



VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING.

27th June 2013.

Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Barry.

Present:

Cllr Neil Moore – VoGC
Sian Davies – VoGC
Huw Isaac – VoGC
Helen Moses – VoGC
Francesca Howorth – VoGC
Dr. Sharon Hopkins – Cardiff and Vale UHB
Bob Tooby – Ambulance Trust
Anne Wei – Cardiff and Vale UHB
Daniel Jones – Welsh Government
Rachel Connor – Vale Centre for Voluntary Services
John Harrison – Natural Resources Wales
Peter Greenhill – Wales Probation Trust
Gary Osborne – South Wales Police
Rob Thomas – VoGC (agenda items 9 & 10)

Apologies:

Dr. Mark Picton – RWE Npower
Catherine Roberts – Abertawe Bro Morgannwg UHB
Alexandra Howells – Abertawe Bro Morgannwg UHB
Kay Martin – Cardiff and Vale College
Phil Pinches – South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

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| 1. <u>Welcome and apologies for absence.</u> | |
| 2. <u>Minutes of Local Service Board meeting 18 April 2013.</u> Agreed as an accurate record. | |
| 3. <u>Minutes of Local Service Board Implementation Group meeting 30 May 2013.</u> Noted. | |
| 4. <u>Matters Arising.</u> There were no matters arising. | |

5. South Wales Programme

Sharon gave a brief summary of the South Wales Programme, which seeks to regionalise the provision of consultant-led accident and emergency care, inpatient paediatric services and neonatal and obstetric services. Sharon explained that following a previous engagement phase which looked at six option models on how to provide these services across South Wales, benefit criterion were developed against which each option would be assessed. The criterion consisted of safety, quality, sustainability, access, equity and strategic fit.

After consideration of these issues, two of the six possible options have been ruled out. The remaining four options are now being consulted on. Sharon explained that each of the four options include three hospitals that are considered to be fixed points because of the range of services they provide and the size of the population they cover: University Hospital Wales, Cardiff, Morriston Hospital, Swansea and a new hospital to be built near Cwmbran which will be a Specialist and Critical Care Centre taking specialist services from the Royal Gwent in Newport and Nevill Hall in Abergavenny. In addition to these three fixed hospitals, each possible option includes either one or two of the following: Prince Charles Hospital, Royal Glamorgan Hospital and Princess of Wales Hospital.

Each of the options has been assessed against a wide range of factors including the benefit criterion above. The option which has emerged from the process as having the least impact on all the factors the South Wales Programme has considered, and is therefore the best fit, is option three – concentrating these services on five hospitals: UHW, Morriston, SCCC, Prince Charles and Princess of Wales hospitals.

Sharon wished to highlight that only a small number of services and a small number of people, namely the sickest and most critically injured patients, who require 24 hour consultant led care, will be affected. Sharon advised that a number of public consultation events and meetings have been held in the Vale, along with a briefing session for Members. Community Health Councils have chaired the public meetings and there has been a high level of attendance at many of the events in the Vale.

Feedback suggests that most concerns are based around the accessibility to the chosen sites through public transport; trust in the Ambulance Service; and whether the A&E department at University Hospital Wales will be able to cope with the additional numbers of patients. Sharon also advised that from consultation events held in the Vale, there is a high level of concern from the public regarding the provision of older

people's services. As a result the UHB will look to hold future engagement events in the Vale on this issue.

Following the consultation period, the five health boards involved in the South Wales Programme will meet to consider the feedback and decide which option model will be implemented. Sharon was unable to provide an exact timeframe on when the changes may take place as this will depend on whether a consensus from all the health boards on which option to proceed with is reached. It will also take time to implement the changes; however it is expected that the changes to Paediatric services will come into effect very soon after a decision is made because of the fragility of the current service.

Anne informed the group that after deciding which option will be taken forward, consideration will also have to be given as to whether the chosen sites have the capacity for these extra patients and whether there will be knock-on effect for more planned services at the specialist hospital sites.

There was a discussion on the implications of the programme. Peter wanted to know more about the knock-on effects for planned services and whether this will be a small number of services or on a large scale. Sharon advised that it is not possible to tell the exact implications at the present time. Although the extra numbers of patients coming in to each site would be small, they are considered 'bed heavy' cases. As the health boards are unable to increase the physical numbers of beds available in the hospitals, they would look to create additional bed space through moving what are considered 'bed light' services to hospital sites not included in the option chosen. The effect of moving services is hoped to be minimal and result in some services being provided more locally for patients. However, if moving these services does not create the additional capacity needed at each site, then further public engagement and consultation would be held on moving more 'bed heavy' services as these are often more co-dependent on other departments.

Cllr Moore said that feedback from Elected Members suggests that there should have been a public consultation event held in Penarth due to its size. Other feedback included that the fact the changes will only affect the very sick and injured needs to be emphasised more as there are a lot of misconceptions amongst the public that all patients will be affected and that A&E departments at sites other than those in the chosen model will be closing.

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| <p>The group also expressed concerns over the transport implications of the programme. Cllr Moore highlighted the point that University Hospital Wales currently has good road infrastructure in place. Patients from Caerphilly and the surrounding areas use the hospital due to the access from the A470 and patients from Newport use the hospital due to the links provided by the M4 and A48. The new site planned in Cwmbran does not have the same transport infrastructure in place. Bob also highlighted that the transport issue affects patients and their families wishing to visit.</p> <p>John raised the issue of the longer term impacts on sustainability and that there may be an opportunity to encourage people to use more sustainable transport methods to access the hospitals. Sharon advised that the issue of community transport provision to the chosen sites was raised at the public meeting in Cowbridge.</p> <p>Dan advised that Welsh Government recognise that transport and access to health services is a major issue and have appointed Frances Duffy to look into health and transport configuration.</p> <p>Peter asked Sharon if the capital money to build the new site at Cwmbran is secure. Sharon advised that the bid for the funding is at the 2nd stage of being passed through Welsh Government, and it is not possible to state with certainty that the money will be forthcoming. It remains though that the Royal Gwent hospital is not suitable for modern day healthcare.</p> <p>Anne highlighted that it was discussed at the previous Implementation Group meeting whether there would be a collective LSB response to the consultation. The group agreed that each organisation would want to submit their own response.</p> <p>Sharon encouraged partners to respond to the consultation and to read the additional information available on the website and in the full consultation document. She also said that the health boards are not just interested in learning whether people agree with the best fit option, but the reasons why.</p> <p>Anne asked partners to help distribute hardcopies of the consultation documents.</p> | <p>All</p> <p>All</p> |
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6. Public Service Leadership Group Feedback

Sian provided the group with feedback from the latest meeting of the Public Service Leadership Group. One of the main discussions was on the issue of information sharing and that the current guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office could prove to be a barrier to this. Although the default position should be for partners to share information, the guidance states that a genuine reason to share must first be established. Sian feels that a different approach should be taken whereby the reasons not to share are looked at instead.

Sian also referred to a recent meeting of the Council's Information Governance Board where the issue was discussed and said that work is now taking place to ensure that information sharing is at the top of the agenda when working on collaboration projects. Sian highlighted that common information sharing systems are vital to the success of collaborative projects, and feels that more effort and money needs to be invested in the process of information sharing to improve joint working and ultimately save money in the long term.

Sian also suggested that this may be an issue for a joint Cardiff and Vale LSB to consider.

Members of the group agreed that guidance on information sharing can often prove to be a barrier to collaborative working and Peter gave the example that developing a WASPI for an integrated family support scheme in Cardiff and the Vale had proved problematic, taking over 12 months to develop.

Sharon advised that the NHS agree that the issue needs further work and was discussed at a Kings Fund meeting. A default needs to be set to achieve a common goal, and this involves looking at the issue from a customer's perspective.

7. Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery

Sian informed the group that a letter from the Commission and a call for evidence has recently been sent out. The remit of the call for evidence is wide but this allows freedom in the response. Sian advised that the questions included touch on issues such as the complexity and scale of public sector organisations. Sian felt that changing organisational structures is not always the solution as the complexity simply becomes an internal issue under one roof rather than across a number of

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| <p>organisations. Sian said that because of this, the work of the Commission is to consider how the public sector works, not how it is structured. The barriers to collaboration need to be considered along with how these barriers are overcome.</p> <p>Sharon agreed and felt the earlier discussion regarding overcoming barriers to information sharing is again critical to improving the way that public sector services are delivered. Sharon felt rules and regulations should be set up to be enablers of joint working rather than barriers.</p> <p>Dan pointed out that the South Wales Programme is a good example of how the concept of scale in delivering public services can be key and that the scale at which services are provided sometimes needs to change to ensure service delivery is sustainable. Dan also advised that in light of the proposed Sustainable Development Bill, Welsh Government would welcome feedback on what the barriers to collaborative working are and how guidance can be changed to overcome such barriers.</p> <p>Dan advised that the Commission is interested in hearing a joint view from partners on collaborative working and the group agreed that there should be an LSB response.</p> <p>It was agreed that each organisation will draft their own response and then any commonalities from each will be established to draft a joint response. Helen advised that as the deadline to respond to the Commission is 31 August, each partner should consider their own response before the 25 July Implementation Group meeting. A discussion can then take place in the group to inform an LSB response to be approved at the August LSB meeting.</p> <p>Sian added that the response should be evidence based.</p> | All |
| <p>8. <u>Estyn Inspection, Adult Community Learning Partnership, February 2013</u></p> <p>Sian advised the group that the outcome of the Estyn Inspection of the Adult Community Learning Partnership was that the partnership and services are judged to be unsatisfactory. She said that this is a partnership issue which clearly has to be addressed. The judgement of unsatisfactory specifically concerns adult learning. There has been a separate Estyn inspection of the Council's Education Service and although the official report is not yet available, initial feedback has been more positive.</p> | |

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| <p>Sian highlighted that the outcome was centred on three main issues: not enough analysis of the courses delivered takes place: there is not enough focus on the ultimate goal set by Welsh Government of getting people back into work: and performance data for the partnership is lacking.</p> <p>Sian advised that the biggest issue is that there is not enough evidence to support the work undertaken by partners. The courses provided are more than sufficient to meet the demand of service users in the Vale but there is no robust evidence base or data that can be presented to support this position. In general, client satisfaction with the service is high and feedback is positive but this needs to be supported by stronger evidence.</p> <p>Sian advised that to address this issue there will be closer working with Cardiff and that work will take place to bring together evidence of what the needs are in the Vale alongside evidence of what is being delivered.</p> <p>Sian suggested that the formal Estyn report of the Education Service, which will be available soon, is placed on the agenda for a future meeting and that a representative from the Learning and Skills Partnership attends to discuss both reports.</p> | HM |
| <p>9. <u>Regeneration Funding</u></p> <p>Rob informed the group that Welsh Government guidance has been published for applicants to access Welsh Government targeted regeneration investment. The guidance is entitled "Vibrant and Viable Places".</p> <p>Rob advised that all 22 Local Authorities have been invited to bid for funding of up to £5 million per year, for three years starting in April 2014. An outline bid must be submitted to Welsh Government by 12 July and those that make it through the first round must then submit a stage 2 bid by 4 November. The outcome will be decided in the New Year in order for funding to be in place by April 2014. Rob informed the group that in responding to the initial consultation on Vibrant and Viable Places the Council drew attention to the fact that the Vale of Glamorgan is a non-Convergence area and that as a result there is a risk that areas of disadvantage, particularly Barry, could be doubly disadvantaged should funding go to other areas. The point was also made that continued regeneration in the Vale of Glamorgan can build upon several successful examples of intervention such as the Enterprise Zone, the Airport Task Force and the Communities First Cluster.</p> | |

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| <p>Rob highlighted that the priority areas for funding are projects focused on town centres, coastal towns and towns with Communities First clusters. Given that the Council recently produced a Town Centres Framework, there is a Communities First Cluster in Barry and the town's coastal location, it is felt that Barry is in a positive position for a bid to be successful</p> <p>Rob outlined that the Minister for Housing and Regeneration has made it clear that his emphasis is on the home, and this is an overarching theme to the programme, along with town centres. Rob also advised that four key indicators will be used to assess applications. These are investment levered in (split by private, public and third sectors), net additional jobs created, people supported into work (including through targeted recruitment and training) and percentage of spend retained within Wales-based supply chains (this will be tracked over the lifetime of the programmes, but will not be assessed during the application process). Bids can also include feasibility work and existing legacy programmes that would benefit from additional funding.</p> <p>Peter asked Rob how the linkages between the Minister's emphasis on the home and town centres would be made in a bid. Rob gave a number of examples. One such idea is that there is a large amount of vacant space on the upper floors of retail units in Barry town centre, and a project could be set up to convert this space into accommodation. John felt that there were a number of emerging issues around the environment that could be referred to in the bid such as a project to improve the quality of the Vale's bathing beaches, or a project around minimising flood risks to provide safer homes.</p> <p>Rob stated that there are a number of good ideas and that a challenge exists in determining a shortlist of projects to be included in the bid. Rachel added that the Minister has encouraged third sector involvement in the bid, and she will meet with Rob to discuss this.</p> <p>Peter added that the Probation Trust is always keen to involve offenders in community work schemes and projects linked to the community and regeneration.</p> | <p>RC/RT</p> |
| <p>10. <u>Town Centres Framework</u></p> <p>Rob provided the group with a brief update on the Town Centres Framework which was produced by consultants Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners. The Council commissioned the consultants to produce a framework to guide the future of the five principal town centre areas in the Vale of Glamorgan – Holton Road Barry, High Street and Broad Street Barry, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth.</p> | |

Rob advised that the document is now available to view online and that a number of consultation events will now be held in the above areas with stakeholders such as Town Councils, members of the public and local traders. Comments and feedback from the events will determine if any amendments to the document should be made before it is adopted as the Council's policy for town centres.

Rob also highlighted that the two key strands running throughout the document are the accessibility of town centres in the Vale, along with how to maximise the opportunities of being in close proximity to Cardiff rather than seeing this as a negative.

11. Continuity and Change - Refreshing the Relationship between Welsh Government and the Third Sector In Wales

Rachel provided the group with an overview of a formal Welsh Government consultation launched in May which seeks to refresh the crucial relationship between Welsh Government and the Third Sector. Rachel highlighted that the document is vital for the future of the third sector and that any changes will have implications for third sector funding across Welsh Government.

Rachel drew the groups attention to chapter 3 of the document, which proposes changes to the way in which funding may be allocated in future to make provision for innovative work at a regional level. Rachel advised these proposed changes in the way funding is allocated could mean the Vale would fall into a category unable to access the funding and a County Voluntary Council may not then be viable. Rachel highlighted that in the past there was only a regional CVC in Cardiff and that this did not work for the Vale. There is also potentially an issue around the timing of the consultation given that the work by the Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery is currently taking place.

Rachel advised that two consultation events have taken place in the Vale and that an event was held in Merthyr by Welsh Government. Rachel informed the group that a document showing the responses of local groups will be available shortly.

Rachel encouraged partners to respond to the consultation and stressed that there may be major implications for the third sector in the Vale of Glamorgan.

It was agreed that partners should respond separately to the consultation.

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| <p>12. <u>Cardiff and Vale Joint LSB Project</u></p> <p>Huw presented the group with a report setting out the project specification on work taking place using the Regional Collaboration Fund to consider the feasibility of forming a joint Cardiff and Vale LSB. Huw drew the group's attention to the project governance and structures and asked to group to note the key timescales for the work to take place.</p> <p>He advised that presentations will take place next month to appoint external consultants to undertake the work.</p> | |
| <p>13. <u>Partnerships Arrangements Position Report</u></p> <p>Huw provided the group with the background to the report and explained that earlier in the year the Vale LSB had agreed to review the effectiveness of partnership arrangements. This was then deferred in the light of the work taking place to examine the feasibility of joint LSB arrangements with Cardiff.</p> <p>In preparation for this, the Council produced a report setting out the current partnership structures. The report does not make recommendations and is meant as a position report to provide information for partners.</p> | |
| <p>14. <u>Information and Engagement Strategy</u></p> <p>Huw explained in the light of Priority Outcome 1 of the Community Strategy ("people of all ages are actively engaged in life in the Vale and have the capacity and confidence to identify their own needs and those of the community") and Priority Outcome 2 ("the diverse needs of local people are met through the provision of customer focused, accessible services and information"), that an Information and Engagement Strategy has been drafted. An action plan on how to progress work on achieving these outcomes has also been produced. Huw advised that the Business Intelligence Group and Vale Viewpoint Survey are two main mechanisms to undertake the work contained in the action plan.</p> <p>Sharon felt that the strategy is important to improve information sharing between partners and that partners need to consider how to ensure there is interplay across organisations on engagement. Sharon felt that the action point regarding improving the skills of engagement practitioners across partners was crucial. John agreed and said that it is important for partners to learn from others and note what lessons can be learnt from past engagement events.</p> <p>Huw highlighted that a network of engagement practitioners has been set up following a business capacity building event held in February.</p> | |

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| <p>Helen also advised that Rob Jones, the Council's Consultation Officer, has been working with officers from partner organisations to ensure information of what consultation events are taking place is passed on. The possibility of commissioning joint training for consultation officers is also being explored. Helen stated that the Council's Partnership team are happy to be the first point of contact for anyone wanting information on forthcoming events or on how to link in with partners.</p> <p>The LSB endorsed the strategy and action plan.</p> | All |
| <p>15. <u>Local Service Forum 2013</u></p> <p>Huw advised partners that work will soon take place on planning this year's Local Service Forum, a one-day event to take place in Autumn as in previous years.</p> <p>One of the major focuses at this year's event will be a session on drafting the new Community Strategy Delivery Plan for 2014-2018 which will be informed by work currently taking place through the Business Intelligence Group to refresh the Unified Needs Assessment. As in previous years there will also be a number of presentations made, and suggestions on possible topics would be welcome.</p> <p>Rachel suggested that the theme of Welfare Reform should be followed up from last year's event due to the changes to welfare benefits that have taken place this year.</p> <p>Rob suggested that if the bid for regeneration funding discussed earlier is successful at the first round, a presentation on the bid could be given and a breakout session take place for anyone interested in providing feedback and comments in time for the 2nd round bid submission in November.</p> | |
| <p>16. <u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Helen reminded the group of the Children and Young People's Partnership Anti-Poverty Event taking place on 11 July in Hebron Hall, Dinas Powys. Helen advised that Sian Griffiths will give a presentation on health inequalities in the Vale and there will also be a presentation on education inequalities.</p> <p>Helen advised that there are still places available at the event.</p> | |
| <p>17. <u>Date of next meeting – Thursday 22nd August 2013 @ 10am, Committee Room 1, Civic Offices.</u></p> | |