

APPENDIX 2 – Statutory Guidance – Part 9 – Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2016

The key aim of co-operation, partnership and integration are described the Statutory Guidance as:

- to improve care and support, ensuring people have more say and control
- to improve outcomes and health and well-being
- provide co-ordinated, person centred care and support
- make more effective use of resources, skills and expertise.

The objectives of the Regional Partnership Boards are to ensure the partnership boards work effectively together to:

- respond to the population needs assessment carried out in accordance with section 14 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act
- implement the plans for each of the local authority areas covered by the board which local authorities and local health boards are required to prepare and publish under section 14A of the Act
- Ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements, in accordance with their powers under section 167 of the Act
- Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate.

Regional Partnership Boards will also be required to prioritise the integration of services in relation to:

- Older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia
- People with learning disabilities
- Carers, including young carers
- Integrated Family Support Services
- Develop integrated services for children with complex needs due to disability or illness and for children and young people with mental health problems. This includes transition arrangements from children to adult services
- Ensure that pooled funds are established and managed for the exercise of care home accommodation and family support functions as well as for functions that will be exercised jointly as a result of an assessment carried out under section 14 of the Act. Pooled funds in relation to care home accommodation are required from 6th April 2018.

Statutory guidance lists those who must be members of the Regional Partnership Board as follows however, regions can co-opt

- At least one elected member of a local authority which established the regional partnership board

- At least one member of a Local Health Board which established the regional partnership board
- The person appointed as director of social services under section 144 of the Act in respect of each local authority which established the regional partnership board, or his or her nominated representative
- A representative of the Local Health Board which established the regional partnership board
- Two persons who represent the interest of third sector organisations in the area covered by the regional partnership board
- At least one person who represents the interests of care providers in the area covered by the regional partnership board
- One person to represent people with needs for care and support in the area covered by the regional partnership board
- One person to represent carers in the area covered by the regional partnership board.

With regard to North Wales each local authority will be represented by its statutory director and Cabinet/Executive/Lead Member for Social Services. It has also been agreed by the Shadow Body that the North Wales Board will invite representatives of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the North Wales Police, the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority and the Fire Service to be co-opted onto the Board.

Appropriate arrangements should be made at a strategic level to engage with other boards and organisations as needed. There is also a need to foster engagement through existing networks or forums wherever possible. In North Wales there is a desire to ensure that existing forums such as Local Service Boards/ Public Service Boards. (See Chart in Appendix 1) are connected to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and able to influence its work. There is also a project to map relevant regional and area/local partnerships and needs assessments required by law with a view to ensuring an efficient use of resources and that each partnership and assessment is, as far as practicable, complementary to the other. The new Board should have a loose reporting arrangement to the North Wales Regional Leadership Board.

There is a requirement that the Regional Partnership Board prepares and submits to Welsh Ministers an annual report on the extent to which the board's objectives have been achieved. The first report must be prepared and submitted by 1st April 2017 – this report must be published and include information on the membership of the Regional Partnership Board; information on how the board has met its objectives including financial information and progress reports; details of the partnership arrangements in place to respond to the joint population needs assessment and priority areas; how the board has engaged with service users or groups representing service users; information on how the partnership arrangements have contributed to improved outcomes and service delivery and how resources have been effectively utilised; information on the statutory provisions used or informal arrangements underpinned by written agreement.