



**MINUTES FROM
NORTH WALES REGIONAL
PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
14th June 2024**

Present:	Cllr Dilwyn Morgan (Chair), Alwyn Jones (AJ), Ann Woods (AW), Cllr John Pritchard (JP), Cllr Liz Roberts (LR), Dr Jane Moore (JM), Darren Murray (DM), Dylan Owen (DO), Ffion Johnstone (FfJ), Fon Roberts (FR), Gethin Morgan (GM), Helen Douglas NWP (HD), Jenny Williams (JW), Liz Grieve (LG), Neil Ayling (NA), Nicola Stubbins (NS), Roger Seddon (RS), Steve Grayston (SG), Teresa Owen (TO).
Apologies:	Caroline Tudor-James; Cyng Alun Roberts; Cyng Chris Jones; Cyng Elen Heaton; Estelle Hitchon; Gareth Williams; Rhun ap Iarhes; Sue Last
In Attendance:	Siobhan Gothorp (SG) RCT (agenda item 3,4) Joseph Griffiths (JG) RCT (agenda item 5) Lindsey Duckett (LD) RCT (agenda item 7) Geoff Ryall-Harvey (GRH) LLAIS (agenda item 8)

Item	
1	Welcome, Introductions & Apologies The chair welcomed all to the meeting and apologies were noted as above. NA was thanked from the Chair on behalf of the Board for his support and commitment and well wishes for his forthcoming retirement.
2	Update Action Log from previous meeting and approval of Minutes The minutes were approved as read. All actions with the Action Log were noted and completed.

3	RIF Programme 2024/25 – Siobhan Gothorp SG took members through the highlights of the report which was included in the meeting pack and asked members to endorse the report and approve submission to Welsh Government. KEY POINTS RAISED: <ul style="list-style-type: none">RS noted that last year a proposal was tabled regarding RPB's oversight of RIF projects adding that the Board was possibly not exercising the oversight set out in the RIF Revenues Guidelines. The consensus was that Reporting by Exception was sufficient and SG kindly provided RS briefing session. RS added however, that times have moved on and thinks the RPB should revisit the model to establish if it is sufficient to show that we are exercising oversight. One key factor for a revisit is the volatility in the current funding landscape meaning that RPB should be more alert to changes. RS proposed that the RPB should be given an assurance at each monthly board meeting that projects are operating within tolerances along with reviewing tolerances each quarter.RS added that the proposal does not question or reflect on the excellent standards of project leadership and management but endeavours to show that the RPB is applying a level of oversight commensurate with RIF Revenue Guidelines and exercising the <i>curiosity</i> required to challenge data.SG responded reassuring RS & RPB members that within NW the RIF programme is made up of very few true 'projects' due to historical funding prior to RIF. Many projects are now classed as core services. 85% RIF invested in core services, adding additionality eg partners
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	<p>invest short of £9m CRT £1m contribution from RIF. CRT – are no longer projects but core services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌈 Re tolerance reporting, use Tolerance reporting from WG % - each quarter – all partners provide two BRAG score against project timescale v's spend and projection. Tolerance detailed to the partners and SG happy to share with RPB members. 🌈 GM noted and reiterated the. strategic oversight of the RPB – and the need to understand the governance that sit below. GM added that at WG meetings, the work undertaken by SG and Team is recognised as good practise within Welsh partnerships. GM of the opinion with the structure and strategic understanding of the Board, updates, should they be needed as a Partnership, all key matters are dealt with accordingly. 🌈 LR supports RS' proposal and advised was going to confirm with GM opinion re. capability of monthly reporting and appreciates work undertaken. LR added however, when working within the system day in day out it is easy to go to Director of Social Care in LA eg for info, however the need to be mindful that from a user/carer and other 3rd sector bodies on the RPB, that perspective if they feel they're getting sufficient reporting / tolerance. All members need to be satisfied. 🌈 RS added that it was indeed relevant as noted by LR that those 'outside inner circle' re. strategic oversight adding should anything was to go wrong, the need to prove to auditors eg demonstrate exercising and not accepting that the system is working. WG set tolerance levels and you the RPB responsible for exercising diligence. 🌈 AW reassured RS from a 3rd sec reps monitor evaluation of the programme with co-ordinated meetings within each region of which CVC's including monitoring reports, RAG rating as referred to by RS. All are discussed at Central / West / East meeting and CVC's invited. 🌈 NA accepted RS all board members to be comfortable and accountability – having been involved Chairing meetings. NA added, oversight in North Wales is strong with robust 3rd sector involvement. 🌈 NS added following on from RS raising issue several months ago, she and SG met with RS outside of the RPB and thought that level of assurance to RS. NS reiterated that the RPB is a strategic board and expectations of strategic board, and practicalities of operation details individuals feel they'd need to have assurance. NS advised of the multi-layered and detail of monitoring and schemes fundamental points are discussed at Leadership Group, Area Integrated Service boards and C&D Integrated Service – operational detail discussed at C&D ISF and cascaded up. NS suggested RS be invited to an operational meeting as an observer to see discussions and gain assurance as how meetings are conducted. 🌈 GM following on from NS's point, from the partnership perspective throughout a Diagrammatical Scheme to be produced for all to understand where the liabilities lie. Reassurance for liability and understand where matters arise and RPB need to work strategic and not operation which happens elsewhere. 🌈 DO added that all relative to the TOR discussion to follow within Agenda – the challenge this board sign off commissioning RIF. The terms clash with one another. As much as in agreement with NS comments as the RPB commission it's a question to point 9 on Agenda due to its complexity. <p>KEY ACTION POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌈 A Diagrammatic Scheme of Responsibility showing Governance structure prior to be produced by GM. 🌈 NS to invite NS to attend operational meeting as above.
4	<p>Dementia 2023/24 Year End Report – Siobhan Gothorp</p> <p>SG presented the Year End Report updating on the regional dementia programme activities, achievements, outcomes, and challenges during 2023/24.</p> <p>The report focuses on progress against the five key areas of the regional Dementia workplan being: : Dementia Action Plan (DAP) Schemes</p>

NWRPB Dementia Strategy Action Plan
All Wales Dementia Care Pathway Standards (AWDCPS)
Memory Support Pathway (MSP) Improvement
Dementia Friendly Communities

Dementia Action Plan (DAP)

In 2018, Welsh Government introduced the All-Wales Dementia Action Plan (DAP) and North Wales receives just over £2.1m DAP funding to support integrated partnership working for people living with dementia. The DAP funding is recurrent, and ring fenced.

NWRPB Dementia Strategy Action Plan

In 2020, the North Wales Dementia Strategy was completed. It sets out how we will deliver the DAP through development of integrated dementia services. There are 31 actions within the North Wales strategy action plan.

All Wales Dementia Care Pathway Standards (AWDCPS)

In 2020, Welsh Government introduced the All-Wales Dementia Care Pathway of Standards (AWDCPS) to support delivery of the Dementia Action Plan (DAP). There are 20 standards.





Memory Support Pathway (MSP) Improvement








In 2021, Welsh Government recognised there were significant waiting times for memory clinics across Wales due to capacity and process issues and so Memory Assessment Service (MAS) funding was made available to improve the Memory Support Pathway. North Wales receives £678k funding. The regional pathway includes 3rd sector provision of pre-assessment support and advice, improved clinical assessment and diagnosis times and provision of post diagnosis advice and support. The vision of the pathway is equity and ease of access for all residents of North Wales. The funding is recurrent, and ring fenced.

Dementia Friendly Communities

In 2023, Alzheimer's Society announced that they were ending the UK wide Dementia Friendly Communities scheme in December 2023. The NWRPB worked to develop a regional recognition and accreditation scheme to ensure Dementia Friendly Communities (DFC) could continue in North Wales. The NWRPB scheme commenced in January 2024.

KEY POINTS RAISED:

-  The Chair thanked all responsible for bringing the report together along with all involved with Dementia across North Wales. All should be proud of the work.
-  GRH echoed the Chair's comments re. focus on Dementia. GR-H queried how a newly diagnosed individual and family find out available what's available and how we proactively advise of the initiatives. SG responded adding that MSP is a relative new pathway; focus is on awareness. There will be attendance at agricultural shows throughout North Wales – agreement for a new post within the pathway to be working in GP practises across North Wales providing information sessions to GP practises. Significant number of information packs printed and shared across north Wales. Events running throughout the year at various Hospital – 8 Dementia Centres. Querying slippage for media promotion as the scheme now up and running. Links to all partners to be added on Dementia Webpage on RPB website when live. Pathway details on the 5 films produced from BCU.
-  GRH added LLAIS host Woody's Lodge veterans breakfast clubs and currently disproportionate amount of dementia awareness in the community and would appreciate a representative at those to meet and greet. SG to discuss with GRH.
-  RS questioned the 2-task group community engagement and development of Hospital Charter talks about public representation – what contact had with 'sofa surfers' / homeless etc as no access to IT tools as described, how are they engaged with? SG advised unsure and will discuss with task groups and will advise the group and keep RS updated.

	<p> LR would welcome links for social media re. dementia as personally, 3 family members recently diagnosed with Dementia. The need to spread the word as advice given being provided, however the need for reminders paramount.</p> <p>KEY ACTION POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  SG to discuss further with GR-H re attendance at Woody’s Lodge to raise Dementia awareness within veterans, emergency services, reservists, and their families.  SG to enquire with both Dementia Task & Finish Groups: Community Engagement & Hospital Charter, as to how Homeless / ‘sofa surfers’ are engaged with and advise RS accordingly.  All agreed that the report to be published and forwarded to WG.
5	<p>Capital 2023/24 Year End Report – Joe Griffiths</p> <p>JG took partners through each aspect of funding relevant of the RPB:</p> <p>JG provided an provide an update on the 2023/24 Regional HCF and IRCF Capital programmes together with progress to prioritised capital schemes as per meeting pack.</p> <p>The allocated HCF Funding for North Wales was £14.2m of which 12 schemes were awarded HCF funding in 2023/24, with a total of £5.3m claimed for these projects.</p> <p>Discretionary Capital programme (DCP) & Disability Facilities Grant (DFG) Funding</p> <p>WG awarded £1.423m for Discretionary Capital programme and the Disability Facilities Grant Funding was £711,850 for the region during 2022/23. Both allocations were fully spent. Total HCF spend 2023/24 - £7,443,106.41</p> <p>This equates to 52.4% of the RPB’s allocation. This was an increase on spend compared to 22/23 financial year (34.4%). Across Wales WG have indicated that there was similar slippage across the whole HCF funding pot for Wales.</p> <p>JG explained that IRCF is an all-Wales fund of which £60m was available in 2023/24. 9 schemes were awarded funding by WG for NW in 2023/24, with a total of £3.29m claimed for these schemes.</p> <p>KEY POINTS RAISED:</p> <p>The Chair thanked JG for his hard work and the report showcases the benefits of funding across the region.</p> <p>LR added her thank you to JG and indeed for Capital funding in bringing projects into fruition.</p>
6	<p>Regional Partnership Board 2023/24 Annual Report – Gethin Morgan</p> <p>GM thanked the central team for bringing the report together. The Annual Report is a picture and reflection of the work of the Board. In future, looking to revisit format and form in future.</p> <p>The 2023/24 is a declaration and oversight of the excellent work undertaken and this year, used comments from the experience of those with lived in experience and the benefits received.</p> <p>GM noted that the Annual Report presented to the Board for comments and prior to forwarding to WG before June 30th as per statutory duty.</p> <p>KEY POINTS RAISED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  The Chair thanked all for their work and the Annual Report reads easily.  NS added her thanks and a good report, whilst being a single Annual Report – when read alongside with previous Annual Reports it clearly shows depth, breadth and journey the Board has been on.  JM noted that TO no longer Executive Director of PHW. <p>KEY ACTION POINTS:</p> <p>All approved Annual Report report ready for presentation to WG by 30/6/2024.</p>

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Short Breaks Update – Ffion Johnstone

FfJ provided an update on the 2023/24 Amser Scheme for Short Breaks delivered to Unpaid Carers in North Wales along with noting the Amser programme spend allocated to Local Authorities for 2023/24.

The aim being to arrange and provide flexible support services which providing a carer a meaningful break from care in order to provide relief from their caring responsibilities and improve or maintain their wellbeing. Carer assessment conversations ensure the breaks are particular to the carer needs and help them to sustain their caring role.

Overview of Funding and Projects

The table below shows the amount of funding received by each local authority to support the delivery of breaks to unpaid carers in the last three years:

Local Authority	22/23	23/24	24/25
Conwy	£ 76,495	£ 54,438	£ 54,438
Denbighshire	£ 62,479	£ 44,448	£ 44,448
Flintshire	£ 75,573	£ 53,776	£ 53,776
Gwynedd	£ 73,046	£ 51,991	£ 51,991
Wrexham	£ 75,096	£ 53,430	£ 53,430
Ynys Môn	£ 41,876	£ 29,795	£ 29,795
Total	£ 404,565	£ 287,878	£ 287,878

In June 2022 Carers Trust Wales were appointed as the national coordinating body for the scheme which led to a smaller amount of funding directly to local authorities. This has meant that some short breaks providers and initiatives receive funding via Carers Trust while the LA's explore what more can be done with direct payments and fund local initiatives and local third sector providers who are closely connected with carers in their communities.

FfJ shared with members a listing of project funded directly by Carers Trust across North Wales along with stories from Carers; outcomes and learning and the next steps

KEY POINTS RAISED:

The Chair once again thanked the hard work and the unrelenting roles of unpaid carers.

GM noted as he's still learning he felt privileged to have been at a Carers meeting recently and began to understand the role and undertaking by these individuals. The need to also acknowledge that there are many more carers who do not consider themselves carers out there and the need to raise their awareness so that they may too receive the support they deserve.

FfJ agreed with Gethin and interestingly during Covid many more carers registered, which now seems to have dropped off and we're currently seeing fewer carers registering.











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LLAIS Annual Plan – Geoff Ryall-Harvey

GRH provided an overview of the Annual Plan as included with the meeting pack advising members of the Llais Board strategic direction of travel, ensuring they are on track to do what was said would be done in the way that best meets people's needs.

KEY POINTS RAISED:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌈 LR questioned view of WG / CEO @ BCUHB talk of input into primary care to cut down on admittance in hospital and assist with hospital discharge; along with how together we can improve social care working alongside GP practises. GR-H responded adding a different approach to all issues by BCUHB. Dyfed Edwards & Carol Shillabeer, eager for Health & Social Care Summit to take place as soon as possible to address issues. 🌈 JM agreed that the BCUHB recognising the need to do more re. hearing and listening to people. Power of how individuals want to work constructively and how the need to hear, understand, reflect and revisit pivotal. JM added that currently drawing up response to be bought to future Board. Director of Partnership, Helen Stevens-Jones to highlight how we engage with people on an on-going on service provision and actions during special measures. JM advised that a paper bought to last RPB re. partnership approach to social prescribing, work in hand and key elements is to be recognised. Primary care/holistic and social intervention key part of social prescribing, working with clusters as to what that will look like. 🌈 LR added having worked in primary care previously that the need and opportunity to work moving forward to inputting into primary care and currently working alongside GP practise in Betws y Coed with Llais as link between community and practise. 🌈 NS thanked GRH for sharing report and has circulated within DCC. Acknowledged been a busy 1st year for Llais – and a reminder that Llais is everyone’s voice as citizens of North Wales. NS questioned how to support cascading messages on behalf of Llais. The summit will be a focussed event and would welcome an off-line discussion as to how to support cascading of what LLAIS is, where they sit and what they do not do. NS reminded that we all have a responsibility to support knowledge space of Llais. GRH added voice for people in social care and health. Re children is a different arena establishing precedence for children’s care in social / health care currently seeking legal advice. GRH thanked Directors for helpful discussions and has learnt a great deal in the previous year. 🌈 CHC had similar issues re. awareness - 🌈 Information needs to go out to Local councillors – high profile; staff aware; advocacy team at Llais met with complaints teams at LA’s. 🌈 FfJ in addition to the above point of working with BCUHB / GRH / Carol Shillabeer, by going to Llais at an early stage, matters are easlier to underatnd and the agenda behind. FfJ advised LR that the need to develop the clustes further in order to recruit doctors / nurses / therapists and the right people at the right time. 🌈 FfJ added, re the Shift left – that a grant through Further Faster whereverby BCUHB will be working in the community with those on the ground who have the answers on hjow to move forward and currently many pilot projects to keep patients in their community by working alongside the CRT. 🌈 RS endorsed what had already been said, the value of Llais and working with and access to the team helpful. RS added, to the people on ground who do not understand what the organisation is, wondering if the RPB could advise ie CRT – what are they etc. 🌈 GRH added new and dynamic links being made with 3rd sector as all aware that health and social care need involvement of 3rd sector. GRH added, useful productive links with RPB. GRH added, that the need to educate staff in Cardiff who provide information that North Wales is very different to South Wales. GRH added that what’s vital are local links, helping local people with what they need and understand why they can’t have it! 🌈 The Chair added that as the Board will continue supporting the work of Llais.
9	<p>Regional Partnership Board Terms of Reference – Gethin Morgan</p> <p>To sit alongside the Terms of Reference (ToR) as per the meeting pack, GM reminded the Board that at the May meeting to look at the ToR's along with working alongside PSB's in future. The initial draft presented within the meeting pack and to receive comments / discussion and submit completed in July for approval.</p>

	<p>The main highlight of the ToR being to ensure services in the future be more innovative, take risks and be passionate. The well-being and Health of the population central to the discussion. Resources, skills and expertise and using them on how to make things different from reality.</p> <p>KEY POINTS RAISED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  DO questioned should the meetings be open as per our statutory regional duties; being clear and transparent as per point 6.  DO added that re. formal decision making uncomfortable having decision undertaken twice, the need for consideration.  DO noted re. quoracy that should a member be unable to attend decisions could be made without attendance from one organisation or another that have consequences. DO acknowledged, as members all have a duty to attend, however, wanted it noting and a member from all statutory bodies be present at all meetings.  RS no reference on membership! Par 4 scope of RP plans to re-evaluate – suggest Critical pointers in cover report to attached papers that are long  LG noted that attending RPB meetings for 2 years as NW Heads of Housing Group acknowledged that not been attendee or contributor adding important for housing to be represented given importance of housing in health and well-being. LG added value housing can add to projects / areas of work discussed. Recognise not on list – but would benefit from concentrated work in moving forward.  GM responded by noting the names of members names will be in Appendix 2 and added as ToR developed and certainly not a deletion. <p>KEY ACTION POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Comments / Suggestions to be with GM/EMY Friday 21st June 2024.  Final version to be presented at July RPB for approval.
9	<p>Any other Business</p> <p>KEY POINTS RAISED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  GM advised the Board, following on from RS’s suggestion of an all-Wales RPB Conference. WG now picked up and a Conference to be held at Sophia Gardens on the 16th September. Would all members interested in attending to advise EMY within the next fortnight. EMY will send a reminder to members in between times. The Chair encouraged many to attend to represent the Boad to show our colleagues in South Wales we’re eager to travel down. RS was also thanked for his original idea.  NS reiterated a vote of thanks to NA and wished him a happy and healthy retirement.
	<p>Dates of next meetings: Friday 12th July 2024 – online via Zoom</p>