
Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board (PSB)

Wednesday, 11 September 2019 10:00am-12:00pm

Galeri, Caernarfon

MINUTES

Present: -

NAME	ORGANISATION
Emyr Williams (EW)	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Ffion Johnstone (FfJ)	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Jerry Hunter (JH)	Bangor University
Cllr. Dyfrig Siencyn (DS)	Gwynedd Council
Cllr. Llinos Medi Huws (LIMH)	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Sioned Rees (SR)	Welsh Government
Dr Gwynne Jones (GJ)	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Sian Williams (SW)	Natural Resources Wales
Catrin Thomas (CT)	Probation Service
Sian Purcell (SP)	Medrwn Môn
Ffrancon Williams (FfW)	Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd
Bethan Russell Williams (BRW)	Mantell Gwynedd
Siobhan Adams (SA)	Public Health Wales NHS Trust

In attendance: -

Nonn Hughes (NH)	Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board
Sophie Ann Hughes (SAH)	Gwynedd Council
Dewi Wyn Jones (DWJ)	Gwynedd Council

Apologies: -

Shan Morris	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Richie Green	North Wales Police
Dilwyn Williams	Gwynedd Council

ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

ITEM 2 - TERMS OF REFERENCE - STANDING ITEM

Emyr Williams was welcomed to his first meeting in the chair. He proposed setting a fixed term of office for the chair, to ensure a healthy turnover. It was agreed to update the Terms of Reference to reflect this.

The need to appoint a vice-chair was noted, and Emyr Williams proposed that Dyfrig Siencyn remain in post. Siân Williams seconded the proposal. Dyfrig Siencyn was confirmed as vice-chair accordingly.

ITEM 3 - MINUTES (TO BE APPROVED) AND MATTERS ARISING: 12/06/19

It was confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the discussions. Action Points from the previous meeting, in summary were as follows:

1. Conduct further research on the proposal of joint apprenticeship opportunities - to discover whether there would be additional value for us to offer an opportunity / experience across public bodies. - [NH to present as part of Item 4.](#)
2. Ffrancon Williams to contact Health and National Resources Wales to discuss assets further - [FfW to provide update as part of Item 6.](#)
3. The 'Homes for Local People' sub-group to update its Terms of Reference and present them to the PSB in the next meeting - [FfW to provide update as part of Item 6.](#)
4. Suggestions on potential sites to be sent to FfW, and this message to be reinforced to members of the 'Homes for Local People' sub-group - [FfW to provide update as part of Item 6.](#)
5. Confirm arrangements on how to present resources for the work of the PSB by the meeting of the Board in September - [FfW to provide update as part of Item 6.](#)
6. Jerry Hunter to contact the Fire Service to discuss taking part in the Welsh Language sub-group's Arfer project - [Completed, and Fire Service representatives had joined the sub-group](#)
7. Board Members to discuss with their Language officers whether there was a project that the sub-group needed to address - [The sub-group would discuss this further](#)
8. Nonn Hughes to contact the Police to further discuss the proposal to seek guidance from the sub-group on language issues if necessary - [Completed](#)
9. Siân Williams to draft a letter on behalf of the PSB to the First Minister of Wales - [SW to provide update as part of her presentation in Item 6.](#)
10. Siân Williams to give a presentation on the shoreline management plan during the meeting in September - [Completed](#)
11. Nonn to contact the Board members to outline the content of the presentation that all would be required to make during the Board meeting in September to summarise their annual plans - [Presentations had been received from Ffrancon Williams, Siobhan Adams and Dr Gwynne Jones. Further presentations would be provided during the subsequent meeting in December.](#)

ITEM 4 - PAPERS ON THE JOINT APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

NH asked for anyone interested in being part of this work to let her know. An interest in being part of the work was expressed by the following:

- JH - it would be beneficial for Bangor University and the Llandrillo Menai Group to be involved as they had formed a strong partnership already, and possessed a great deal of expertise.
- BRW - there were links between volunteering and apprenticeships, and so it would be good for representatives from volunteering centres to be part of the work
- SW and EW - constraints in terms of planning and other technical aspects
- Gwynedd and Anglesey Councils - recruitment difficulties in the areas of social services and children. One example put forward was the need to establish a recruitment pathway for support workers to qualify as social workers through their work
- Probation Service - difficulties in recruiting Welsh speakers
- SP – difficult to retain workers in the third sector due to short-term contracts. Workers often moved on to the public sector. Could this be considered as part of the work, e.g. collaborating on secondment opportunities etc.?
- FfJ - the Councils were leading the way in terms of the Welsh language in integrated teams

EW emphasised the importance of being aware of what others were doing in this field, e.g. the Coleg Cymraeg and the (regional) Workforce Partnership. Also noted was the need to collaborate with the Welsh Language Commissioner in light of Aled Roberts's comments about losing Welsh speakers in the post-16 phase.

GJ stated that councils faced barriers - they had been paying the Welsh Government apprenticeship levy but had not been clear regarding the use made of this investment. It was emphasised that if this work was to be developed, there would be a need to ensure that any resource would come back to the organisations directly. SR noted that discussions were ongoing on the levy scheme, and that she would report back to the PSB on this issue.

SR stated that attention should also be given to the work of the DWP, as it was a key partner, adding that the Integrated Health and Care Board was also looking at this, and that discussions regarding patient records had broadened the conversation.

Two options were discussed for the workstream - to establish a new, specific sub-group, or to ask an existing one that was prepared to lead on this, e.g. the language sub-group. If the intention was to address this work as part of the language sub-group, SW noted that the membership of this group would need to be reconsidered, to reflect the interest in this work.

LIMH noted that there was a chance that things could work better at a more local level, as opposed to regional. She proposed that each organisation undertook mapping and audit work on their needs, in order to identify any gaps and bring all the results together in order to prioritise. It was agreed that bilingual jobs and recruiting Welsh speakers should be an essential part of this work.

NH would convene a project group to look at this.

1. NH to discuss the way forward for this project.
2. Contact would be made with the Commissioner to discuss collaboration opportunities, and this would be done through the Language sub-group.
3. SR would report back to the Board on the issue of the apprenticeship levy.

ITEM 5 – PRESENTATIONS BY EACH ORGANISATION ON THEIR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd

- FfW gave a presentation (which had been circulated prior to the PSB meeting) and emphasised the need to give more priority to economic development.
- While discussing the highlighted interventions, the question was raised as to how their impact would be measured, and FfW noted that they had commissioned work to measure the impact on health and wellbeing/social value etc. before and after the interventions. As part of this work, they would be comparing expenditure, statistics, jobs etc. and converting this into 'local benefit' to the economy. He noted that they had also invested in HACT - software to measure social value, which was intended to be used to assess success, using the lessons learned to steer priorities.
- There was a question as to where the focus lay in terms of empty houses/old stock. It was noted that this work was being led by the Local Authorities, and that the situation was complicated in terms of ownership.
- The need to hear from other housing associations was emphasised. FfW noted that they were working with 6 other associations.
- It was recognised that this discussion should be held by the relevant sub-group.

Public Health Wales NHS Trust

- It was explained that a team of 40 was working across north Wales, and that resources were shared between the Eastern, Central and Western regions. It was noted that its work was informed by a three-year strategic planning timetable and annual action plans, and that its current focus was on ensuring that all priorities were aligned. (See presentation attached).
- JH welcomed the emphasis on the early years, and noted that it would be beneficial to collaborate in order to underline the narrative of continuity (research showed the need to start early and make intensive interventions, which would necessitate projects of 20/25 years in duration). He expressed concern regarding HEFCW's direction not to work with children under 16 in terms of widening access, noting his experience and expertise in the field. SA stated that this was a difficult situation due to funding being targeted towards current need, and referred to a Flying Start project in Maesgeirchen in Bangor, noting that work was underway while acknowledging that perhaps there was a need to increase visibility. SA and JH would discuss this further after the meeting.

Isle of Anglesey County Council

- It was a challenge to establish language in the early years.
- Hubs had been set up but they needed to be expanded and made more efficient - there was a need to continue in strengthening collaboration with Menter Môn
- It was noted that collaboration between the housing and social services departments and the Probation Service was now much stronger, and that work would continue to strengthen it further.

Due to lack of time, it was agreed to receive the other organisations' reports in the next meeting.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The 'Homes for Local People' sub-group to further discuss barriers in terms of empty houses/old stock 5. Siobhan Adams and Jerry Hunter would have a further discussion about the early years 6. SAH to ensure that the remaining reports would be on the agenda for the next meeting |
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ITEM 6 – PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PRIORITIES

Objective 1 - Communities that thrive and flourish in the long term

Homes for local people - FfW presented the report which had been included in the papers for the meeting. It was noted that there was a need to confirm the employment arrangements of the project manager earmarked for one day a week to support the work of the Homes for Local People sub-group. Gwynedd Council and Isle of Anglesey County Council agreed to fund this jointly. Gwynedd agreed to host the position. It was noted that there was a need to secure the agreement of the Fire Authority after the meeting.

FfW noted that the number of development sites put forward following the request made by the Homes sub-group had been disappointingly low. Seven sites had been put forward, and six of them were suitable to take forward for further technical discussions - it was emphasised that having a sufficient number of sites was essential to ensure lower costs and viability.

A question was raised as to whether the new and innovative housing would be of a design that met the challenge of being both carbon neutral and sympathetic to the local area. FfW confirmed that this was the intention, and that they would keep an eye on planning needs, but again he emphasised the need for more sites.

It was noted that a discussion had been held at the last meeting of the Board regarding the merger of the Gwynedd and Anglesey partnership, and that further discussion was required on Anglesey. This did not appear to have happened.

7. NH/Homes sub-group to secure the agreement of the Fire Authority regarding the arrangements for the post of Project Manager.
8. GJ/LIMH to ensure a discussion takes place on Anglesey regarding the proposal to merge the housing partnerships of Gwynedd and Anglesey.

The Welsh Language - JH presented the paper which had been included with the Board papers.

The impact of climate change on the well-being of communities - A presentation was given by SW (included in the papers).

It was noted that the work of collaborating with Fairbourne continued between Gwynedd Council and Natural Resources Wales, but due to water levels on the land, the integrity of the defences and the risk of flooding from all directions, it was currently foreseen that the village could only be defended up to 2054.

The situation was having a detrimental effect on property values etc. and would ultimately have an impact upon retired people requiring care but lacking equity - which would be likely to increase the demand for social services. This worrying situation was also affecting people's mental health and wellbeing, which would lead to further demand for health services. DS mentioned the good work that Lisa Goodyear was doing with Fairbourne residents, and noted that the PSB could do some specific work on this, and consider procedures for dealing with all the knock-on effects. Lessons could then be learned from this community's experience to inform developments in all parts of Wales.

It was noted that Gwynedd Council had written to the Government to reject the notion that Climate Change is a matter for local decision-makers to deal with, and it was agreed that SW would draft a letter from the PSB in support of Gwynedd's standpoint.

SW noted that they had looked at those areas most at risk of flooding, and that they would look at those areas in greater detail before reporting back to the PSB with a plan for moving forward in collaboration with communities such as Fairbourne. It was confirmed that this was informed by current figures on our carbon emissions, and that the Conwy and Denbighshire PSB was leading the work of looking into ways of reducing emissions - lessons could be learned from them. SW would report back on their work in the next meeting of the PSB.

She added that Network Rail had announced that they were looking at climate change and its impact on their railways, and that Natural Resources Wales had asked them to give priority to the Cambrian Coast railway.

There was a discussion on the need to provide training to planning teams on how to respond to applications and prepare plans for the future. New TAN15 guidance would be issued soon, which would also need to be taken into consideration.

9. SW would draft a letter to the Government on behalf of the PSB, to support Gwynedd Council's standpoint.
10. SW would report back in the next meeting on the work of the Conwy and Denbighshire PSB on reducing carbon emissions.

Objective 2 - Residents that are healthy and independent with a good standard of living

Adults' Integrated Group - it was noted that integrated work was ongoing at Ysbyty Gwynedd and in the community, in order to ensure that the workplace cultures at both locations matched each other. FfJ noted that currently the work mainly involved looking at barriers, and that she would report back to the PSB as those barriers were identified, due to the likelihood that the PSB's support/work would be required.

A question was raised regarding how much of this work was reliant on short-term funding such as the Integrated Care Fund, and FfJ confirmed that this funding would help in getting started on this journey, and that they were looking at ways of taking the work forward beyond this. She also said that there was a great deal of duplication that would have to be eliminated, along with barriers to making savings.

SW noted that Natural Resources Wales and the National Park had no representatives on the sub-group, and that it should be considered whether representation from one or both would be beneficial.

Children's Integrated Group - FfJ presented the report which had been included in the papers for the Board meeting, and it was noted that the main challenge was trying to ensure that children's teams and mental health teams did not work separately in silos.

11. SW and EW would discuss membership of the sub-group with FfJ.

ITEM 7 - CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was discussed. It included an invitation for Board members to attend a Climate Change event on 18 September - organised by the north Wales PSBs. It was mentioned that a

number of these organisations had made statements on the climate emergency, but that there was no certainty of any action to back up these words.

ITEM 8 - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES - STANDING ITEM

PSB members agreed that several challenges and opportunities had already been identified in the meeting, and that there was a need to set about addressing these.

ITEM 9 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS

CT of the Probation Service referred to a memorandum of understanding in regard to the sharing of information. The Probation Service would share a partnership report with the PSB every quarter, including data on the children's service. CT would send a copy of the memorandum to NH.

EW noted that he would have to tender his apologies for the PSB meeting in December as the Snowdonia National Park Authority would be holding a meeting on the same day. It was subsequently agreed that DS would chair that meeting.

12. CT to send a copy of the memorandum to NH.