

Report To: Council Meeting

Date of Meeting: 20th February 2018

Lead Member / Officer: Cllrs Huw Hilditch-Roberts & Bobby Feeley

Report Author: Sarah Bartlett; Gary Major

Title: **North Wales Population Assessment Regional Plan**

1. What is the report about?

The North Wales Population Assessment Regional Plan. The plan is the joint area plan required by the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) 2014 Act and the Care and Support (Area Planning) (Wales) Regulations 2017.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required on the approval of the Regional Plan.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 To approve the draft North Wales Population Assessment Regional Plan.
- 3.2 That the Committee confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment (Appendix C) as part of its consideration.

4. Report details

- 4.1 Local authorities and the health board in the North Wales region must produce a joint area plan in response to the population assessment by 1 April 2018. It should be a five year plan. In North Wales we have agreed to call the plan the 'Population Assessment Regional Plan' to avoid confusion with the three health board areas.
- 4.2 The statutory guidance states: "Where a combined population assessment report has been produced, local authorities and LHBs should produce a joint area plan. These joint area plans must provide a description of the range and level of services proposed to be provided, or arranged, to respond to the care and support needs, and the support needs of carers, identified in the combined population assessment reports.
- 4.3 Joint area plans must focus on the integrated services planned in response to each core theme identified in the population assessment. As part of this, joint area plans must include:
 - the actions partners will take in relation to the priority areas of integration for the Regional Partnership Boards;
 - the instances and details of pooled funds to be established in response to the population assessment;
 - how services will be procured or arranged to be delivered, including by alternative delivery models;
 - details of the preventative services that will be provided or arranged;

- actions being taken in relation to the provision of information, advice and assistance services; and
- actions required to deliver services through the medium of Welsh”

4.4 Social Care Wales and Welsh Government produced a template for the plan, which we have used as a basis for the North Wales draft regional plan. The first draft of the plan was based on the findings of the population assessment and what we legally must do and was approved at the Regional Leadership Group on 30 June 2017 and the Regional Partnership Board on 21 July 2017.

4.5 The consultation on the draft plan took place between 11 August and 17 November 2017. The purpose of consulting on an early version of the draft plan was to involve as many people as possible in writing and shaping the plan at an early stage in the project. The findings from the consultation have been incorporated into a revised draft of the plan and a full consultation report has been produced (Appendix B).

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

5.1 The plan is supportive of Corporate Priorities, particularly in the areas of Housing, Resilient Communities and Young People. The Regional Plan will build on insights provided by the Population Assessment to reflect and support decision-making around the planning and commissioning of services to meet the needs of specific population groups.

5.2 The plan will have an impact on anti-poverty strategies by aiming to improve the way social care and health needs are met. There are strong links between poverty and health inequalities which this work help address. There are links with crime and disorder through the chapter on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

5.3 A Wellbeing Impact Assessment and consultation report has been completed for the plan. Further Impact Assessments will need to be carried out as detailed plans are developed under each of the strategic priorities.

5.4 The report will also consider the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 including sustainability. We have carried out a well-being impact assessment on this plan (Appendix C).

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

6.1 The North Wales Social Care and Wellbeing Services Improvement Collaborative funds a Regional Project Manager to support the project and associated costs including translation and specialist engagement.

6.2 There is a cost to local authorities, BCUHB and Public Health Wales in staff time to support the project. This includes staff to carry out engagement work with the public, service users, staff and elected members and staff to support the writing of the population assessment and regional plan.

6.3 There will resource implications to delivering the priorities in the regional plan. More information is available in the plan and in detailed scope and delivery plans prepared for each priority.

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

- 7.1 The aim of the plan is to show how we will meet people's care and support needs and the support needs of carers in North Wales. If the plan's aims are achieved it should have a positive impact on people's health, reduce inequalities and support the development of cohesive communities in North Wales.
- 7.2 There are potential negative impacts which may result, particularly from difficult choices about where to prioritise investment which may disadvantage some groups over others. There are also potential positive and negative impacts from the way we will commission, procure and use and develop physical assets in the region to meet care and support needs.
- 7.3 The impact assessment has highlighted some potential impacts of the strategic regional plan and we recommend that the impacts continue to be assessed as further strategic and operational decisions are made about how to implement the plan.
- 7.4 The approach taken to completing the Well-being Impact Assessment was to hold a facilitated session on 10 October 2017, inviting people from each local authority and the health board to take part. The draft produced at the session was reviewed on 1 December 2017 by the project steering group which includes representatives from each local authority, BCUHB and Public Health Wales. The Well-being Impact Assessment was reviewed at Denbighshire County Council's Quality Assurance Group on 31 November 2017.
- 7.5 The intention of the plan is to influence decision making and allocation of resources. How it will work practically will become clearer. We considered a number of different scenarios to complete the impact assessment which will need to be reviewed as more information becomes available. We need to ensure we understand the impact of the plan on people with protected characteristics and how we can manage impact/remove negatives, and what impact that will have on finances. Carrying out the impact assessment also identified risks which need to be transferred to the project risk register.

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

- 8.1 Consultation on the plan took place between 11 August and 17 November 2017 (see 4.5 above and Appendix B)
- 8.2 The draft plan was circulated to all Members of Denbighshire County Council by email on 26 October 2017.
- 8.3 The proposed route for the report is:
- Approval by the Regional Leadership Group 15 December 2017 and Regional Partnership Board 11 January 2018
 - Approval by local authorities and the health board (January to March 2018)
 - Publication (1 April 2018)

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The plan will help inform strategic planning and priorities for care and related support across the region. Careful consideration will have to be given to how resources are prioritised in support of the Plan.

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

- 10.1 The risk that the plan will not meet Welsh Government's requirements under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. To mitigate, the report is based on the template produced by Social Care Wales and we are working closely with Welsh Government through the regional leads group.
- 10.2 The risk that the plan will not meet the needs of the Regional Partnership Board, carers and people who need care and support. To mitigate, we have consulted and engaged with a wide range of stakeholders.
- 10.3 The risk that there will not be capacity in the region to deliver any additional or expanded priorities over and above the current priorities of the Regional Partnership Board.

11. Power to make the Decision

It is essential to gain the approval of the Full Council to the Regional Plan before it is adopted as the final version. The final version will need to be shared with the Welsh Government and made available on the County Council's website.

Appendices	A. North Wales Regional Plan B. North Wales Regional Plan Consultation Report C. North Wales Regional Plan Well-being Impact Assessment (includes the Equality Impact Assessment).
Background papers	North Wales population assessment: www.northwalescollaborative.wales Area plan statutory guidance: http://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/170206statutory-guidanceen.pdf Social Care Wales area plan template and guidance: https://socialcare.wales/hub/hub-resource-sub-categories/planning-and-promoting