



Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board

4th December 2020

Minutes

In attendance:		
Name	Title	Organisation
Mark Brace (MB)	Assistant Commissioner	South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
Rob Thomas (RT)	Managing Director	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Chris Hadfield (CH)	Group Manager	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Fiona Kinghorn (FK)	Executive Director of Public Health	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Abigail Harris (AH)	Executive Director of Strategy and Planning	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Charles Janczewski (CJ)	UHB Chair	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Tim Morgan (TM)	Superintendent	South Wales Police
Emil Evans (EE)	Vice Principal	Cardiff and Vale College
Judith Cole (JC)	Deputy Director Local Government Finance and Workforce Partnerships Division	Welsh Government
Rachel Connor (RC)	Executive Director	Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Hannah Williams (HW)	Head of South Wales One	National Probation Service
Nadia De Longhi (ND)	Operations Manager	Natural Resources Wales
Also in Attendance:		
Tom Bowring (TB)	Head of Policy and Business Transformation	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Helen Moses (HM)	Strategy and Partnership Manager	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Joanna Beynon (JB)	Policy Officer	Vale of Glamorgan Council
David Davies	Head of Additional Learning Needs and Well-being	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Apologies:		
Paula Ham (PH)	Director of Learning and Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Cllr Neil Moore (NM)	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Mike Evans (ME)	Head of Operations for South Central	Natural Resources Wales
Huw Jakeway (HJ)	Chief Fire Officer	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service

Agenda Items	Actions
<p>1. Welcome and introductions</p> <p>MB welcomed everyone to the meeting of the PSB.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>See above.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the Public Services Board 2nd October 2020</p> <p>The minutes were agreed to be an accurate and true reflection of the meeting.</p> <p>FK informed partners the spend of early years and prevention monies for 2019/20 and 21/22 has been submitted to Welsh Government.</p> <p>TB highlighted that a meeting has been scheduled between himself and Cath Doman following the previous PSB meeting for later in the month. Work has started to to map the alignment between the PSB and RPB workstreams. Developments will be brought to the next PSB meeting in February.</p>	<p>TB</p>
<p>4. Natural Resources Wales Funding</p> <p>HM thanked NRW again for the funding and informed partners the PSB bid for £25k has been successful. ND confirmed the bid had been approved and work can commence, the confirmation letter should be received in the next few days. £20k of the funding has been awarded to build the Colcot outdoor education shelter, planning permission is now required but project leaders are confident this will be awarded soon. HM will bring a progress update to the next PSB meeting.</p> <p>As this funding is likely to be ongoing ND suggested partners begin to think about what the PSB would like to bid for next year. RT agreed and noted it would be useful if the PSB can align future funding to the boards objectives and priorities to add value.</p>	<p>HM</p>
<p>5. COVID-19 Update</p> <p>FK updated partners on the latest COVID-19 rates in Cardiff and the Vale explaining a rise in cases with the rate in the Vale rising closer to the Cardiff rate. The rate of infection yesterday (03/12/2020) for the Vale was reported as 184.1 per 100,000 over the 7 day period. The general picture is a slow and steady increase of embedded spread with small clusters across the Vale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a rise in the number of cases in Dinas Powys at the end of November which is being explored. • At present there are only a few care homes across Cardiff and the Vale with active instances, 5 being in the Vale. • There has been an outbreak at the special school in Penarth however health colleagues have been working closely with the school staff to manage the outbreak. • There has been a slight decline in people presenting with COVID-19 in the Emergency Unit however bed occupation is an issue. 	

There have been great developments in testing and a local testing centre will be opened in Colcot Sport Centre car park in Barry by mid December. There have also been lateral flow testing developments which are expected to go live after the pilots in mid-December.

The Pfizer vaccine has now been approved which is a very positive development. We are waiting on Welsh Government to announce when vaccinations can start at a local level with the first priority group. There will be both local and national communications on this that will help manage public expectations as it may take a while for the vaccine to get to the general public. There are 975 vaccines available in the first week across Cardiff and the Vale. The Oxford vaccine may be approved and made available around January, this vaccine is easier to store as it is fridge based.

RT echoed the good work across the Health Board footprint by the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Cardiff Council and Health Board colleagues and the positive developments in making spaces available for local testing and vaccination. Communications will be vital in ensuring the public are aware we are not out of the woods yet despite there being a vaccine available.

MB agreed partnership working has been superb and suggested organisations could review how this has been so successful and what mechanisms have allowed this to take place to ensure we can build on this for the future.

DD thanked health partners for their work on the outbreak at the special school. There has been great feedback from the school on how staff, students and families were treated.

FK thanked partners for their great work in joint partnership with particular thanks to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for the work on mass vaccination sites. The initial site will be in Splott where Cardiff and Vale staff can attend, Home View and Pentwyn Leisure centre are 2 other identified sites.

MB queried how many injections were needed with the approved vaccine. FK confirmed 2 doses are required with the Pfizer vaccine with a minimum on 28 days between doses. The Oxford vaccine would require 2 doses with 21 days between the second dose. Welsh Government are producing a campaign based on 4 types of COVID vaccine views: adopters, hesitant, resistant and opponent. Some members of the public are worried over the speed the vaccine has been developed and approved in however MHRA carried out an extensive review processes sequentially for speed.

HW provided an update from the probation service noting the service is still working under an exceptional delivery model. More staff are now isolating however staff levels remain manageable. The process of releasing people back into the public from Cardiff prison is being managed but is incredibly complex.

TM updated partners on the police position where staffing levels have remained static despite a few members isolating. Police are continuing to deal with complex issues in shopping centres and people traveling across the borders to take advantage of Welsh laws. 164 fixed penalty notices have been issued across Cardiff and the Vale. Positive joint working relationships have been built with the student population.

6. Correspondence from the Children's Commissioner

DD informed partners 2 reports have recently been received from the Children's Commissioner. DD outlined the process and findings from the Commissioner's Corona Virus and Me Wales wide survey where over 1,000 young people responded from the Vale. An infographic showing the key findings from the Vale has been shared to partners. DD provided an overview of the position in the Vale against the key findings from the survey, these are:

Concerns about loss of education

This confirmed findings from other sources. There were lots of challenges initially with online learning being alien to many teachers and students however a lot of work has been done as blended learning will inevitably be part of education provision going forward. Digital exclusion was also a large concern at the start of lockdown with young people not having the ICT kit at home. Initially 650 devices were given to children and approximately 200 additional devices were distributed to provide digitally excluded students broadband at home. This work remains ongoing with over 4,000 devices being bought to help address the needs.

Missing friends/socialisation

4 schools were opened throughout the summer to provide hub provision for the most vulnerable children and those of key workers. The Youth Service continue to stay in contact with vulnerable children on a regular basis. The Council's Play Team established provision for the most vulnerable throughout the summer holidays, this included provision for children with disabilities.

Impact on well-being

There have been concerns on how lockdown has affected young people's mental health. There is already a mental health plan in place with an emphasis on therapeutic interventions. The Youth Well-being Team's work has continued throughout and a lot of additional work has been carried out with school staff on how to approach young people in their return to school, the feedback from which has been very positive.

Risks to vulnerable groups

Work was undertaken with Children's Services to identify the most vulnerable young people to ensure they could access the school hubs during lockdown. A RAG system was used to rate all known vulnerable young people who had weekly contact with the Youth Service.

Concerns about school transition

Year 6 students and their parents, particularly of students with ALNs, were concerned about school transitions in September. Where possible physical visits were organised for vulnerable young people or those with ALNs, some schools also developed online transition materials. During in the 3 week return to school period in July vulnerable groups and year 6 leavers were prioritised to provide students with the opportunity to say goodbye to students and staff.

FK noted DD's presentation highlighted issues to be worked on collectively in the recovery mental health arena signalling areas for key focus next year and resources that need to be shared with schools on mental health. The RPB are carrying out work focusing on mental health. AH highlighted following Cath Doman's presentation on the RPB at the last PSB meeting the RPB is moving into 3 areas of work. This work links into the Starting Well

<p>arena. It is important that our learning and response in the long term is influenced by this. AH has previously shared with the PSB work from Canterbury Health Board in New Zealand who shared their recovery work with schools, social services and health colleagues following an earth quake. There may be learning to take from this work, AH will pick this up through the RPB.</p> <p>MB suggested potentially holding another PSB session with young people, like the meeting held in February 2020 on climate change. MB asked if this work could be followed up with both the PSB and RPB. AH agreed this work would link to the RPBs work.</p> <p>DD went on to provide an overview of the Commissioner’s Charter ‘A Charter for Change: Protecting Welsh children from the impact of poverty’. The Charter was published at the end of 2019 however immediate COVID-19 work has been the focus. Prior to lockdown there were approximately 2,900 young people eligible for free school meals, now this figure is closer to 3,700, a significant percentage increase in this proxy indicator for poverty. The key recommendations from the Charter were outlined in the presentation covering: ensuring access to free school meals and that a young person has sufficient funds for a nutritious balanced meal, ensuring free breakfasts are available to all families that need it, ensuring that discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) is utilised fully to assist families living on low incomes and the cost of the school day. DD outlined work that is already in place to take forward these recommendations and the great work carried out over lockdown to ensure young people at risk of not eating were fed. Vale of Glamorgan Council’s Scrutiny Committee are carrying out a specific piece of work exploring the cost of the school day.</p> <p>TB highlighted some of these topics are included within the Vale Community Impact Assessment previously shared with PSB partners.</p>	<p>AH</p>
<p>RC welcomed the Charter and its recommendations and informed partners there needs to be the mechanisms in place for a school to refer into third sector provision such as the food share service at CF61 to help ensure parents know about these services and can access them if needed. DD welcome the opportunity to share communications from the third sector to schools.</p> <p>AH noted the need to factor in that the Starting Well stage of the PRB work that covers young people up to the age of 25. Engagement opportunities are needed to reach young people across the sectors that may struggle in recovery such as retail, that often attract young people. The Kick Start scheme is very helpful and suggested partners look into the scheme to help young people seeking work through this method. DD informed partners the figures for young people not in education, employment to training (NEET) has decreased in the Vale, work is ongoing to explore why. Programmes are already in place linked to the Youth Service such as Inspire to Achieve and Inspire to Work. Kick Start is a good opportunity however it is only available to young people for a 6 month period. EE agreed the NEET figures are an important point as the college has exceeded the enrolment target. EE is cautious of the amount of work opportunities available to those finishing courses, there is a real concern surrounding opportunities for young people. Work needs to be carried out with industries to help alleviate the impacts on young people.</p>	<p>RC/DD</p>
<p>DD welcomed any information on work that is happening linked to the recommendation areas to help strengthen the evidence of what is ongoing in the Vale to be included in the</p>	<p>All</p>

<p>response to the Charter to be submitted in January. If partners are aware of anything that can be included in the response they are asked to send these to HM.</p>	
<p>7. Winter Protection Plan</p> <p>AH presented the key points from the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board Winter Protection Plan 2020/21 to partners. AH highlighted that the RPB's Winter Protection Plan recognises that this winter will be a particularly difficult one and services will need to come together to respond to threats and issues. The Plan links to the Urgent and Emergency Care Programme. £1.35 million has been awarded to the Cardiff and Vale RPB from Welsh Government however the plans total £2.77m, a further £1.42m has been requested from Welsh Government. The plans cover a range of programmes to be more resilient through the winter. The plans set out the intended activity in addressing each of the 6 goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 1: Coordination, planning and support for high risk groups • Goal 2: Signposting information and assistance for all • Goal 3: Preventing admission and high-risk groups • Goal 4: Rapid response in crisis • Goal 5: Great hospital care • Goal 6: Home first when ready <p>AH informed partners there has been a greater uptake of the flu jab this year as expected. The flu jab has been extended to be available for anyone over 50 years old. AH would welcome partners sharing communications to promote the flu jabs. Emergency Unit attendance levels are now back to normal levels despite the drop experienced in lockdown.</p> <p>Length of stays for those over 75 is an outlier in the region compared to length of stays both locally and nationally. A focus will be on the extended length of stay arena. The presentation also outlined how the impact will be measured and how the resources will be deployed. The Plan is based upon the gap in funding being filled by Welsh Government. The risks this winter are very significant, usually in the few days before Christmas there is significant discharge of patients out of hospital however this is expected to be very different this year. The system will be under pressure however colleagues are continuing to work incredibly hard to avoid people being admitted to hospital if possible and to get patients discharged as soon as possible. Hospital emissions are increasing inline with FK's earlier headlines as a result of COVID-19. CJ thanked AH for the information and noted the effects this pressure is having on staff who are close to exhaustion.</p> <p>MB asked if a third wave was to be expected over Christmas. AH informed partners a significant rise is anticipated as is the need to expend capacity in January. FK confirmed a rise is anticipated and work is ongoing to revise the reasonable worst case scenario model. It is anticipated to be very busy across all sectors in January and February as winter is a challenging time every year. FK reminded partners there is a 2 week stopping distance between restrictive measures being in place and a noticeable affect on the figures. The nature of future peaks will change slightly as the public health dashboard shows differences in each region.</p>	
<p>8. Tackling Climate Change Discussion</p> <p>ND led the discussion informing partners the aim is to agree a PSB Climate Change Charter for formal launch in February 2021. Partners were asked to look over the draft Charter to check it reads across different organisation plans etc. The Charter has been discussed at</p>	

<p>the PSB previously and needs to remain sharp, focused and strategic. HM informed partners there has been a good response to the Charter and highlighted a few suggested changes. These were to include under Lead by Example ‘take action as local citizens’, change reference to hybrid vehicles to low carbon vehicles and to add a reference to be kinder to the environment and be healthier and include the aim of working towards new buildings being net carbon zero. Partners agreed to the suggested changes.</p> <p>AH has used the draft Charter as an example in the Health Board’s Sustainability Action Plan and would be very happy to support this work. JC flagged that the Strategic Public Sector Route Map to Decarbonisation aligns nicely to the Charter. JC will circulate the map to colleagues. HM informed partners the draft Charter has been discussed at the PSB Asset Management Group where Welsh Government colleagues fed back the Charter reflected the national picture and were supportive of the approach.</p> <p>ND questioned if there was merit in establishing a sub group to coordinate partners organisation approvals. Partners were in favour of this approach.</p> <p>JC noted some pressure groups will focus on the Charter and suggested developing structured points to support the actions reflected. ND agreed and noted this would be picked up by the sub group. RT agreed and suggested the Charter be regularly reviewed and progress be reported back to the PSB on a regular basis. The Charter is underpinned by data supporting the suggested actions and whilst the actions are at a high level can be used to focus more specific work in each organisation in keeping with the PSB Staff Healthy Travel Charter previously signed by partners.</p> <p>Partners agreed to take the Charter back through individual organisation for approval in readiness for the launch in February. The sub group will be established in January.</p>	<p>JC</p> <p>ND/HM</p> <p>All</p>
<p>9. Forward Work Programme</p> <p>TB provided partners with an overview of the work programme for 2021 highlighting the return of the Climate Change Charter in February and the attendance of the Older People’s Commissioner at the April meeting to discuss Age Friendly work in addition to agenda items on the development of the Well-being Assessment and Annual Report prior to sign off in July.</p> <p>RT suggested keeping COVID-19 updates on the forward work programme even as figures improve as the emphasis will shift more towards recovery and partnership working as we move forward.</p> <p>TB welcomed partners to contact himself or HM if they have any items they would like to bring to the PSB at a future meeting.</p>	
<p>10. AOB</p> <p>TB informed partners the Vale of Glamorgan Council’s consultation on the draft Annual Deliver Plan 2021/22 which sets out the Council’s commitments in year in line with the Corporate Plan will soon be launched. Information will be provided to partners shortly and any feedback would be welcomed by January.</p>	
<p>11. Date of next meeting – 5th February 2021, 10:30am – 12:30pm via Microsoft Teams</p>	