

Meeting of:	Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, 12 January 2021
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 and Senior Management Team
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive decision
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This paper seeks to brief Members of the progress made by the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board (RPB). • Members are encouraged to explore the real impact of the RPB through case studies which can be accessed at the link provided at the end of this report. • The report summarises the progress of the RPB made since the last report in January 2020, recognising the major impact of COVID-19 on services across the partnership and the associated effect on the progress of more strategic developments. • The report concludes with an overview of the key priorities in the coming year, including plans to facilitate long-term financial sustainability for those projects which have proven themselves to be fundamental in supporting successful outcomes for people across the region. 	

Recommendations

1. To note the work being undertaken by the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board, and progress made, including, 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 and to ensure links to the wider Vale of Glamorgan Local Authority agenda and key priorities are considered and ensured.
2. To keep Members apprised on the work of the Regional Partnership Board.

1. Background

- 1.1 Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWWA) 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 Part 9 of the Act provides for partnership arrangements between Local Authorities and Local Health Boards (LHBs) for the discharge of their functions. It also provides Welsh Ministers with regulatory powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.
- 1.3 Local Authorities and LHBs are required to establish Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) to secure strategic planning and partnership working between local authorities and LHBs and to ensure effective services, care and support are in place to best meet the needs of their respective populations.
- 1.4 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 LHBs 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.
- 1.5 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 are in need of 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
- 1.6** The SSWWA came into force on 6th April 2016 and the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board (RPB) met for the first time on 22nd April 2016. The Terms of Reference, membership and the governance structure are provided as background papers.
- 1.7** The RPB is currently chaired by Cllr Susan Elsmore, Cabinet Member for Cardiff Council, however in April 2021 the chair will transfer to Cllr Ben Gray, Cabinet Member for Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- 1.8** This Report provides an update following the last report to the Scrutiny Committee on 8th January 2019.

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 2019/20 Annual Report of the RPB is available on the Partnership's website at <https://cvihsc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Cardiff-and-Vale-of-Glamorgan-PRB-Annual-Report-2019-20-FINAL.pdf>. The report summarises the activities and impact of the work of the RPB, therefore its contents are not repeated in this report but attention is drawn to the main themes arising from the RPB in the last year and also its forward plan.

2.2 COVID-19

The last year has of course been dominated by the COVID19 pandemic. The Committee will be fully aware of the profound impact that this has had on individuals, communities and on the delivery of health and care services.

In the initial phase of COVID-19, the RPB was stood down to enable services to focus on the emergency response to the pandemic. Vale of Glamorgan Council has continued to work closely with partners in the region to ensure a coordinated response.

Partners coordinated the response specifically relating to health and social care services, addressing testing, coordinated access to personal protective

equipment, supporting care homes, their staff and residents and ensuring people were able to return home from hospital as quickly as possible. The success of the response has been testament to the strength of the established partnership.

Many of the more developmental programmes of work not directly connected to the COVID-19 response were also stood down to enable capacity to be directed to managing our collective response to the pandemic. This was clearly the right thing to do however the Committee **should** be aware that it has had an inevitable impact on the ability of the partnership to progress its plans.

The RPB resumed formally in July 2020.

2.3 Population needs assessment – COVID-19 impact

At the request of Welsh Government, the RPB undertook a rapid review of the impact of COVID-19 on the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan population. A summary can be found below, based on the expert opinion or our operational service leads and their experience of responding to the pandemic.

The Committee will note that the impact is much broader than on the health and care needs of communities and the response will need to be across a broader remit than that of the RPB. It will be important to coordinate activities with the Public Services Board and planning for this has commenced with a discussion at the Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board in October.

Interim PNA – emerging priorities for Winter 2020-21

Theme	Specific
Populations at Risk	Specific mention of people with Dementia, Asian and minority ethnic groups, children and young people at risk, carers and older people.
Mental health	Support for vulnerable groups experiencing potential loneliness and isolation
Physical health	Reduced access to physical activity and consequent deterioration in health Managing the long term recovery of people who have had COVID-19 / 'Long COVID'
Abuse / addiction	Increase in physical abuse: domestic, child, substance and alcohol
Family / carer relationships	Impact of family breakdown and lack of respite care.
Financial Hardship	Rise in unemployment and debt increase placing additional pressure on vulnerable groups.
Sensory impairment	Increased physical barriers for people with sensory impairment as a result of social distancing requirements.
Virtual Workforce	Impact of Virtual and Social Distanced working measures – need to ensure effective IT and Training together with enhanced employee wellbeing practices.
Workforce resources	Ensuring effective availability of staff / services to meet demand.

Interim PNA – emerging priorities for 2021 onwards

Theme	Specific
Populations at Risk	Specific mention of people with dementia, black, Asian and minority ethnic groups, children and young people at risk, carers and older people. Young people aged 16-25 years are a particular concern re. potential consequent long term impact re. employment opportunities, underlying mental health needs, etc.
Mental and physical health support	Increased service demand at all levels (primary to tertiary) due to limited access in 2020-21. Managing the long term recovery of people who have had COVID-19 / 'Long COVID'
Abuse / addiction	Deterioration in health due to lack of activity, limitations on healthy eating, etc and consequent impact on preventative health approach. Long term impact of increase in physical abuse: domestic, child, substance and alcohol
Family / carer relationships	Long term impact of family breakdown and lack of respite care.
Financial Hardship	Long term impact of rise in unemployment and debt increase, particularly for vulnerable groups
Sensory impairment	Increased physical barriers for people with sensory impairment as a result of social distancing requirements.
Virtual Workforce	Impact of Virtual and Social Distanced working measures – need to ensure effective IT and Training together with enhanced employee wellbeing practices.
Workforce resources	Ensuring effective availability of staff / services to meet demand.

Health and social care services have seen significant changes in demand and complexity patterns. It is anticipated that demand and complexity will increase further as the economic and social impact of COVID-19 deepens. The response to this needs to be coordinated across all partners in both the short-term in terms of the operational response and in longer term strategic plans which are set out in section 2.7.

2.4 Response to the Children's Commissioner report *No Wrong Door*:

In June 2020, the Children's Commissioner Sally Holland issued a landmark [report](#) calling on RPBs to wrap services around children and their families or carers. The RPB fully endorsed the report, accepting its recommendations in full and has developed a local action plan. The integration of children's services is a major part of the RPB's plans for 21/22 a summary of which is provided in section 2.7.

2.5 Care homes:

Our system recognised at an early stage of the pandemic the risk to residents and staff within care home settings. Significant support has been mobilised including:

- Enhanced provider forums with the local authority leading this on behalf of partners
- Ensuring access to personal protective equipment and infection prevention and control support
- Rigorous pre-discharge testing and risk assessment processes
- Commissioning of care home isolation beds to ensure that no person is discharged as COVID-19 positive to a care home following admission to hospital
- Ongoing access to medical and nursing support to people in care homes
- Supporting care homes to enable relatives to visit residents

The provider forum includes advice, guidance and support in relation to testing, outbreaks, business continuity and PPE, as well as supporting safe discharge from hospital including the commissioning of intermediate care isolation beds.

A rapid review of care homes was commissioned by Welsh Government and undertaken by Professor John Bolton. It has endorsed our approach to supporting our care home partners. The regional action plan is overseen by the Regional Commissioning Board chaired by the Vale of Glamorgan Director of Social Services. The action plan will also incorporate the region's response to the All-Wales Care Home Framework which focuses on primary care support to care homes.

The partnership also has arrangements in place to respond in the event of care home failure, to secure the ongoing care and support of residents.

2.6 Winter Protection Plan:

For winter 20/21, the RPB is required to play a key role in leading the development of an integrated health, social care and third sector plan for

delivery this winter. All partners are required to contribute and support delivery of the Winter Protection Plan and ensure alignment of their own organisations plans and resources.

Additional funds have been made available to the region to increase capacity in *Discharge to Recover and Assess* pathways. Adult social care services play a critical role in this, ensuring that no-one remains in hospital longer than is necessary.

Funding had been deployed as follows, with additional funding sought from WG to address the current funding gap of £1.4m.

	Function	Cost	Additional capacity	unit	Period (mths)	Start	End
Discharge coordination	First Point of Contact	£114,906	7	WTE	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
	Single Point of Access triage	£147,000	4	WTE	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
	Discharge liaison	£25,200	2	WTE	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
D2RA/intermediate care step-down	Care hours	£1,357,311	2087	Hours	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
	Rehab skill mix	£369,293	24	WTE	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
						01.11.20	31.03.21
Community beds	Residential reablement	£293,750	11	beds	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
	D2RA nursing home beds	£166,667	10	beds	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
	EMI-specific isolation beds	£300,000	8	beds	5	01.11.20	31.03.21
		£2,774,127					
	D2RA funding available	£1,350,000					
	Funding gap	£1,424,127					

2.7 ICT Capital:

A three year capital development fund was released via the Integrated Care Fund in 2018-19 with a total of £13.335m for the Region. A full programme of projects for this period has now been presented for approval to Welsh Government and the great majority have now been approved with the exception of the Llantwit Major Hub development. This includes the following developments in the Vale of Glamorgan.

- Scoping for the Older People’s Village in Penarth: funding has been provided over the last 3 years to help inform planning for this development;
- Various developments to residential care home accommodation to improve access for people with dementia: a case study from Ty Dewi Sant is shown below:

Dementia case study

Before...



Ty Dewi Sant, Penarth is a residential home for 29 people with mixed frail elderly and dementia needs. Designed in the last century, its physical environment reflected this era and exacerbated the challenges faced by older people experiencing impaired memory, learning and reasoning together with sensory impairments. ICF capital funding was used to create a dementia friendly environment with small-scale, homely living units, utilising enhanced signage and 'cueing' in line with dementia friendly standards.

Bedrooms, toilets and corridors were all re-decorated in a calming neutral-coloured palette with accents on doorways, handrails and toilet entrances to aid orientation. The flooring has also been updated to assist movement and ease of orientation for people with Dementia. The re-design was completed with a series of specially commissioned photographs of the local area which were chosen by the residents. The overall outcome is the creation of an uncluttered, clean and modern environment that supports and sustains the wellbeing and independence of our residents.

... After!



Resident feedback: "I didn't like having to leave my room for so long but it was all worth it, it's beautiful and so much easier to get around. When I get lost I look for the picture of Penarth Pier and I know where I am. I can find a toilet easier now they are all yellow and they are much nicer inside".

Manager feedback: "We have seen a significant reduction in falls and the colour scribed doors and handrails are great for orientation. I frequently see residents just stand in front of the artworks chatting and they are proving to be a great reminiscence resource".

"The RPB has directed capital funding with great effect in response to the growing needs of our population. The work undertaken at the Council's care homes in the Vale of Glamorgan is a fantastic example of how creating a dementia-friendly space can enable greater levels of independence and well-being for our residents."

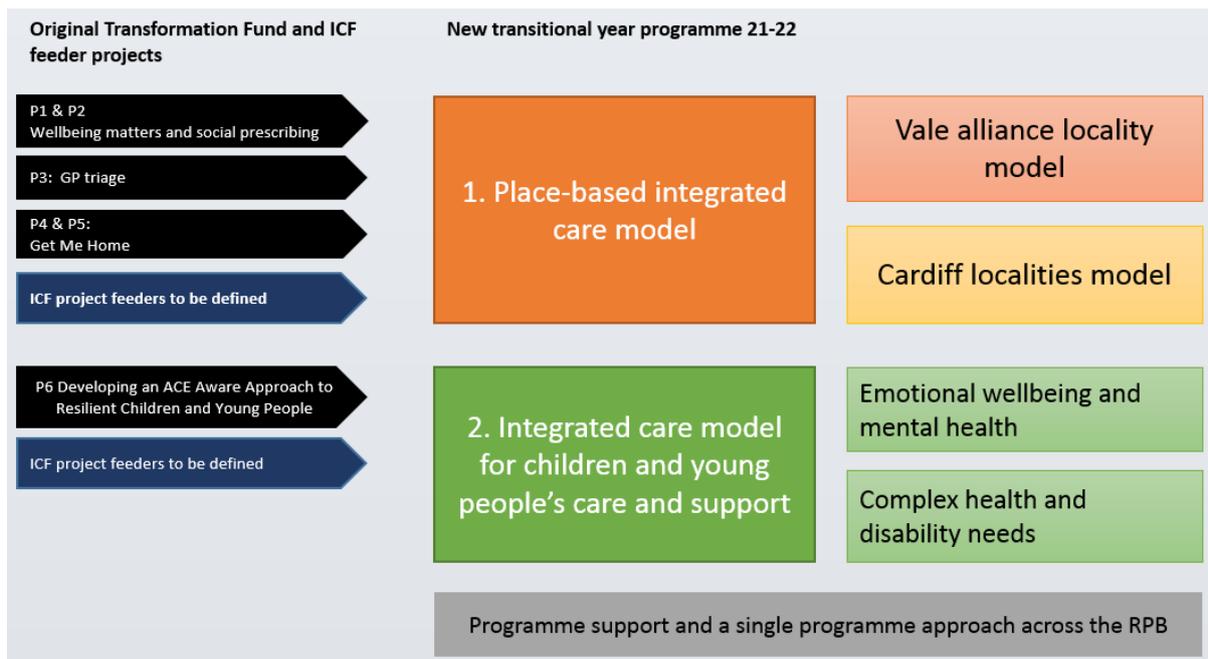
Clr Ben Gray, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health, Vale of Glamorgan Council and Vice Chair of the RPB.



- Ongoing development of the Ty Dewi special school site.
- Smart House enabling people with Learning Disabilities to test adaptations to ease living in their own homes.
- Llantwit Major Community Hub – supporting Glamorgan Voluntary Service to develop their new accommodation for use by community groups.
- Care Home Grant Scheme – a new development which is being advertised currently to enable relatives to visit nursing and residential home residents whilst ensuring compliance with COVID-19 safety regulations.

2.8 Forward look:

WG have announced a transitional year for 21/22 for the Transformation Fund, recognising the time lost during 20/21 due to COVID19. The RPB has set out plans to make much more significant steps in the integration of health and social care services, building on a wide-range of preceding projects which act as 'feeders' for the emerging programmes. The main planks of that programme are included in this section of the report:



2.8.1 Integrated locality-based care models

In 21-22, Cardiff and Vale RPB will scale up and accelerate the delivery of integrated health and social care locality models, across three established localities. This is a major programme across the partnership and will not be delivered within a single year. The intention is to use the transitional year investment to fully scope, design and establish the programme as a partnership and commence delivery.

This will enable us to pursue an alliance model to develop the already integrated Vale Locality, further integrating services around the needs of the people we serve. The programme will also take forward existing Transformation Fund projects, but more explicitly incorporate them as component parts of the development of the locality models rather than stand-alone projects.

2.8.2 Emotional wellbeing and mental health integrated care model

The partnership will develop an integrated model of care for children and young people needing support and therapeutic interventions as a result of emotional distress or actual mental ill health. This will be fully integrated across education services, social services and Child and Adolescent Mental Health services. We recognise that our system is complex and is experienced as fragmented and confusing. Our differing thresholds for intervention can create a 'missing middle' where long-term therapeutic support cannot be accessed. We recognise that we must not medicalise emotional distress but rather have a whole system approach to deliver the right intervention and support at the right time.

The transition to adult services will be addressed with particular attention given to vulnerable adolescents whose chronological and cognitive ages are different meaning neither CYP or adult mental health services are able to meet their needs.

The role of schools is pivotal and a *Whole School Approach* will be central to this work and driven by forthcoming statutory guidance as well as learning from elsewhere.

We will address safe accommodation for children and young people with additional learning needs and emotional wellbeing and mental health needs who present at various points in our health and care system in crisis.

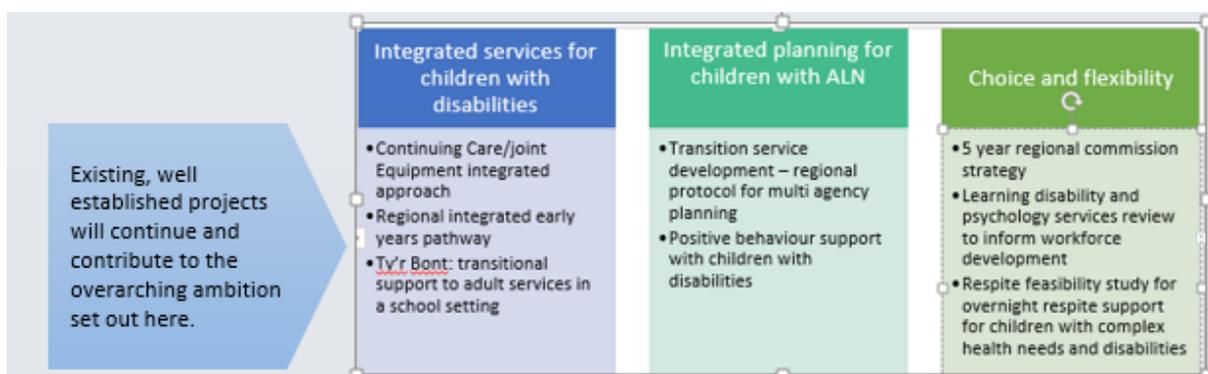
As with the development of integrated locality-based working, this is a major programme which will take more than a year to deliver.

The following shows the main strands of work and the existing programmes of work that will contribute to a more child and family-centred approach.



2.8.3 Integrated care model for children and young people with complex health needs, disabilities and additional learning needs

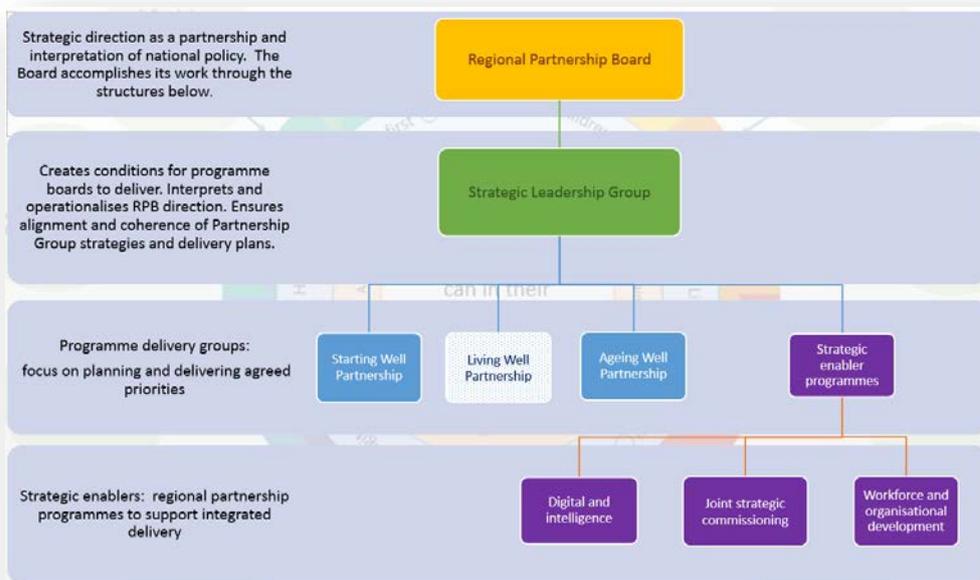
The partnership will develop child and family-centred integrated model of care for this cohort, simplifying the complex arrangements that currently exist, improving access and ensuring coordinated assessment, planning and delivery of care and support. It will align existing improvement projects already underway:



This programme needs more detailed scoping to see what needs to be developed at a local, regional, pan-regional and national levels.

2.8.4 Revised governance

The RPB is in the process of revising its governance and is establishing three new partnerships to support improving outcomes for the health and wellbeing of local people: Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well. These partnerships will oversee the programmes outlined above.



2.8.5 Stabilisation and reconstruction

WG has indicated that it expects RPBs to lead on the stabilisation and reconstruction of health and social care for their regions in the wake of COVID-19, as part of a cross-government approach. We await the WG framework for this, however the broad plans we have set out above are being developed with the future sustainability of health and social care in mind and incorporating the learning and legacy of COVID-19.

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. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 4.1** Welsh Government have announced the continuation of the Transformation Fund, continuous engagement funding and Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub (RIICH) into 21/22.
- 4.2** However, there remains significant concern regarding the ongoing nature of the core Integrated Care Fund (ICF) allocation (£11,601,000), which currently has only been confirmed until the end of March 2021, with the exception of dementia funding which runs to March 2022. It is anticipated that this will be rolled forward a further year, but this is yet to be confirmed by Welsh Government.
- 4.3** The forward plan set out above is being developed to address the sustainability of the projects the short-term grant funding has supported to date. Robust evaluation and business planning arrangements are being established to feed into the statutory organisations' financial planning rounds as appropriate.

Employment

- 4.4** Both the 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 6 year period of the ICF's existence along with the need to secure key skills sets from a limited pool of availability has meant that a significant pool of permanent staff are now funded through this short term resource.
- 4.5** The consequent human resource risk is being detailed as part of the ongoing risk assessment and a full overview will be considered at the Regional Partnership Board in late January 2021.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 4.6** The work outlined in this report sets out the progress of the RPB in meeting the requirements of Part 9 of the SSWWA. The Partnership Arrangements Regulations places a requirement on Local Authorities to establish and maintain pooled funds in relation to:
 - The exercise of their care home accommodation;
 - The exercise of family support function;
 - Such of their specified functions as they decide they will exercise jointly in consequence of the assessment carried out under Section 14(a) of the Act.

5. Background Papers

Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2019/20

<https://cvihs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Cardiff-and-Vale-of-Glamorgan-PRB-Annual-Report-2019-20-FINAL.pdf>

The report includes a capital case study on dementia friendly environments in a Vale-owned Care Home.

The Integrated Care Fund gives £385k to the Accommodation Solutions project every year. This region-wide project enables the Council to provide a Housing Solutions Officer, occupational therapist and various flats throughout the Vale of Glamorgan as temporary accommodation to enable early hospital discharge and in certain cases, avoid admission: [Accommodation Solutions](#)

The Integrated Care Fund provides £649k per annum to support Contact1Vale, providing co-ordinated access to Council-wide services and various Health Board services. The link to the film below allows staff within the Hub to describe how their service works and the benefits they bring to local citizens: [Contact 1 Vale](#)

The Transformation-funded Single Point of Access GP triage scheme builds upon this successful model in the Vale of Glamorgan. Patients involved in a pilot practice will call their GP surgery, which would then divert them into the Contact1Vale contact centre where they would be put through to speak with a skilled call handler (care navigator) that can assess the person's presenting issue(s) through a 'What Matters' type conversation. This project has been paused due to COVID-19 but a summary of the development work can be viewed [here](#).