

Meeting of:	Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, 09 January 2024
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Healthy Living and Social Care
Report Title:	Update on the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board
Purpose of Report:	To update Members on the work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board in relation to the integration of health and social care
Report Owner:	Lance Carver, Director of Social Services
Responsible Officer:	Cath Doman, Director of Health and Social Care Integration
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Cabinet Member, Social Care and Health. Social Services Senior Management Team.
Policy Framework:	This report is consistent with the Policy Framework and Budget
<p>Executive Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This paper provides Members with a briefing on the work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board (RPB). • The report summarises the progress of the RPB made since the last report in January 2023, recognising the severe financial and capacity challenges across the partnership and the associated effect on the progress of more strategic developments. • Full details of the activities and impact of the RPB can be found in the 2022/23 RPB Annual Report, the link to which is provided later in this document. 	

Recommendations

1. To consider the work being undertaken by the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board, and progress made, in particular the outcomes being achieved for local people.
2. To receive further annual updates on the work of the Board.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. To increase awareness of the work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board of which the Vale of Glamorgan Council is a major partner.
2. To ensure that Members are informed of and engaged with the work of the Regional Partnership Board.

1. Background

- 1.1 Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 requires Local Authorities to 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.
- 1.2 Local Authorities and Health Boards are required to establish *Regional Partnership Boards* (RPBs) to secure strategic planning and partnership working and to ensure effective services, care and support are in place to meet the needs of their respective populations. The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan RPB was established in April 2016.
- 1.3 The objectives of the RPBs are to ensure that the partnership bodies work effectively together to:
 - Respond to the population needs assessment carried out in accordance with Section 14 of the Act;
 - Implement the plans for each of the Local Authority areas which are covered by the Board, which Local Authorities and Health Boards are each required to prepare and publish under Section 14 of the Act;
 - Ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the Partnership Arrangements;
 - Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate.
- 1.4 Over time, RPBs have widened their remit to prioritise the integration of services in relation to a much broader range of people:
 - Older people with complex needs and long-term conditions, including dementia
 - People with learning disabilities
 - Children with complex needs

- Carers, including young carers
 - Integrated Family Support Services
 - Children with disabilities and/or illness
 - Children who are care experienced
 - Children who need care and support
 - Children who are at risk of becoming looked after
 - Children with emotional and behavioural needs
 - Young People as they transition between Children and Adult Services
- 1.5** The Chair of the RPB is currently Councillor Eddie Williams, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health, Vale of Glamorgan Council. The Chair will move to the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board from April 2024. Cllr Williams will remain a member of the Board.
- 1.6** This Report provides an update following the last report to the Scrutiny Committee on the 10 January 2023.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1** The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 require that each Regional Partnership Board must prepare an annual report on the extent to which it has met its objectives. The 2022/23 Annual Report of the RPB is available on the Partnership's website [here](#).
- 2.2** Our partnership has experienced a great deal of challenge in the last year due to the current financial climate, increasing costs, recruitment, retention and capacity constraints. This is unlikely to abate in the near future and working with partners becomes increasingly important to deliver effective and efficient services.

RPB funding arrangements – revenue

- 2.3** Welsh Government introduced a 5-year fund to support the delivery of integrated care across Wales in April 2022. The Regional Integration Fund (RIF) has continued to support many of the successful projects and services delivered across the Vale of Glamorgan.
- 2.4** The Vale of Glamorgan Council currently receives c.£2,974,173 from the RIF (23/24 estimate).

RPB funding arrangements - capital

- 2.5** Capital funding streams overseen by the partnership include the Housing with Care Fund (HCF), which supported the development of housing-related care and support and intermediate care, while the Integration and Rebalancing Care Fund (IRCF) targets the development of integrated health and wellbeing hubs, rebalancing the residential care market and supporting the elimination of profit from children's services.

- 2.6 As a partnership, we are developing a 10-year Strategic Capital Plan, enabling us to take a whole system view on the capital developments needed to support people to live well in their communities.
- 2.7 In the Vale, schemes for adults with learning disabilities are being designed and developed in partnership with First Choice Housing Association (FCHA). One scheme has secured funding and construction is due to start, a further scheme has been submitted to Welsh Government for consideration.
- 2.8 Additional schemes including community living for older people at Penarth Older Persons Village and schemes for residential care for Children and Young people are being prepared for HCF submission.
- 2.9 Funding for additional planning capacity is being made available to Vale of Glamorgan Social Services to develop capital plans to support service delivery and modernisation.

Commissioning

- 2.10 The Regional Commissioning Board has reviewed the **Market Stability Report** this year, providing an assessment of the stability and sufficiency of the care market to meet the needs of the local population.
- 2.11 Scrutiny Committee considered the changes to the market since publication of the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Market Stability Report (MSR) and the local priorities at their meeting on Tuesday, 5th December 2023.

Joined up services for winter

- 2.12 The RPB brings together the partners to plan to meet the additional demands placed on the health and care system during the winter period, although the distinction between winter and the rest of the year has become less marked in terms of changing demand.
- 2.13 The RPB has supported the Council to invest in an innovative falls service, commissioning St John's Ambulance to respond to fallers and help them stay at home as part of the Telecare service. This service is ensuring that people who can stay at home do so and reduces demand on both ambulance and hospital services.

Vale of Glamorgan Pan Cluster Planning Group

- 2.14 Building upon Welsh Government's initiatives for Primary Care, 2023 has seen the emergence of Pan Cluster Planning Groups, bringing together the planning and delivery of local health services for the county. The Groups are in their infancy, and the Vale PCPG is now chaired by Jason Bennett, Head of Adult Social Care and Vale Alliance for the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- 2.15 As the PCPGs mature, they will increase the opportunity to work much more closely with primary care, the third sector and other partners to better coordinate the development and delivery of health and wellbeing support and services for the Vale's citizens.

The RPB's work programme

- 2.16** In 2023, the RPB published its second [Joint Area Plan 2023-28](#). This sets out the Regional Partnership Board's commitments for the next 5-year period. Informed by the 5 yearly Population Needs Assessment and the Market Stability Report, the Joint Area Plan (JAP) gives us the opportunity to consider what the needs of our population are, and the ability of our collective services to respond.
- 2.17** The JAP focuses on what we need to work on together to be able to make the changes needed to improve outcomes for local people. It is therefore written in the context of the Vale's own plans and those of the other partners (Cardiff Council and the Health Board). It also builds upon and extends work which is already underway: dementia plan, @home programme, work to support children and young people with emotional wellbeing and mental health needs for example.
- 2.18** A summary of its key commitments is outlined below:

Making a Difference – Our Commitments for 2028

We will:

- Work together to keep our babies, children and young people healthy, well and safe from harm
- Deliver a Nurturing, Empowering, Safe and Trusted approach to emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Improve the support offer for babies, children and young people with complex needs.

People with **Learning Disabilities** will have the ability to live as independently as possible in their local community.

We will support all people in our region to have the opportunity to live positive, independent lives without being affected by **violence and abuse**.

Unpaid Carers will be recognised for the vital contribution they make to the community and the people they care for and enabled to do the things they want to alongside caring.

We will build a co-produced plan with stakeholders and people with **mental health needs** that enables people to do the things that matter most to them.

With people with **physical and sensory disabilities** we will find out more about their needs, experiences and priorities, developing and delivering changes that enable people to live as independently as possible.

Neurodiversity services will have strengthened provision with a focus on providing the right support at the right time.

People will be able to **age well** at home with more opportunities for wellbeing and independence. Services will reflect the diversity of people as they age well.

People with **Dementia** will be supported to live well and do the things they need to and enjoy in their communities.

- 2.19** The Joint Area Plan was developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including the Vale's Public Service Board and Pan Cluster Planning Group before being endorsed by the Vale of Glamorgan Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee in June 2023. Examples of the commitments we have made for people in the Vale of Glamorgan include:
- Service delivery improvements aligned to NEST for babies, children and young people.
 - Support to meet the new national guidance on neurodiversity requirements.
 - Improved services for people with learning disabilities to live closer to home with the right support and maximise their independence.

- Delivery of the Unpaid Carers Charter including ongoing provision of the Carers Gateway.
- Provision of the @Home programme including a *Safe@Home* crisis response intermediate care service.
- Delivering clear community-based pathways for timely assessment and diagnosis for people with Dementia

2.20 As a partnership, we work together to support people when they need it at every stage in their lives. Our work is organised around three life-stage themes:

- **Starting Well:** giving every child the best start in life.
- **Living Well:** supporting people to live well and do the things that matter to them.
- **Ageing Well:** enabling people to stay independent as they become older.

Starting Well headlines

2.21 We want every baby, child and young person in Cardiff and Vale to have the opportunity to thrive. Our Starting Well Programme covers three key areas:

- emPOWER: Emotional health and wellbeing
- Children with complex needs and disabilities
- Early Years Pathfinder

2.22 During 2022-23 the Vale worked collaboratively with the UHB's Youth Board and children and young people, supported by third sector partners to coproduce emPOWER as the name of our partnership programme for emotional mental health priorities.

2.23 The emPOWER programme is a partnership commitment across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to develop services and systems that work together to deliver better outcomes and experiences for babies, children, and young people.



Film: Vale of Glamorgan: Families First Advice Line

2.24 In January 23, the Vale launched its multi-agency *No Wrong Door* approach ensuring the young person gets the right support from the right services through a joint approach. The attached film gives an overview of some of these multi-agency practices.

2.25 In September 2022, the region committed to developing an integrated model of wrap around support for children and young people in distress. The young people named it *Goleudy* meaning Lighthouse in Welsh. The service aims to provide the right support at the right time to best meet their needs.

2.26 The Early Years Pathfinder has been delivering additional support across the region during 2023, with additional activity in the Vale of Glamorgan to support and upskill the workforce. *Non-Violent Resistance* practice has been piloted with 36 practitioners, with positive results for practitioners supporting families.

2.27 Additional activity has included access to *Early Positive Approaches to Support* for parents, and the delivery of *Community Connection* sessions to support families who have a child on the Neurodevelopment Team waiting list for assessment.

Living Well headlines

2.28 Unpaid carers

2.28.1 The [Cardiff and Vale Unpaid Carers Charter](#) was formally launched on 24th March 2023. This sets out the commitments of all partners in the region in ensuring unpaid carers are recognised and supported for their vital contribution.

2.28.2 The RPB unpaid carer representatives, organised and hosted the first Regional Unpaid Carers Assembly on 20th November 2023 at Sophia Gardens. The event was attended by unpaid carers from across the region, Julie Morgan - Deputy Minister for Social Services (photo below), Helledd Fychan - MS for South Wales Central along with unpaid carer organisations, Vale of Glamorgan Council information services and Cllr Eddie Williams.



2.28.3 The Carers Gateway, based in Penarth (but supporting unpaid carers regionally), reached 494 carers this year and provided support directly to them, such as information, advice, wellbeing support and short breaks.

2.29 People with neurodiversity

2.29.1 The Cardiff and Vale Integrated Autism Service (IAS) celebrated five years of supporting autistic adults and their carers in our region in 2022. Staff and people who had used the service reflected on their time with the IAS: [Click here to see their comments](#)

2.29.2 Additional funding (Early Years Pathfinder & the Neurodivergence Programme Funding) has seen developments in capacity to support assessment and diagnoses and access to support whilst waiting across infants, children and young people's services, in addition to transition support for people with care and support needs and neurodiversity.

2.30 People with learning disabilities

2.30.1 The Vale of Glamorgan Local Authority welcomed the first residents into a purpose-built **transition smart house** in Penarth, for young adults with a learning disability transitioning from school or college. Using a range of the most up-to-date smart technologies, young people will be supported to develop their independence within the home for a maximum of two years prior to moving into longer-term accommodation.



2.30.2 In this film, Shyanne shares her story of how the Smart House is helping her achieve her goal of independent living and Innovate Trust share how working in partnership is improving outcomes for people:

<https://youtu.be/odA667NwRfM?si=cGpF9EM77pvDpcPx>

2.30.3 Cardiff and Vale UHB employs 2 people with lived experience who are hosted within the Learning Disability Teams based in Hen Goleg (Vale of Glamorgan) and the Parade (Cardiff). These staff support the outreach to people with learning disabilities in the community and have reached 150 individuals with a learning disability between April – September 2023 to provide information about health checks, and keeping well. They also deliver Learning Disability Champion Training and information sessions to staff across the health board and local authorities.



2.30.4 This short video shows how services are benefitting from directly employing people with a lived experience [Stacey and Joanna's Story - Lived Experience - YouTube](#)

Ageing Well headlines

The RPB's Ageing Well theme is currently focusing on two important areas of work:

2.31 People with dementia

2.31.1 **Vale** of Glamorgan Council has been working with communities and local businesses to ensure that the Vale is Dementia Friendly and people know how to access local support. The website gives an overview of how this important work supports people living with dementia and their carers: [News \(dementiafriendlyvale.com\)](https://www.dementiafriendlyvale.com). The Dementia Programme leads were able to support the Dementia Friendly Cowbridge Open Day, helping to support engagement in more rural areas, as well as raising awareness of dementia and the support available within the Vale.



- 2.31.2 We are now halfway through the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan’s Dementia Strategy, a ten-year plan which links with national strategies including the National Dementia Action Plan and the All-Wales Dementia Care Pathway of Standards.
- 2.31.3 Particularly within the Vale, our Dementia Friendly Community Officers have been working to support businesses and organisations to become more dementia aware, to give confidence to those living with dementia and their unpaid carers and family that the community can offer support and understands dementia. This year alone, from April to September, there have been commitments from 65 businesses in the Vale to take dementia friendly action, along with training 874 people in the Vale to become Dementia Friends.
- 2.31.4 In addition, this year across the region the programme has:
- Trained over 650 people to support people with dementia
 - Held 28 Awareness Sessions in the community to help people understand more about dementia
 - Memory Link Workers have supported 2,000 people to help them get support more easily
 - Our commissioned partners Mental Health Matters (MHM) supported 9000+ people with activities during their stay in hospital
 - [Listen to the Dementia Learning & Development Team speaking about their proudest moments](#)

2.32 @home programme

- 2.32.1 This is a major programme dedicated to developing community-based integrated care services, focused on enabling people to remain healthy well and independent at home. In the Vale, this builds on a strong foundation of the integrated Vale Community Resources Service, Wellbeing Matters, and integrated roles.
- 2.32.2 Focus over the last year has been bringing partners together to develop plans around a joint crisis response service called *Safe@Home*. This service is aimed at avoiding people going to hospital unnecessarily through supporting people with their needs at home. The development has been strongly supported by all partners including Vale of Glamorgan Adult Services. Phase 1 for the Vale locality is to provide additional GP and Advance Nurse Practitioner support, along with the existing VCRS provision to respond and support people safely remain at home.
- 2.32.3 In addition, the programme has been working with clusters to develop a multidisciplinary approach; this is already well established within central and western Vale, but is also now being developed within eastern Vale. In 6 months, April-September, these MDT meetings were able to support 224 individuals through a joined-up approach.
- 2.32.4 Finally, the *Wellbeing Matters* service in the Vale aims to bring together health, social care and third sector support into a single point of access. Health and

Adult Services staff are housed together in a contact centre in Barry and work together to support the person's needs. This service has seen these elements work more closely together and implement a 'What Matters?' process to ensure they capture the important outcomes in the person's own voice. In 6 months, April-September, this supported 36,905 individual contacts. [Listen to people involved with @Home speak about what the programme has achieved.](#)



2.33 Forward look

- 2.33.1 As partners continue to deliver services in the most challenging of circumstances, the attention of the RPB has turned increasingly to consolidating and strengthening existing arrangements that are demonstrating a positive impact and improved outcomes for people.
- 2.33.2 As partners are ensuring that funding routed through the RPB is used in ways that reduce the impact of the financial sustainability challenges, rather than placing further obligations on stretched core funding streams.
- 2.33.3 The RPB is mindful of the need to continue to safeguard and maintain investment in prevention and joint working as a long-term strategy to reducing overall demand and associated financial risk.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1 The work of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board plays a key role in supporting the delivery of sustainable social services in the long term. Engagement, integration, involvement, collaboration, and prevention are all founding principles of the Partnership as demonstrated within the Terms of Reference for the Board.
- 3.2 The emerging programmes set out above, will enable the RPB to have a greater impact on the delivery of the wellbeing objectives.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1 There are no Climate Change and Nature Implications as a direct result of this report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1 Welsh Government has introduced the new 5-year Regional Integration Fund during 22/23. The fund will include support to deliver:
 - National programmes e.g. dementia and integrated autism services.

- RPB infrastructure to deliver part 9 duties of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act.
- Acceleration of the delivery of new care models.
- Embedding of successful projects previously funded by ICF and other funds.
- Support to the social value (third) sector.

5.2 The expectation that partners will contribute match funding over the period of the new fund is being challenged by the RPB, recognising the financial context prevents this.

Employment

5.3 The RIF predecessor funds (ICF and Transformation Fund) have enabled the employment of key staff within the Council. Every effort has been taken to limit the number of permanent roles. Nevertheless, the 7-year period of the ICF's existence along with the need to secure key skills set from a limited pool of availability has meant that a significant pool of permanent staff are now funded through this short-term resource. In the transition from ICF/Transformation Fund to the RIF, the RPB has ensured that all posts dependent on that funding have been secured, notwithstanding the risk set out above in paragraph v as a result of reducing WG funding over the lifetime of the RIF.

Legal (Including Equalities)

5.4 The work outlined in this report sets out the progress of the RPB in meeting the requirements of Part 9 of the SSWWA.

6. Background Papers

The Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2022/23 can be found [here](#).

Report to Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee: 10th January 2023; 11th January 2022; 12th January 2021; 14th January 2020.