wales Carers Strategy, deliver North Wales Carers and Young Carers Operational Group Action Plan	<a href="#">Carers strategy and action plan updates</a>	Ffion Johnston	Lindsey Duckett	
Social Value Forum	Continue to develop the Social Value Forum. Link with PSB priorities.		Neil Ayling	Lindsey Duckett	

<b>Workstream</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Links to key documents</b>	<b>Regional Lead</b>	<b>Workstream Lead(s)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Equality, human rights and socioeconomic disadvantage	Continue to embed within work processes including equality impact assessments completed on new and amended strategies and projects.				
Housing and homelessness	Write additional housing and homelessness section for the PNA.				
Loneliness and isolation	Link with PSB priorities.				
Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence	Support the work of the North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Board and North Wales North Wales Safeguarding Board				
Covid-19	Continue to support the Covid-19 Recovery Process.				



# Appendix 3 – Regional Integration Fund – End of Year Report

## 1. RIF Programme Summary

The North Wales 2022/23 RIF programme comprised 40 schemes across the 6 national Models of Care. The total investment (excluding infrastructure and programme management costs) was £43,759,826. This includes £13,595,919 of partner monetary and resource match funding.

£6,949,020 (21%) was spent on schemes which directly supported unpaid carers

£4,992,983 (15%) was spent on schemes social value schemes

**Table 1: Investment in each national Model of Care**

Model of Care	Number of Schemes	%	Total Investment £	Welsh Government Funding	Partner Match Monetary	Partner Match Resource
				£	£	£
Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination	14	20%	£8,702,362	£7,225,965	£1,294,823	£181,574
Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home	7	32%	£13,804,024	£7,100,244	£4,829,106	£1,874,674
Home from hospital	5	13%	£5,631,881	£4,755,991	£614,240	£261,650
Supporting families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children	6	28%	£12,247,846	£9,164,837	£1,723,974	£1,359,035
Accommodation Based Solutions	4	2%	£1,034,308	£712,934	£280,635	£40,739
Promoting good emotional health and well-being	4	5%	£2,339,406	£1,203,936	£654,712	£480,758
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>£43,759,826</b>	<b>£30,163,907</b>	<b>£9,397,489</b>	<b>£4,198,430</b>
			<b>100%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>10%</b>



## 2. Performance Measures

All projects were asked to report against 6 performance measures following the Results Based Accountability (RBA) model. RBA suggests that in addition to project specific performance measures, (used for project evaluation) a small number of programme level measures are reported so that the impact of the programme can be seen.

For the RIF 2022/23 programme the measures to be recorded across all schemes were:

### How Much Measure 1

Number of people who have accessed and/or been supported by the scheme

### How Much Measure 2

Number of carers who have accessed and/or been supported by the scheme

### How Well Measure 1

Number and % of people who report feeling less isolated

### How Well Measure 2

Number and % of people who reported a positive experience with the service

### Difference Made Measure 1

Number and % of people who achieved what matters to them

### Difference Made Measure 2

Number and % of people reporting improved emotional health and well-being

The performance data for the whole RIF programme is shown below.

The performance data for each Model of Care is shown in the MoC sections on pages 3-8

The performance data for each project within each Model of Care is shown in the appendices

NB: Not all projects had reported by the deadline and at the time of writing this report. A refresh is planned at the end of June to capture any late data submissions

#### Measure 1: 62,429

Number of individuals who have accessed and/or been supported by schemes with RIF funding contribution

#### Measure 2: 8,997

Number of carers who have accessed and/or been supported by schemes with RIF funding contribution

#### Measure 3: 10,823 and 86%

Number and % of people who report feeling less isolated

#### Measure 4: 10,694 and 95%

Number and % of people who reported a positive experience with the service

#### Measure 5: 13,476 and 94%

Number and % of people who achieved what matters to them

#### Measure 6: 8,412 and 95%

Number and % of people reporting improved emotional health and well-being

### 3. Community Based Care – Prevention and Co-ordination (CBC PC)

There was investment of £8,702,362 across 14 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 20% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

**Table 2: Schemes in CBC PC Model of Care**

Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination MoC	
CBC PC 01	Community Hubs - Navigators, Agents & Connectors, Local Asset Co-ordinators
CBC PC 02	Wellbeing Officers / Support Workers
CBC PC 03	Single Point of Access (SPOA) Teams
CBC PC 04	Progression & Prevention & Transition
CBC PC 05	Dementia Community Support Services
CBC PC 06	MAS Pathway pre assessment and post diagnosis advice and support service
CBC PC 07	Dementia Commissioning and Strategy Implementation Officers
CBC PB 09	Practice Development Nurse
CBC PC 10	Dementia Friendly Status
CBC PC 11	Carers Respite Services
CBC PC 12	Carer Support Officers
CBC PC 13	Regional Integrated Autism Service
CBC PC 14	Regional LD Communities

The focus of the schemes is prevention, early intervention and co-ordination.

The focus of the prevention work is on immunisation and screening programmes, smoking cessation, losing weight, preventing loneliness and social isolation.

The focus of the early intervention work is on social prescribing services, community connector/navigator services utilising local assets, creating connections and networks to co-design local solutions, providing easy to access information and advice.

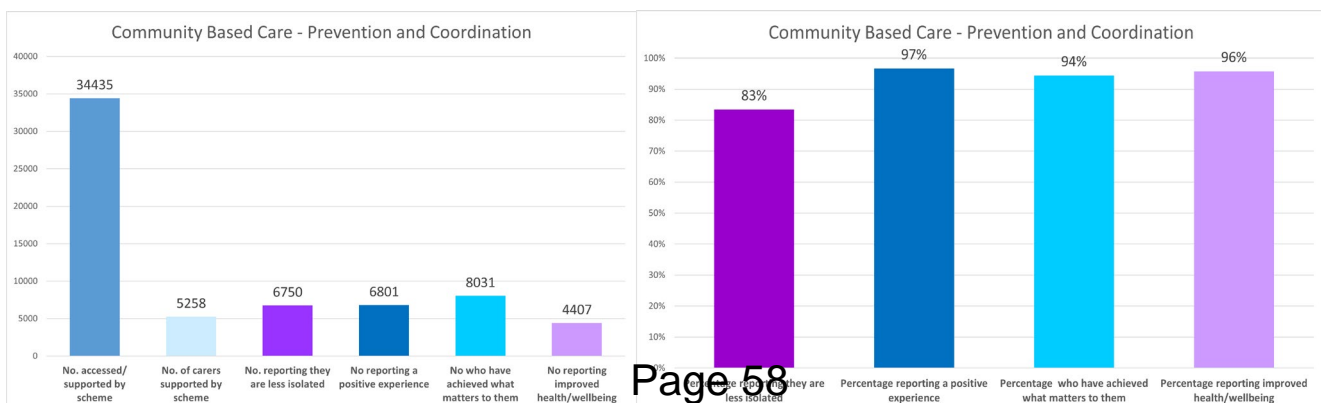
Local coordinators work with people who may otherwise require social services. By engaging early on, building on strengths and helping people to build local connections they help people find their own lasting solutions and build community resilience.

Community hubs are an important part of this model of care. They provide a community focal point (actual or virtual) from which preventative initiatives and early intervention services and de-escalation solutions can be co-ordinated and delivered.

Community support and engagement schemes for people living with dementia and their carers in line with the priorities within North Wales Dementia Strategy and the All Wales Dementia Standards are included in this model of care.

Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 3 & 4

**Graphs 3 & 4: Performance measures in CBC PC Model of Care**



## 4. Community Based Care – Complex Care closer to home (CBC CC)

There was investment of £13,804,024 across 7 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 32% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

**Table 5: Schemes in CBC CC Model of Care**

Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home MoC	
CBC CC 01	Falls Prevention
CBC CC 02	Community Resource Teams (CRTs)
CBC CC 03	Complex and intense Support Service
CBC CC 04	Response Service
CBC CC 05	Care Sector Support
CBC CC 06	Step Beds
CBC CC 07	Empowering Independence

The focus of the schemes is to prevent overnight falls, reduce ambulance call outs, prevent hospital admissions and support efficient hospital discharges.

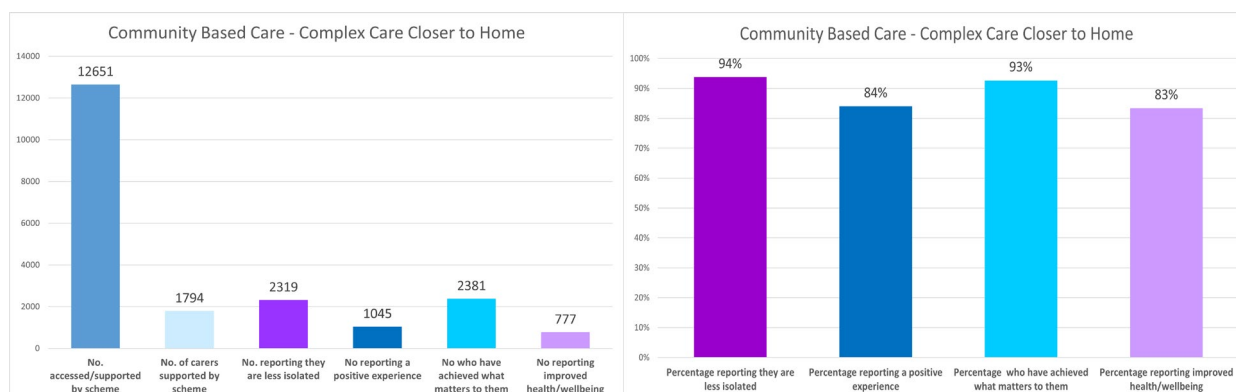
By supporting people to manage complex clinical needs in the community, enabling people to recover at home or close to home avoids hospital admission. Locality based Community Resource Multi-Disciplinary Teams support adults at risk, provide necessary support for care package crisis / end of life and enable older individuals to access community support, arranging treatment and support if clinically safe to do so.

Schemes within this model of care also strengthen the care sector - supporting care home sustainability is a critical determinant of an integrated, sustainable and high-quality health and social care system.

Step Up / step down beds and crisis response schemes are key features of this model of care as are empowering independence projects which ensure individuals take control of their care and support, forward planning to avoid crisis situations.

Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 6 & 7

**Graphs 6 & 7: Performance measures in CBC CC Model of Care**



## 5. Home from Hospital (HfH)

There was investment of £5,631,881 across 5 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 13% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

**Table 8: Schemes in CBC CC Model of Care**

Home from Hospital Moc	
HfH 01	Home First Teams
HfH 02	D2RA Therapy Capacity
HfH 03	SUSD
HfH 04	Admissions Co-ordinator / Care Brokers
HfH 05	Care Home Based Integrated Care Teams

The focus of the schemes is Increased turnaround at the ‘front door’ through 7-day therapy support along with discharge support from Home First teams and increased Discharge Co-ordinator Capacity.

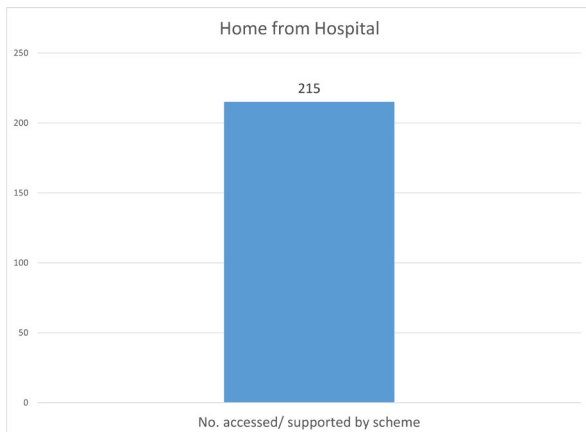
Implementing a Home First model aligned to the D2RA Pathway supports people to recover at home before being assessed for any ongoing need. These projects include a wide range of approaches which ensure safe and effective discharge planning. The focus is on achieving a safe transfer of care into the community and detailed assessments in the patient’s home for long term care needs.

Step up / step down provision and spot purchase as necessary is a crucial feature of the Home from Hospital model of care

The care home based integrated care team scheme supports people to recover in intermediate care settings before being assessed for any ongoing need.

Only a small number of the Home from Hospital schemes were able to report this year and only against performance measure 1: as shown in graph 9 below

**Graph 9: Performance measure in HfH Model of Care**



## 6. Supporting Families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced Children (SF&C)

There was investment of £12,247,846 across 6 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 28% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

**Table 10: Schemes in SF&C Model of Care**

Supporting Families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children MoC	
SF&C 01	Early Intervention
SF&C 02	Repatriation & Prevention Services
SF&C 03	Building Family resilience to prevent escalation
SF&C 04	Intensive residential support for children with complex needs
SF&C 05	Intensive support teams for children with complex needs
SF&C 06	Specialist support for children with complex / specialist needs

The focus of the Supporting Families and Children schemes are:

Early intervention and prevention for children with complex needs

Additional needs and secondary prevention including multi agency early help

Complex needs and secondary prevention including multi-agency early help

High risk and very complex needs - acute/ specialist including safeguarding

### Early intervention and prevention for children with complex needs –SF&C 01

These schemes support children and young people who have had a wellbeing concern and have made good overall progress using preventative and non-specialist channels.

### Additional needs and secondary prevention – SF&C 02

These schemes support children and young people who have needs that cannot be met by universal services and require additional, co-ordinated multi-agency support and early help.

### Complex needs and secondary prevention schemes – SF&C 03, SF&C 04, SF&C 05

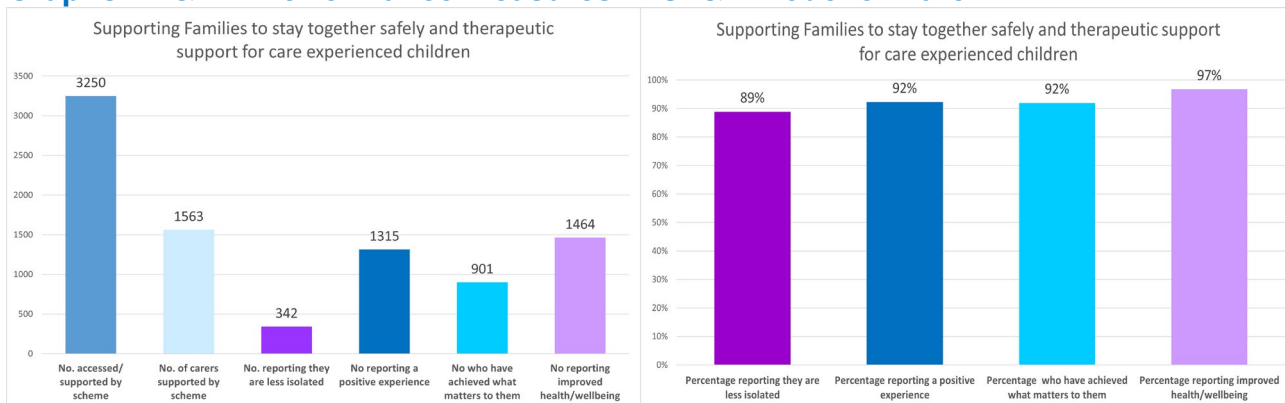
These schemes support children and young people with an increasing level of unmet needs and those who require more complex support and interventions and coordinated support to prevent concerns escalating.

### High risk and very complex needs - acute/ specialist inc safeguarding – SF&C 06

These schemes support children and young people who have experienced significant harm, or who are at risk of significant harm. These children have the highest level of need and may require an urgent or very specialist intervention.

Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 11 & 12

**Graphs 11 & 12: Performance measures in SF&C Model of Care**



## 7. Accommodation Based Solutions

There was investment of £1,034,308 across 4 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 2% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

**Table 13: Schemes in ABS Model of Care**

Accommodation Based Solutions MoC	
ABS 01	Respite Services
ABS 02	Progression Services
ABS 03	Future Care Provision
ABS 04	LD Regional Accommodation, Health & Wellbeing

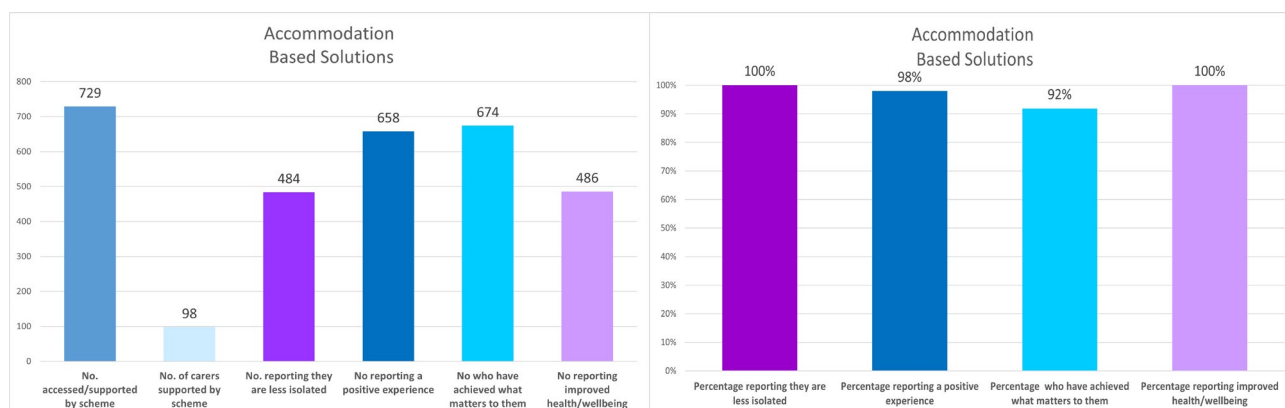
This is a developing model of care very much in its infancy.

The focus of this model of care is to provide support to children and adults with disabilities and complex needs, working in partnership with third sector providers to provide local residential care and short term flexible respite for children with complex support needs.

The progression service supports young adults with physical and/or learning disabilities to increase their independence. This includes supporting people to work and to live independently in their own home, often with shared peer support.

Performance measures for the 4 schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 14 & 15

**Graphs 14 & 15: Performance measures in ABS Model of Care**



## 8. Promoting good Emotional Health and Well-Being

There was investment of £2,339,406 across 4 schemes within this Model of Care.

This is 5% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

**Table 16: Schemes in EH&WB Model of Care**

Promoting good emotional health and well-being MoC	
EH&WB 01	Training & Development
EH&WB 02	Community Activities
EH&WB 03	Community Wellbeing Officers
EH&WB 04	iCAN

The focus of this model of care is the provision of community well-being officers and the delivery of community services to support emotional well-being.

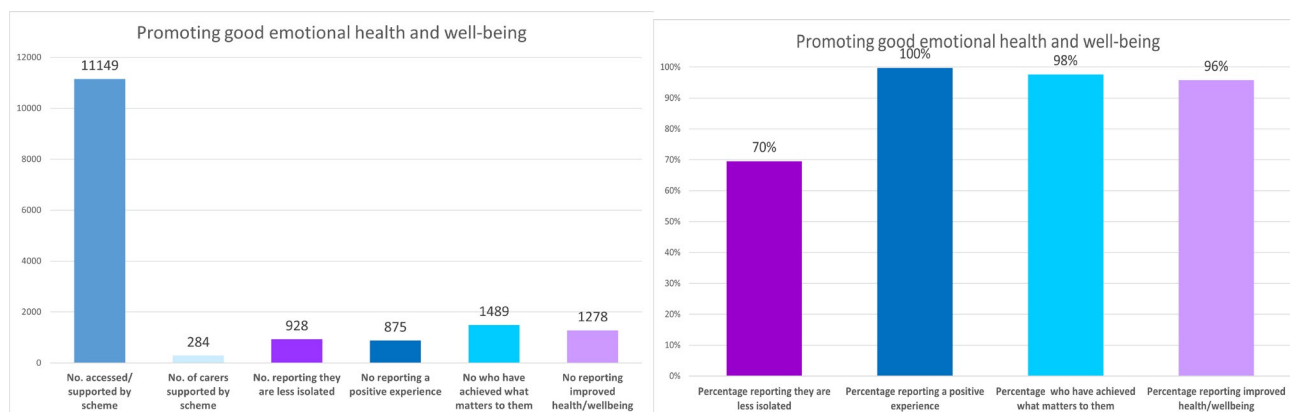
The mental health iCAN hubs are also supported via RIF investment as is staff training and awareness.

There are many schemes which promote good emotional health and well-being that are featured under other models of care

The iCAN scheme has only been able to report against performance measure 1 this year

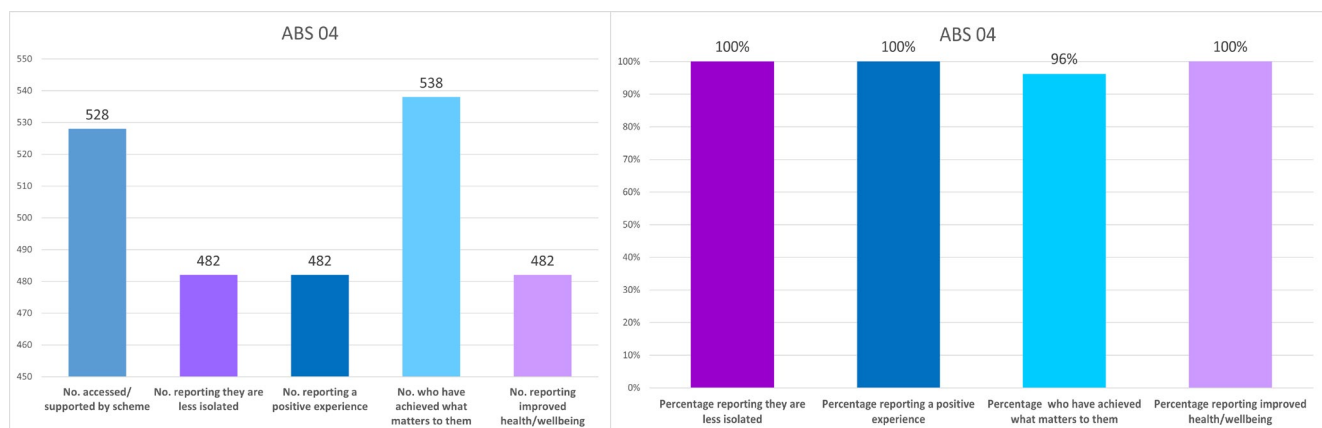
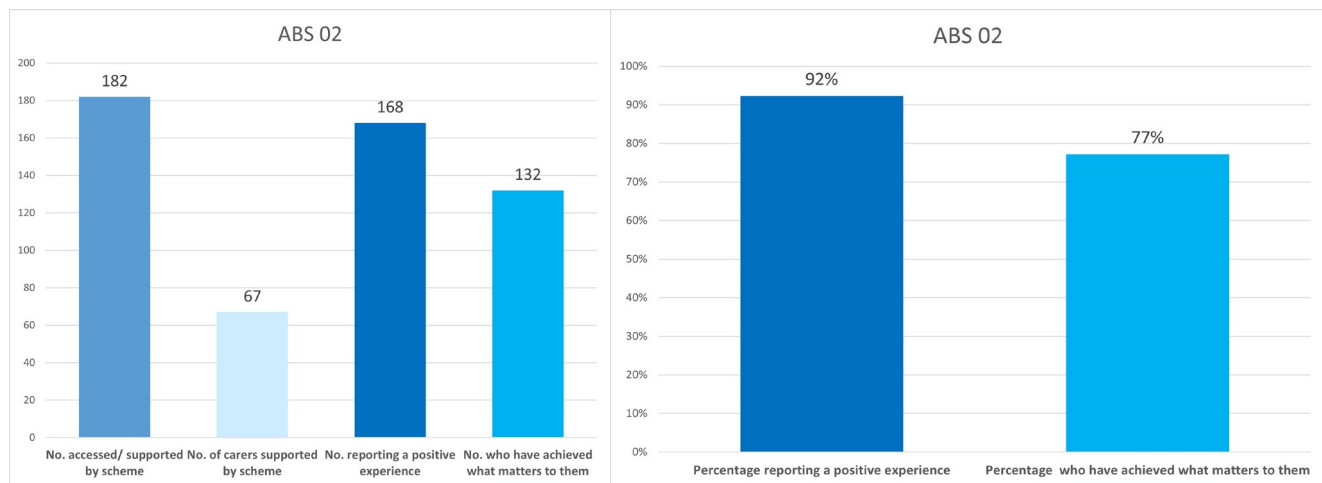
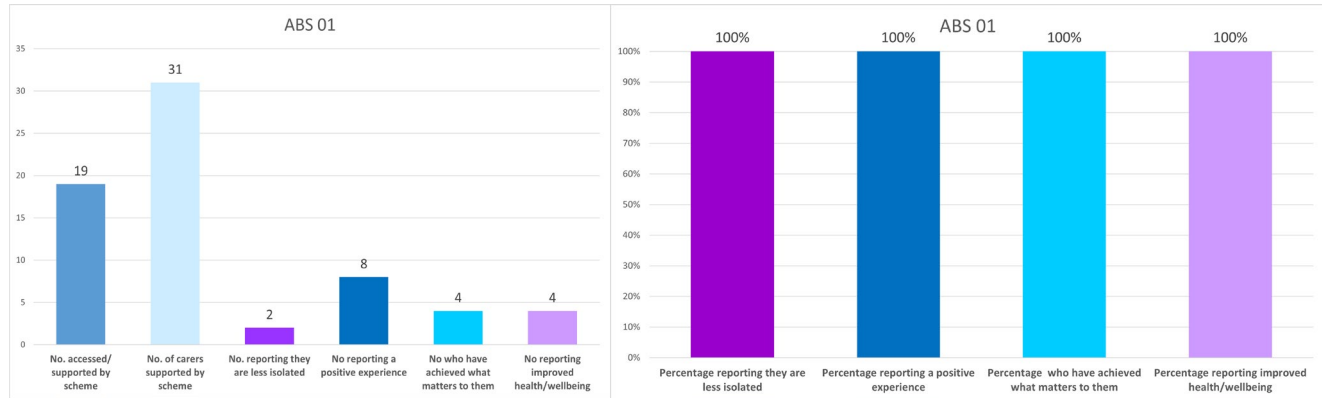
Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 17 & 18

**Graphs 17 & 18: Performance measures in EH&WB Model of Care**



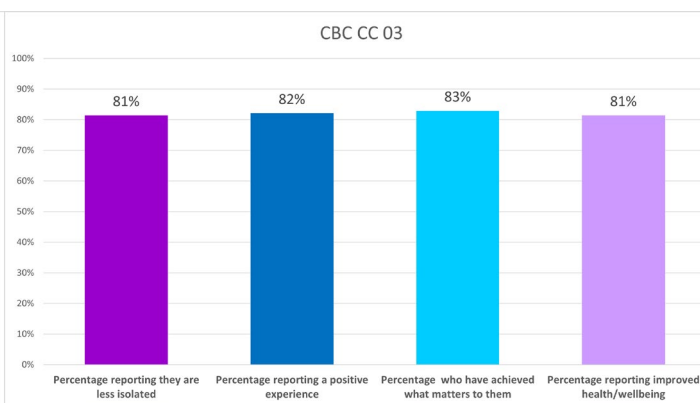
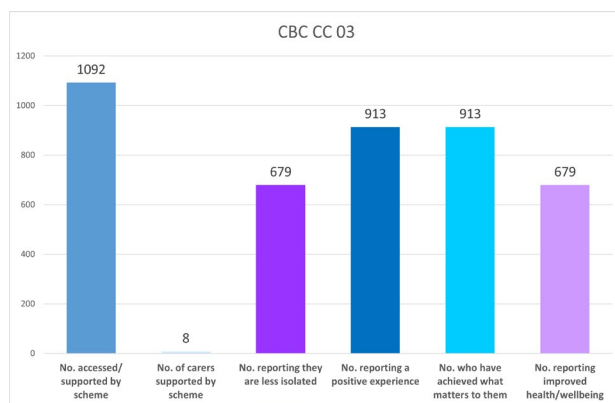
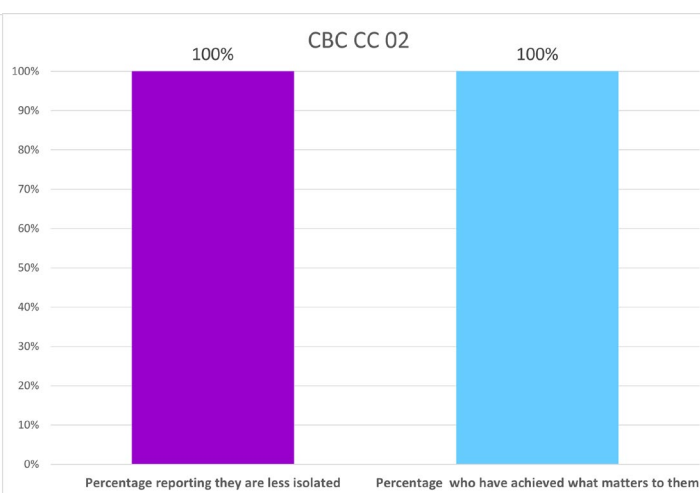
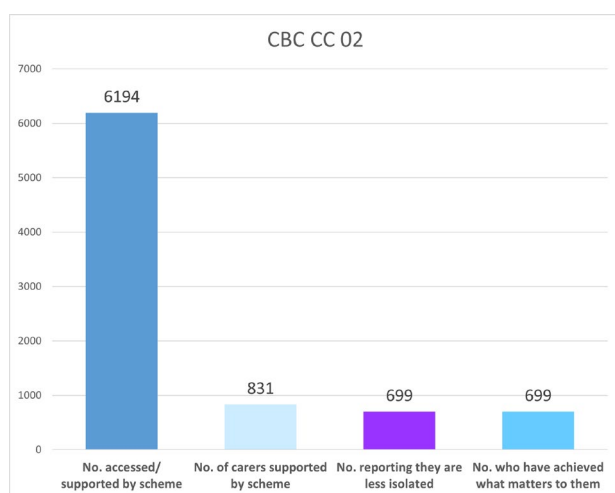
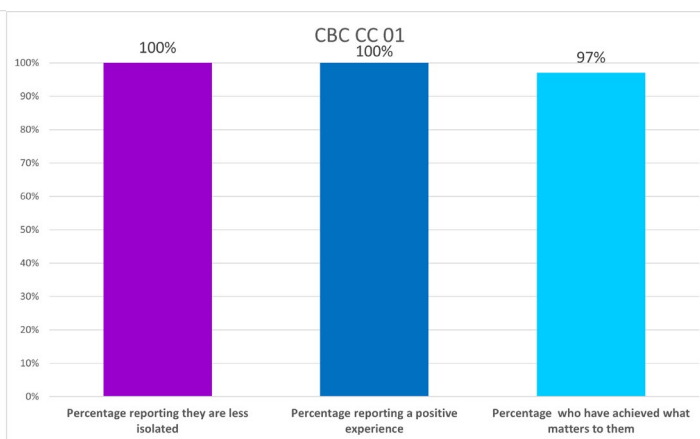
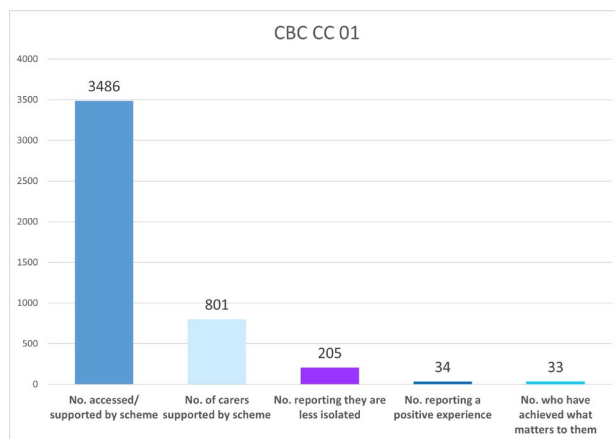
## Appendices

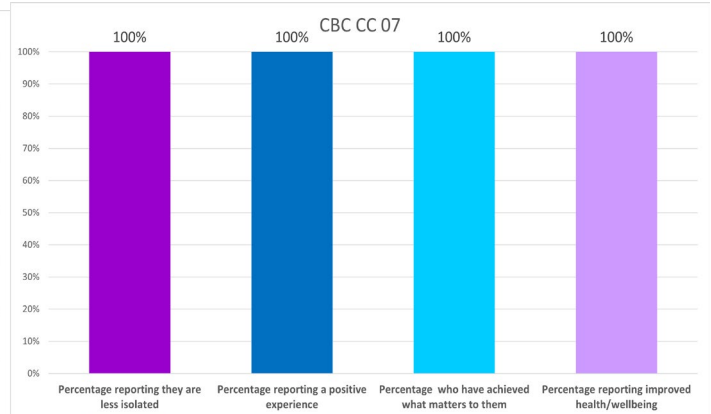
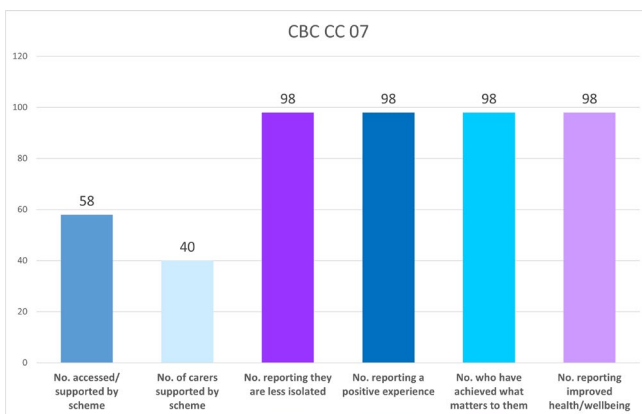
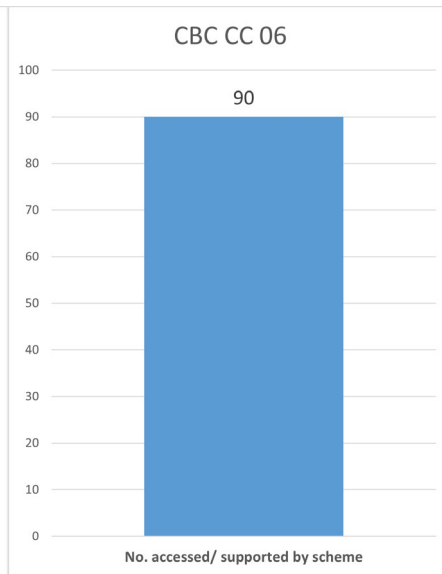
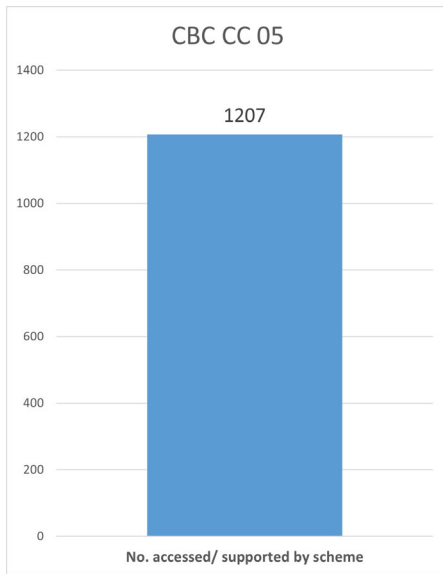
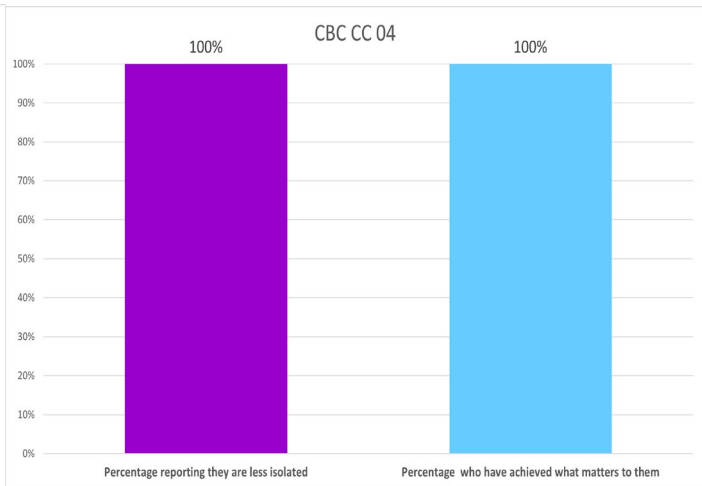
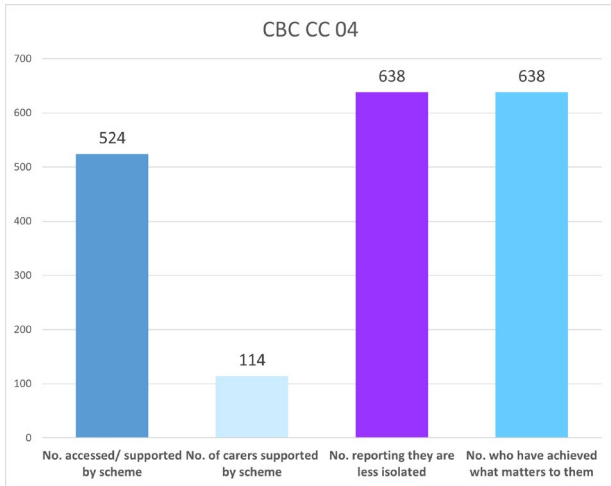
### Performance Measure Data by Project within Accommodation Based Solution (ABS) Model of Care



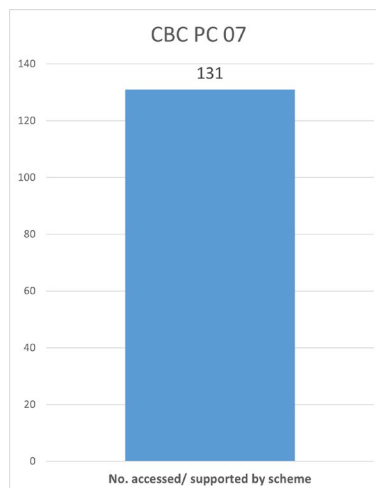
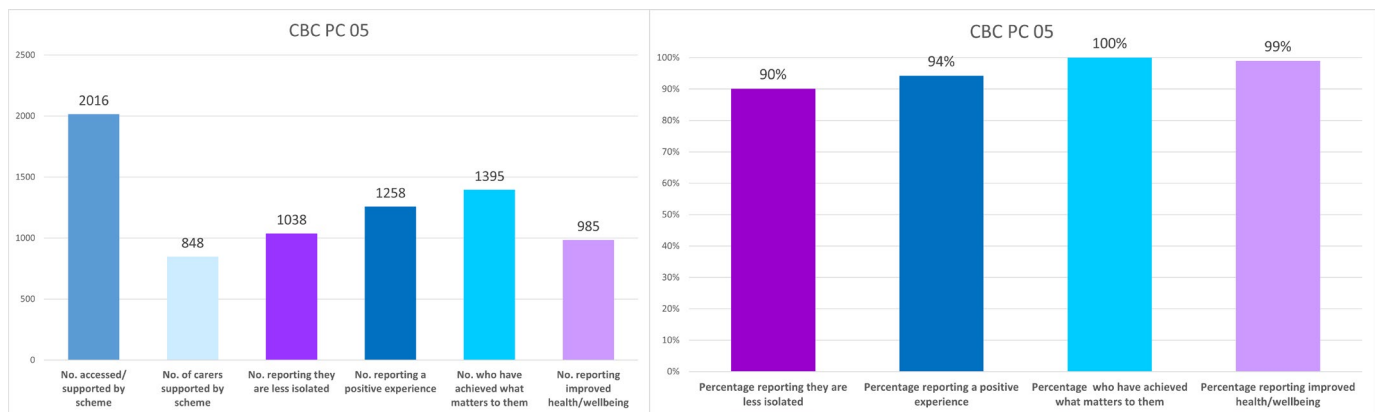
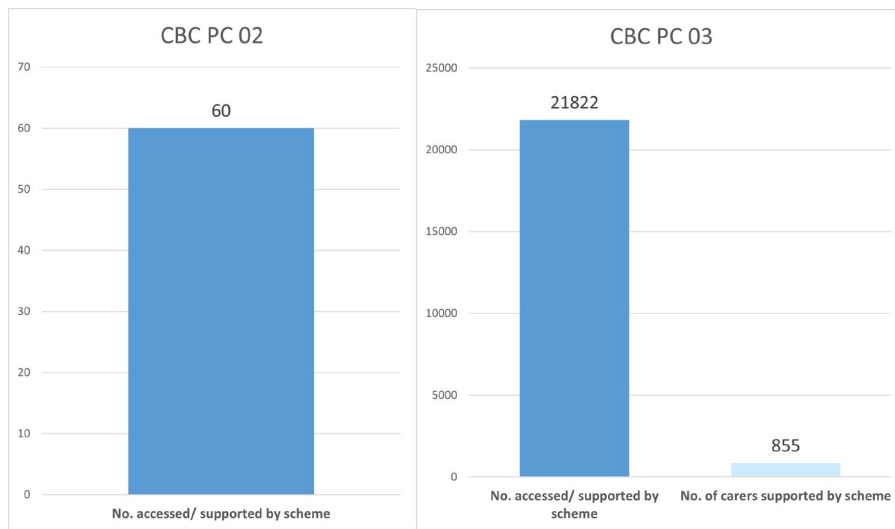
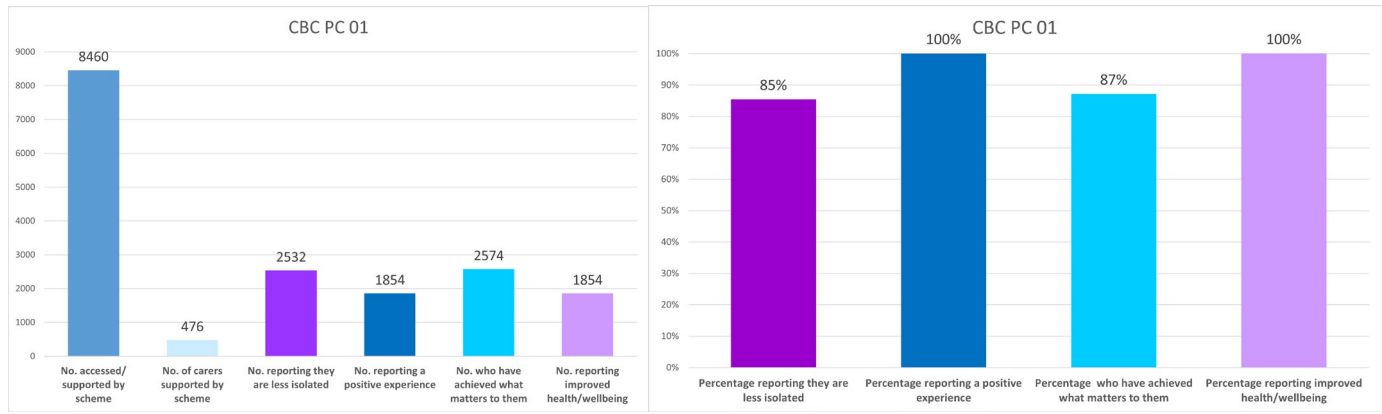


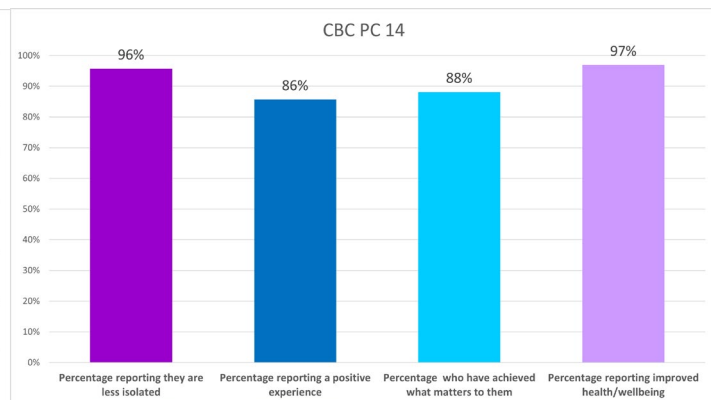
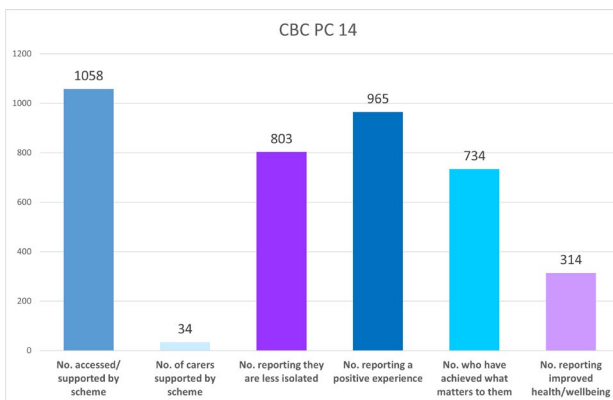
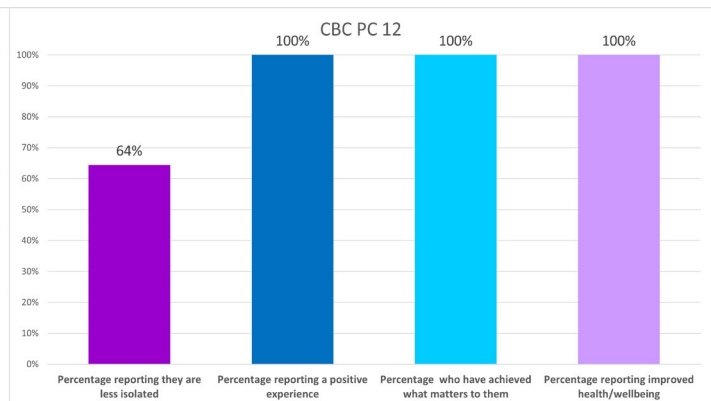
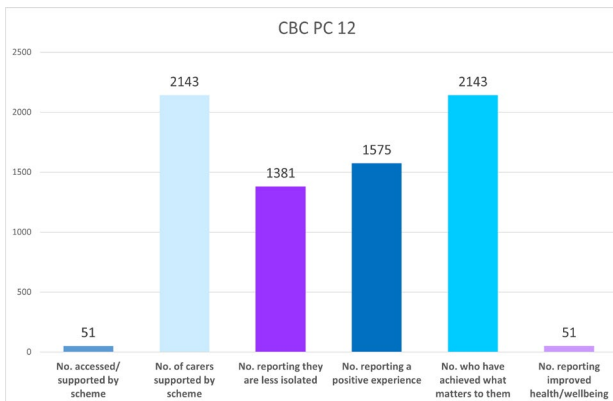
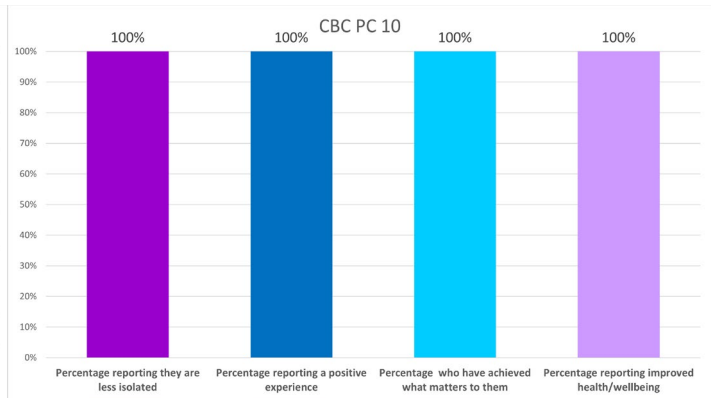
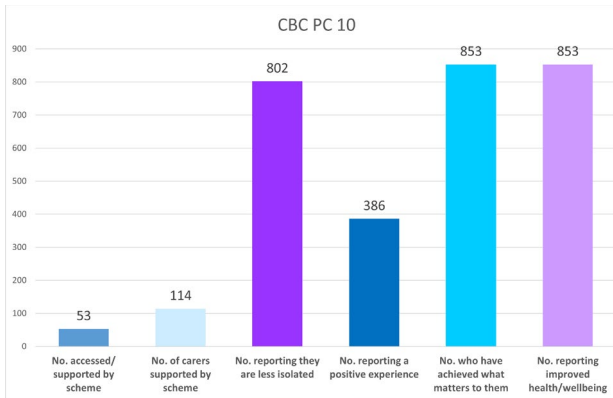
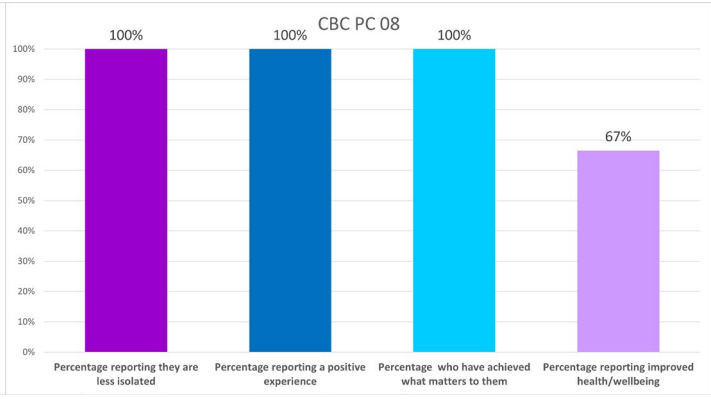
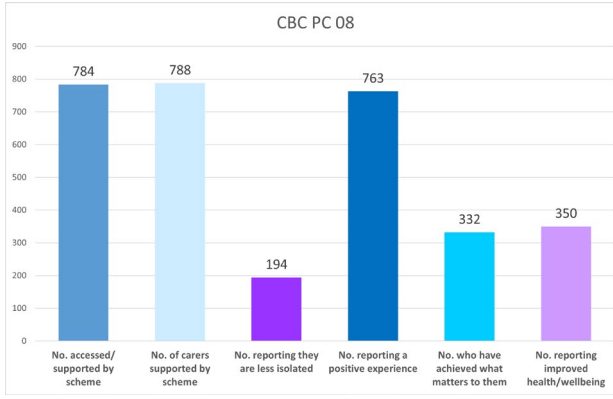
## Performance Measure Data by Project within Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home (CBC CC) Model of Care



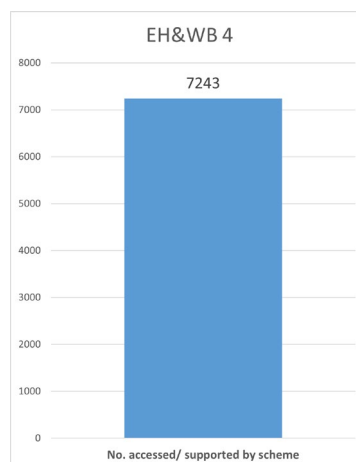
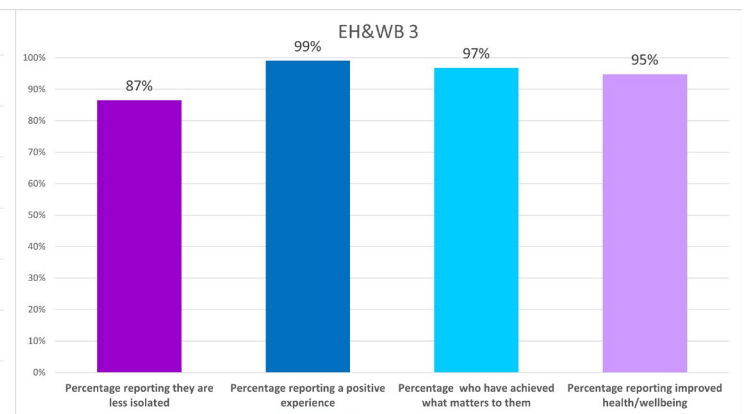
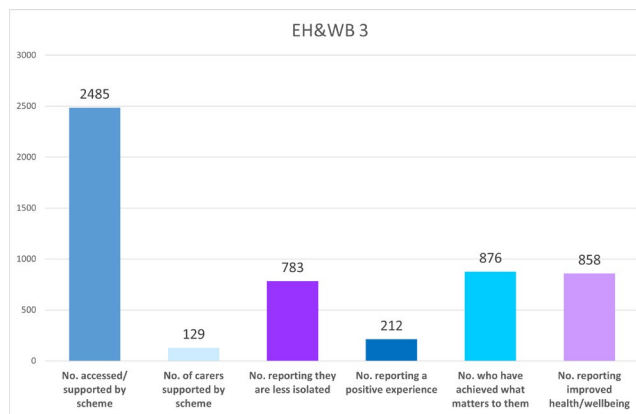
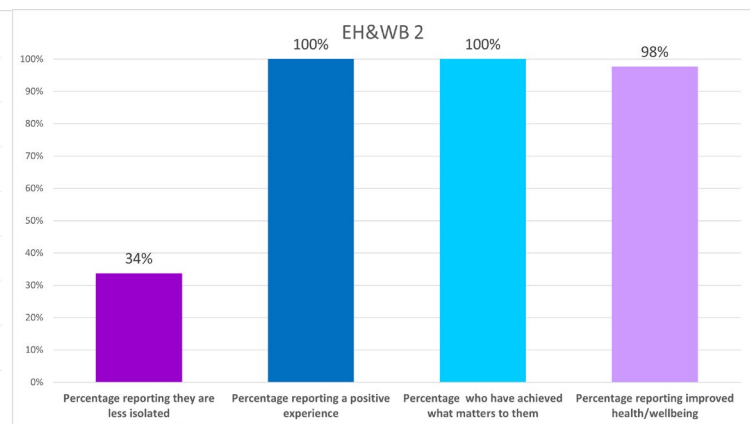
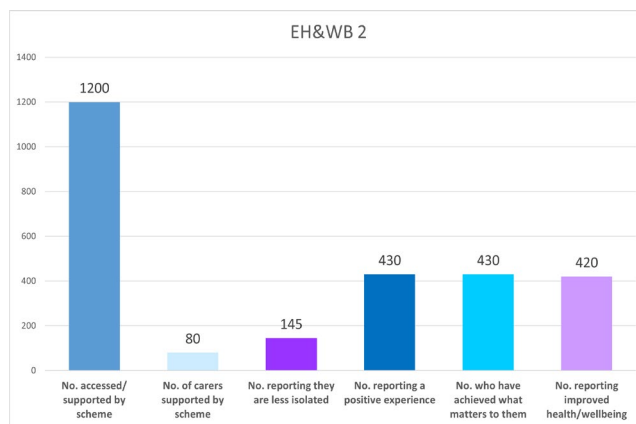
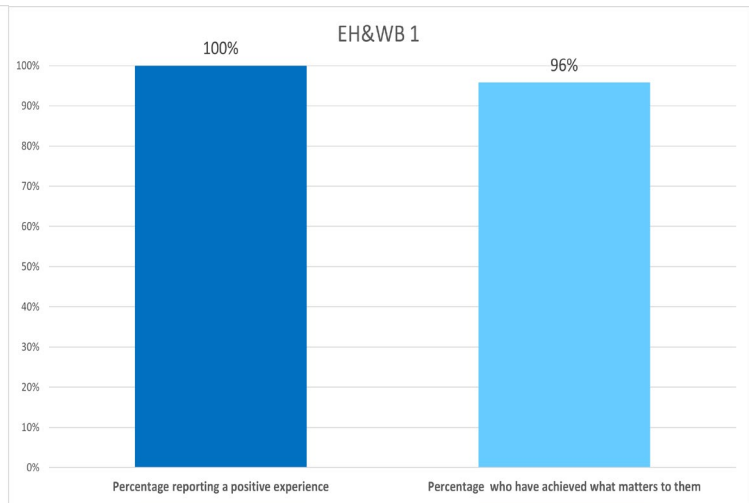
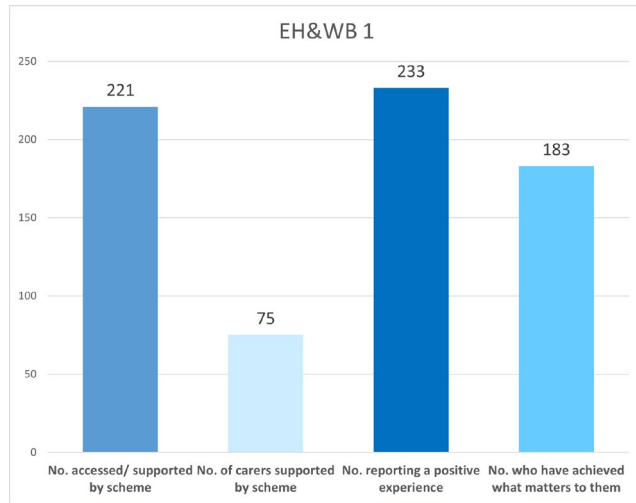


# Performance Measure Data by Project within Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination (CBC PC) Model of Care

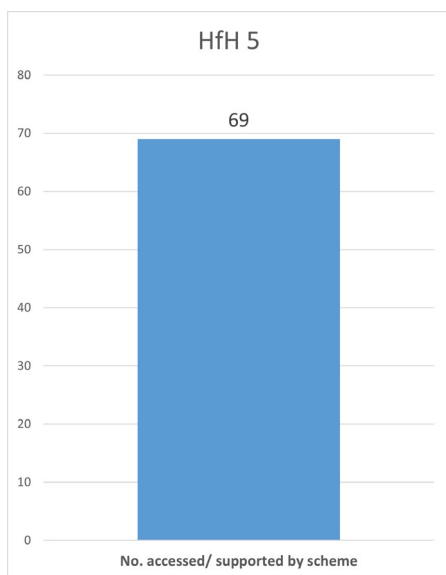
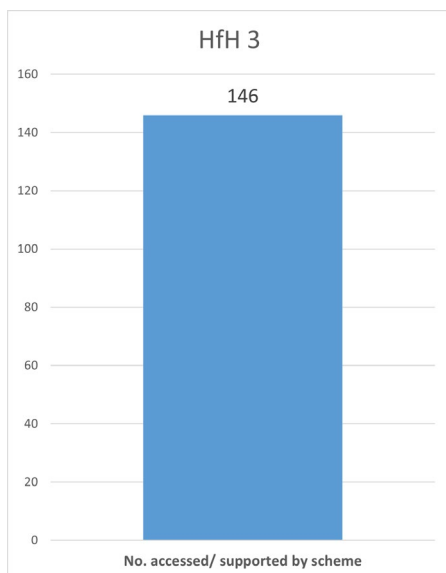




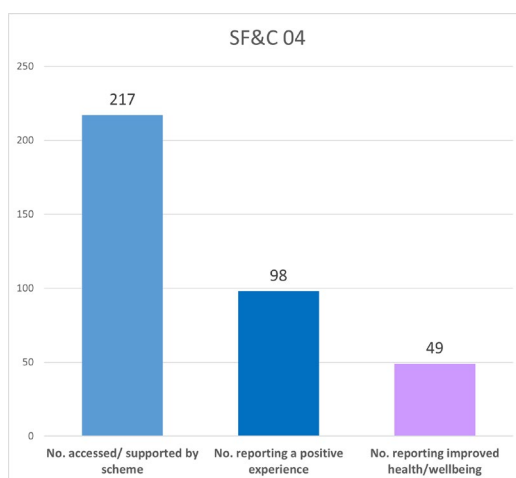
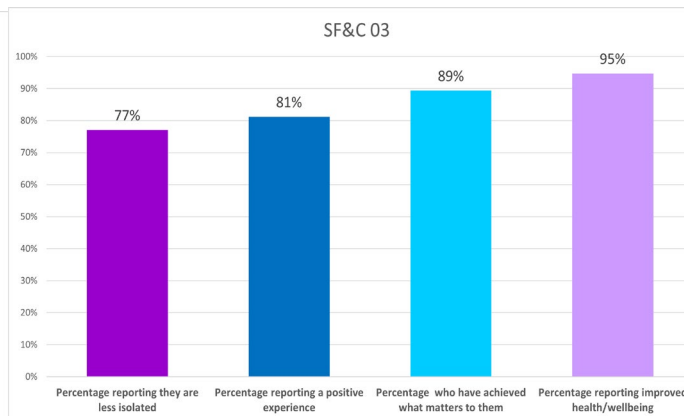
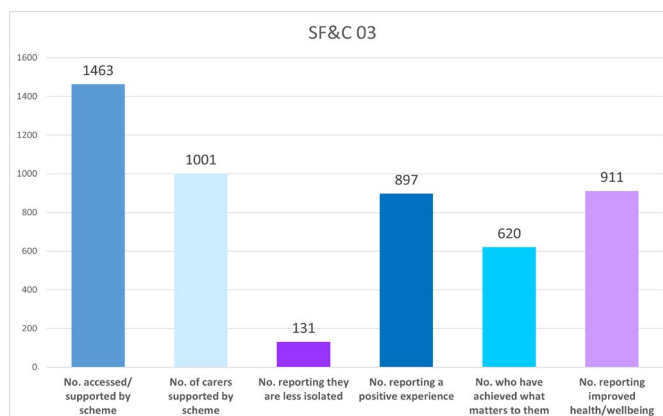
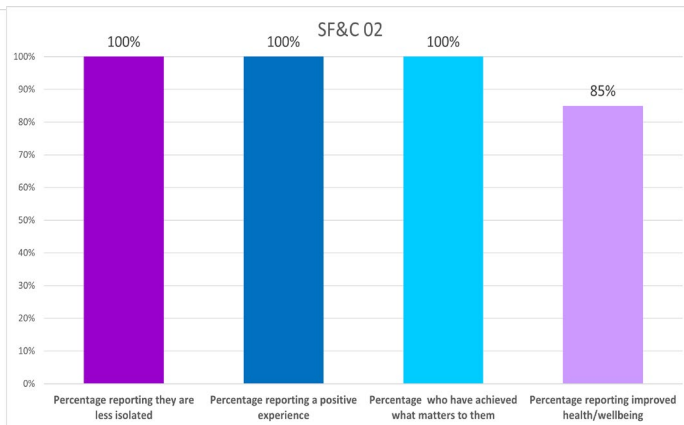
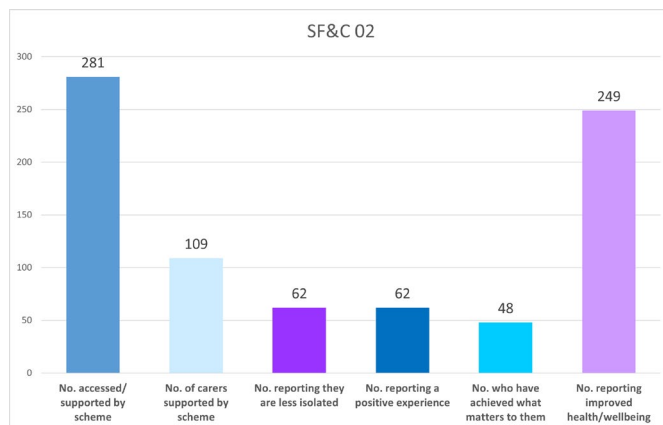
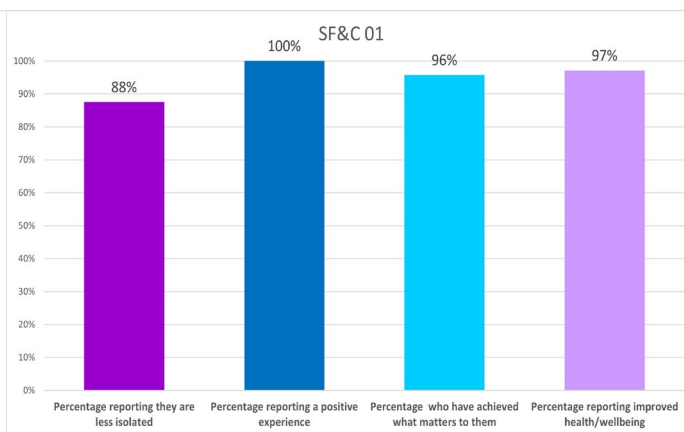
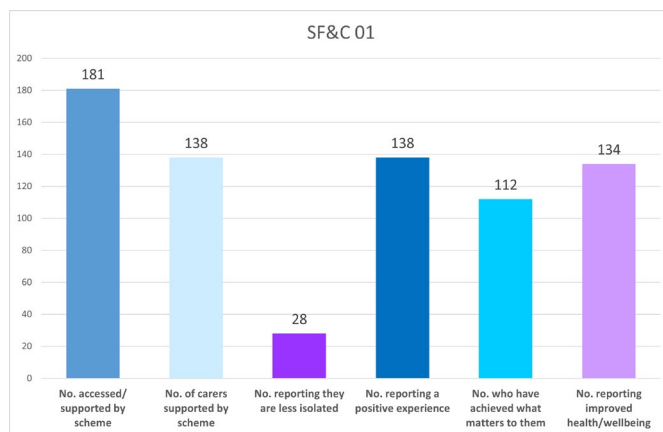
# Performance Measure Data by Project within Promoting good emotional health and well-being (EH & WB) Model of Care

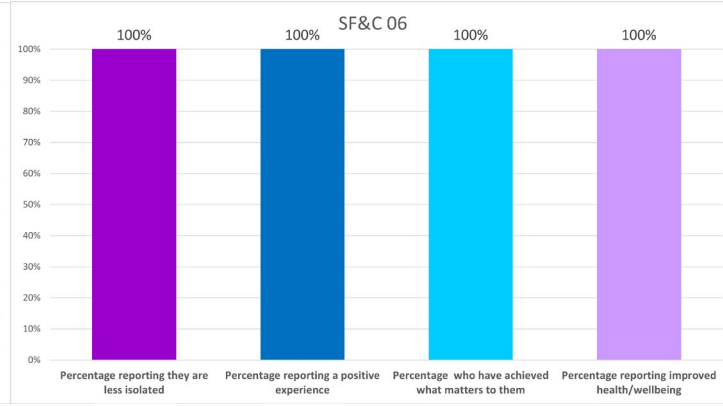
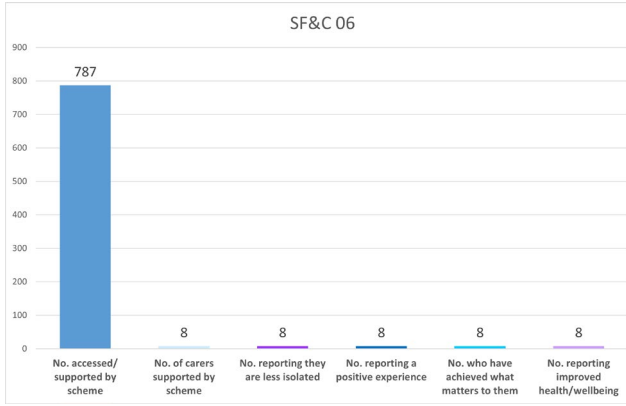
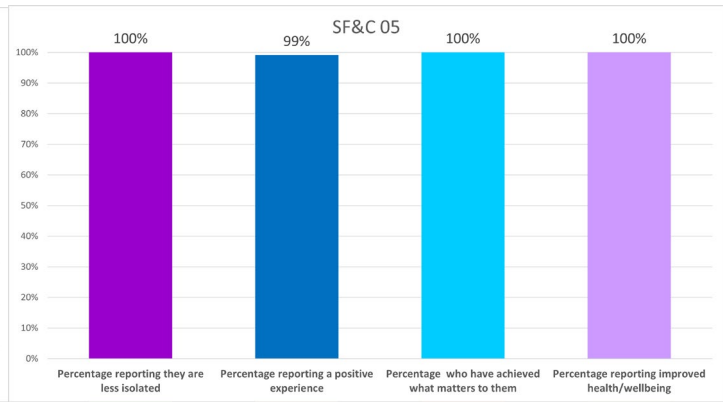
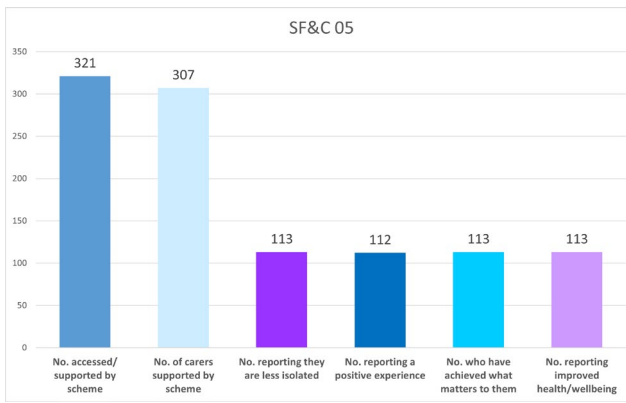


# Performance Measure Data for Projects within Home from Hospital (HfH) Model of Care



# Performance Measure Data for Projects within Supporting Families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children (SF & C) Model of Care







<b>Report to</b>	<b>Partnerships Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>14 September 2023</b>
<b>Head of Service</b>	<b>Lisa Jones, Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Scrutiny Work Programme</b>

## **1. What is the report about?**

1.1 The report seeks Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to review its draft forward work programme (see Appendix 1). As part of its review the Committee is asked to reflect on how Scrutiny can support the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and its aim of becoming Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030, whilst also prioritising matters which the Committee deems important to scrutinise.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

2.1 To seek the Committee to review and agree on its programme of future work, and to update members on relevant issues.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That the Committee

- 3.1 considers the information provided and approves, revises or amends its forward work programme as it deems appropriate; and
- 3.2 determines whether any key messages or themes from the current meeting should be publicised via the press and/or social media.

## 4. Report details

- 4.1 Section 7 of Denbighshire County Council's Constitution sets out each Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference, functions and membership, as well as the rules of procedure and debate.
- 4.2 The Constitution stipulates that the Council's scrutiny committees must set, and regularly review, a programme for their future work. By reviewing and prioritising issues, members are able to ensure that the work programme delivers a member-led agenda.
- 4.3 For a number of years it has been an adopted practice in Denbighshire for scrutiny committees to limit the number of reports considered at any one meeting to a maximum of four plus the Committee's own work programme report. The aim of this approach is to facilitate detailed and effective debate on each topic.
- 4.4 In recent years the Welsh Government (WG) and Audit Wales (AW) have highlighted the need to strengthen scrutiny's role across local government and public services in Wales, including utilising scrutiny as a means of engaging with residents and service-users. From now on scrutiny will be expected to engage better and more frequently with the public with a view to securing better decisions which ultimately lead to better outcomes for citizens. AW will measure scrutiny's effectiveness in fulfilling these expectations.
- 4.5 Having regard to the national vision for scrutiny whilst at the same time focussing on local priorities, the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) recommended that the Council's scrutiny committees should, when deciding on their work programmes, focus on the following key areas:
- budget savings;
  - achievement of the Corporate Plan themes (with particular emphasis on their deliverability during a period of financial austerity);
  - any other items agreed by the Scrutiny Committee (or the SCVCG) as high priority (based on the PAPER test criteria – see reverse side of the 'Member Proposal Form' at Appendix 2);

- Urgent, unforeseen or high priority issues; and
- Supporting the Council's recovery work in relation to the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on Council services, the local economy and the county's communities

#### 4.6 Scrutiny Proposal Forms

As mentioned in paragraph 4.2 above the Council's Constitution requires scrutiny committees to prepare and keep under review a programme for their future work. To assist the process of prioritising reports, if officers are of the view that a subject merits time for discussion on Scrutiny's business agenda they have to submit a formal request to the SCVCG seeking Scrutiny to consider a report on that topic. This is done via the submission of a 'proposal form' which clarifies the purpose, importance and potential outcomes of suggested subjects.

- 4.7 With a view to making better use of scrutiny's time by focussing committees' resources on detailed examination of subjects, adding value through the decision-making process and securing better outcomes for residents, the SCVCG decided that members, as well as officers, should complete 'scrutiny proposal forms' outlining the reasons why they think a particular subject would benefit from scrutiny's input. A copy of the 'member's proposal form' can be seen at Appendix 2. The reverse side of this form contains a flowchart listing questions which members should consider when proposing an item for scrutiny, and which committees should ask when determining a topic's suitability for inclusion on a scrutiny forward work programme. If, having followed this process, a topic is not deemed suitable for formal examination by a scrutiny committee, alternative channels for sharing the information or examining the matter can be considered e.g. the provision of an 'information report', or if the matter is of a very local nature examination by the relevant Member Area Group (MAG). No items should be included on a forward work programme without a 'scrutiny proposal form' being completed and accepted for inclusion by the Committee or the SCVCG. Assistance with their completion is available from the Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

### Community Safety Partnership

- 4.8 Officers from the Conwy & Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership were due to present their Annual Report to the Committee at the current meeting. However, due to officers not being available to attend the current meeting, the Chair permitted the deferral of the report's presentation until the Committee's next meeting on 26 October 2023 (see Appendix 1)

### Cabinet Forward Work Programme

- 4.9 When determining their programme of future work it is useful for scrutiny committees to have regard to Cabinet's scheduled programme of work. For this purpose, a copy of the Cabinet's forward work programme is attached at Appendix 3.

### Progress on Committee Resolutions

- 4.10 A table summarising recent Committee resolutions and advising members on progress with their implementation is attached at Appendix 4 to this report.

## **5. Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group**

- 5.1 Under the Council's scrutiny arrangements, the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) performs the role of a coordinating committee. The Group met on 25 July 2023. At that meeting it considered a number of request for items to be scrutinised and as a result it allocated one item for inclusion on this Committee's forward work programme. That item, which stems from a Notice of Motion to County Council, relates to 'Blue Flag Status for Denbighshire's Beaches'. It is currently listed on the forward work programme for a report to be submitted to the Committee at its meeting on 7 November 2024 (see Appendix 1). Representatives from Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water will be invited to attend for the discussion.

- 5.2 The Group's next scheduled meeting is on the 3 October 2023.

## **6. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?**

6.1 Effective scrutiny will assist the Council to deliver its Corporate Plan in line with community needs and residents' wishes. Continual development and review of a coordinated work programme will assist the Council to deliver its corporate themes, improve outcomes for residents whilst also managing austere budget and resource pressures.

6.2 Whilst the decision on the Committee's forward work programme itself will have a neutral contribution on the Council's aim of becoming Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030, the Committee by effectively scrutinising all matters examined by it can help support the delivery of this ambition.

## **7. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

7.1 Services may need to allocate officer time to assist the Committee with the activities identified in the forward work programme, and with any actions that may result following consideration of those items.

## **8. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

8.1. A Well-being Impact Assessment has not been undertaken in relation to the purpose or contents of this report. However, Scrutiny through its work in examining service delivery, policies, procedures and proposals will consider their impact or potential impact on the sustainable development principle and the well-being goals stipulated in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## **9. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

9.1. None required for this report. However, the report itself and the consideration of the forward work programme represent a consultation process with the Committee with respect to its programme of future work.

## **10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

10.1 No risks have been identified with respect to the consideration of the Committee's forward work programme. However, by regularly reviewing its forward work programme the Committee can ensure that areas of risk are considered and examined as and when they are identified, and recommendations are made with a view to addressing those risks.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

11.1 Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

11.2 Section 7.11 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that scrutiny committees and/or the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group will be responsible for setting their own work programmes, taking into account the wishes of Members of the Committee who are not members of the largest political group on the Council.

Note: Items entered in italics have not been approved for submission by the Committee. Such reports are listed here for information, pending formal approval.

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
26 October	<i>Cllr. Rhys Thomas</i>	1. <i>Setting of Affordable Rent Levels</i>  <i>(Representatives from RSLs and the private rented sector landlords to be invited for the discussion)</i>  <b>TBC</b>	<i>To examine the criteria and mechanism for setting 'affordable' rent levels in Denbighshire (including for Council Housing stock RSL and private rented sector housing)</i>	<i>To determine whether the Council can influence the application of the methodology with a view to delivering its corporate themes relating to a Denbighshire of quality housing that meets people's needs and a fairer, safe and more equal area.</i>	<i>Emlyn Jones/Liz Grieve/Angela Loftus/Jane Abbott</i>	<i>By SCVCG April 2023</i>
<b>NWP Chief Inspector for Denbighshire to be invited to attend for this item</b>	<b>Cllr. Rhys Thomas</b>	2. <b>Community Safety Partnership [Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee]</b>	To detail the Partnership's achievement in delivering its 2022/23 action plan and its progress to date in delivering its action plan for 2023/24. The report to include financial sources and the progress	Effective monitoring of the CSP's delivery of its action plan for 2022/23 and its progress to date in delivering its plan for 2023/24 will ensure that the CSP delivers the	Nicola Kneale/Sian Taylor	September 2022 (rescheduled July 2023)

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			made in spending the allocated funding.  (report to include actual numbers as well as percentages to enable the Committee to effectively evaluate the impact of measures put in place)	services which the Council and local residents require		
14 December						
8 February 2024						
21 March						
16 May						
4 July	<b>Leader</b>  (NWEAB Programme Office reps also to attend)	1. North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report 2023/24	To consider the Board's Quarter4/Annual Report on its work and progress during 2023/24	To ensure that the Board delivers its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB/Tony Ward	July 2023



Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
	<b>Cllr. Elen Heaton</b>	2. Annual Report on Adult Safeguarding 2023/24	To consider the annual report on adult safeguarding, and information in place to meet the statutory requirements of the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 and an evaluation of the financial and resource impact of the Supreme Court's 2014 Judgement on deprivation of liberty on the Service and its work  (data to include actual numbers in each category as well as % figures and the actual number of allegations proven)	An evaluation of whether the Authority is meeting its statutory duty with respect to adult safeguarding and has sufficient resources to undertake this work along with the additional work in the wake of the Supreme Court's judgement	David Soley/Alaw Pierce/Nerys Tompsett	July 2023
12 September	<b>Cllr. Rhys Thomas</b>	1. Community Safety Partnership <b>[Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee]</b>	To detail the Partnership's achievement in delivering its 2023/24 action plan and its progress to date in delivering its action plan for 2024/25. The	Effective monitoring of the CSP's delivery of its action plan for 2023/24 and its progress to date in delivering its plan	Nicola Kneale/Sian Taylor	July 2023

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			<p>report to include financial sources and the progress made in spending the allocated funding.</p> <p>(report to include actual numbers as well as percentages to enable the Committee to effectively evaluate the impact of measures put in place)</p>	for 2024/25 will ensure that the CSP delivers the services which the Council and local residents require		
	<b>Cllr. Elen Heaton</b>	2. North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2023/24	To provide an overview of the Regional Partnership Board's activities during 2023/24 and its priority areas for 2024/25	Ensure that the Board is working effectively to support the delivery seamless health, social care and well-being services for Denbighshire residents and the wider North Wales region	Nicola Stubbins/Catrin Roberts	July 2023
7 November	<b>Cllr. Barry Mellor</b>	1. Blue Flag Status for Denbighshire's Beaches	To explore the work being undertaken with partner organisations in a bid to received blue flag status accreditation for	To seek assurances or make recommendations to ensure that all	Tony Ward/Emlyn Jones	By SCVCG July 2023 (in response to a Notice of Motion to

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
		(Reps from NRW & Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water to be invited to attend)	as many as possible of the county's beaches	partners are working effectively together to achieve the accreditation with a view to boosting the local tourism and recreational economy and ultimately lead to wider economic benefits and support the delivery of a greener, fairer, safer and more equal Denbighshire		County Council)
19 December						

**Future Issues**

Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered

**For future years**


**Information/Consultation Reports**

Information / Consultation	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author	Date Entered
<b>Information Report</b> (for circulation December 2023)	Quarterly Monitoring of External Care Providers	To provide details of the regular monitoring of external care service providers commissioned by the council for social care services, identifying any escalating concerns or other areas of concern	Katie Newe/Liana Duffy/Zoe Bradley-Ashcroft	By SCVCG 2018
<b>INFORMATION REPORT</b> (for circulation in Sept (Q1), Nov/Dec (Q2) & February (Q3) each year) <b>Feb, Sept &amp; Nov 2023</b>	North Wales Economic Ambition Board	To provide information on the Board's performance and progress in delivering its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB/Tony Ward	December 2021
<b>INFORMATION REPORT</b> (September 2024)	Collaborative Procurement Service's Annual Report	To receive information on the collaborative Service's activity and performance during 2023/24	Gary Williams/Lisa Jones/Karen Bellis	September 2023

<b>INFORMATION REPORT</b> (upon publication – late 2023?)	Welsh Government's report on mould & condensation in social housing in Wales	To circulate the Welsh Government's report on following its review of how social housing landlords in Wales respond and deal with reported incidents of mould & condensation in their housing stock.	Emlyn Jones/Angela Loftus/Geoff Davies	May 2023
--	--	--	--	----------

Updated 06/09/2023 – RhE

**Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines**

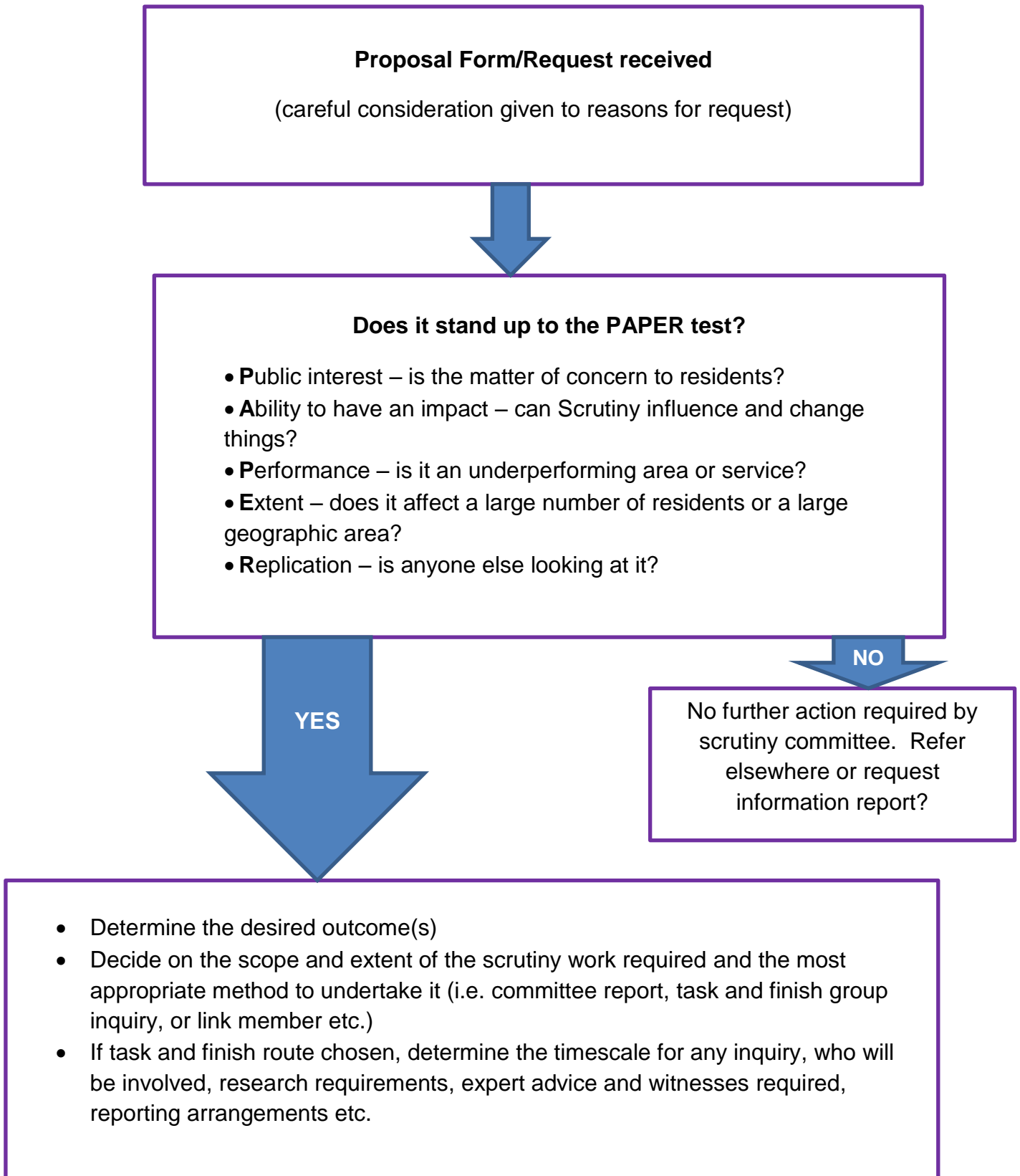
Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
26 October	<b>12 October</b>	14 December	<b>30 November</b>	8 February 2024	<b>25 January 2024</b>

Partnerships Scrutiny Work Programme.doc

This page is intentionally left blank

<b>Member Proposal Form for Scrutiny Forward Work Programme</b>	
<b>NAME OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>TIMESCALE FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	
<b>TOPIC</b>	
<b>What needs to be scrutinised (and why)?</b>	
<b>Is the matter one of concern to residents/local businesses?</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Can Scrutiny influence and change things?</b> (if 'yes' please state how you think scrutiny can influence or change things)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Does the matter relate to an underperforming service or area?</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Does the matter affect a large number of residents or a large geographical area of the County</b> (if 'yes' please give an indication of the size of the affected group or area)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Is the matter linked to the Council's Corporate priorities</b> (if 'yes' please state which priority/priorities)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>To your knowledge is anyone else looking at this matter?</b> (If 'yes', please say who is looking at it)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>If the topic is accepted for scrutiny who would you want to invite to attend e.g. Lead Member, officers, external experts, service-users?</b>	
<b>Name of Councillor/Co-opted Member</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

## Consideration of a topic's suitability for scrutiny





## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
<b>19 September</b>	1	Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID): ballot for 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-year term	To request a decision on whether DCC should vote “yes” or “no” in the ballot to determine whether there should be a 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5-year term for the Rhyl BID	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Tony Ward
	2	Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn – New Build Project	To seek Cabinet endorsement of the preferred site for the progression of the new build project for Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	Yes	Cllr Gill German Lead Officer – Geraint Davies Report Author – James Curran / Lisa Walchester
	3	Regional Strategic Capital Plan – Regional Integration Fund – Health & Social Care	To seek Cabinet agreement and sign off that the Regional Strategic Capital Plan reflects the priorities for integrated health and social care in Denbighshire	Yes	Cllrs Elen Heaton and Gill German Lead Officer / Report Author – Ann Lloyd
	4	Annual Treasury Management Review Report 2022/23	To give a review of the Treasury Management activities over the previous financial year (2022/23)	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer – Steve Gadd Report Author – Rhys Ifor Jones
	5	Updated Denbighshire Procurement Strategy (2022 – 2027)	To seek adoption of the updated Denbighshire Procurement Strategy	Yes	Cllr Julie Matthews Lead Officer – Lisa Jones Report Author – Karen Bellis

## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	6	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	7	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators
<b>24 October</b>	1	North East Wales Archive project	To provide Cabinet with an update, to review the options appraisal and seek authorisation to submit a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant application, noting the required match funding contribution if successful	Yes	Cllr Emrys Wynne Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Craig Berry / Sian Price
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator

## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
<b>21 November</b>	1	Care Home Fee Setting 2024/25	To brief Cabinet on the outcome of the Regional 2024/25 Care Home Fee Setting process and seek approval for Denbighshire's response to its recommendation	Yes	Cllr Elen Heaton Lead Officer / Report Author – Nicola Stubbins / David Soley
	2	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)	To seek approval for re-submission of the draft amended GTAA to the Welsh Government	Yes	Cllr Win Mullen-James Lead Officer – Tony Ward Report Author – Angela Loftus / Kimberley Mason
	3	Council Performance Self-Assessment Update – July to September	To present an update on the council's performance against its functions, including Corporate Plan and Strategic Equality objectives	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer – Nicola Kneale Report Author – Emma Horan
	4	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators

**Cabinet Forward Work Plan**

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
<b>19 December</b>	1	North Wales Construction Framework (NWCF) Phase 3	To approve the NWCF following the procurement exercise	Yes	Cllr Julie Matthews Lead Officer – Lisa Jones Report Author – Karen Bellis
	2	North Wales Velodrome Business Case	To consider the business case for the North Wales Velodrome Project		Cllr Rhys Thomas Tony Ward / Jamie Groves
	3	Housing Rent Setting & Housing Revenue and Capital Budgets 2024/25	To seek approval for the proposed annual rent increase for council housing and to approve the Housing Revenue Account Capital and Revenue Budgets for 2024/25 and Housing Stock Business Plan	Yes	Cllr Rhys Thomas Lead Officer/Report Author Geoff Davies
	4	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet’s attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<b>Deadline</b>	<i>Meeting</i>	<b>Deadline</b>	<i>Meeting</i>	<b>Deadline</b>
----------------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------

**Cabinet Forward Work Plan**

<b>5 September</b>	<i>19 September</i>	<i>24 October</i>	<b>10 October</b>	<i>21 November</i>	<b>7 November</b>

Updated 05/09/2023 – KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

This page is intentionally left blank

## Progress with Committee Resolutions

Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
6 July 2023	5. North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report 2022/23	<p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b> subject to the above comments and observations to –</p> <p>(i) receive the North Wales Economic Ambition Board's Quarter 4 report and its Annual Report on its work and progress during 2022/23; and</p> <p>(ii) recommend to officers that the aims and objectives of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board be communicated to Denbighshire's city, town and community councils in order that they may actively engage with the Board and its work for the benefit of the county's communities.</p>	Lead Member and officers informed of the Committee's observations and recommended actions
	6. Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID) Re-Ballot	<p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) subject to the above observations to receive the contents of the draft Business Improvement District (BID) Business Plan 2024-2029 (Appendix 1 to the report);</p> <p>(ii) subject to there being no significant change(s) to the current BID proposals which would impact on the factors which influence the use of the power of veto as identified in Section 51(2) of the Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005, to support the Officer recommendation that there were no grounds for the Council to exercise the power of veto in relation to the ballot; and</p>	Lead Member and officers informed of the Committee's recommendations ahead of the proposals' presentation to Cabinet on 19 September 2023

		(iii) to support the steps and timescales involved in the re-ballot process, including the steps to take the process through Denbighshire County Council's democratic process.	
	<b>7. Annual Report on Safeguarding Adults in Denbighshire 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b>	<b><u>Resolved:</u></b> subject to the above observations to acknowledge – (i) the work and efforts undertaken during 2022/23 in relation to safeguarding adults in Denbighshire; and (ii) the importance of the Council's corporate approach towards the safeguarding of adults at risk and its responsibility in viewing it as a key priority area.	Lead Member and officers advised of the Committee's comments and recommendations
	<b>8. Scrutiny Work Programme</b>	<b><u>Resolved: to –</u></b> (i) confirm its forward work programme as set out in Appendix 1 to the report; and (ii) to appoint the following representatives to serve on the respective Service Challenge Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Joan Butterfield – Housing &amp; Communities</li> <li>• Councillor Pauline Edwards – Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital &amp; Assets</li> <li>• Councillor Peter Scott – Corporate Support Service: People</li> </ul>	Officers within the Performance, Digital and Assets Service who coordinate the Service Challenge Group meetings have been informed of the Committee's appointments