

Scrutiny Report



Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

Part 1

Date: 10th October 2023

Subject **Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) Annual Report 2022-23**

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Phil Diamond	Head of Gwent Regional Partnership Team
Natasha Harris	Partnerships and development Service Manager, Gwent Regional Partnership Team.
Sally Jenkins	Strategic Director – Social Services – Newport City Council

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked

1. To review the RPB Annual Report and progress made against the objectives; and provide any feedback/comments.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 The Regional Partnership Board (RPB) is a statutory partnership body, established to lead and guide the implementation of the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014 across the five Gwent Local Authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen within the footprint of the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area.
- 2.2 The priorities of the RPB are:
 - To improve care and support, ensuring people have more say and control
 - To improve outcomes and health and wellbeing for people across the region
 - Provide co-ordinated, person centred care and support
 - Make more effective use of resources, skills, and expertise across partners

- 2.3 The RPB Annual Report for 2022/23 is attached for information at Appendix 1 and provides a strategic overview of the work of the Board in delivering against these priorities through the work of the themed Strategic Partnerships sitting beneath it. Although it is a regional report, most of the work undertaken is cross cutting and is relevant to Newport. Key developments have also been set out in **Section 3.2** of the cover report, along with the Use of Grant Funding. The Annual Report is also submitted to Welsh Government.

Previous Consideration of this item




- 2.4 The Annual Report for the Regional Partnership Board was last discussed at the committee meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019. The agenda and minutes of the meeting are included in Section 8 of the cover report.

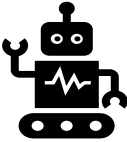





3. Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 The following is attached for the Committee’s consideration:

a) Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) Annual Report 2022 - 23 (Appendix A)

- 3.2 The following is a summary of the “Key Developments of the last Year” taken from pages 129 – 130 of the report:

	<p>Carers Annual Report: Carers team supports implementation of various programmes across the region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 415 successful applicants provided with £415,000 to support • Young Carers in School: 599 members of staff have taken part in 17 face-to-face ‘Young Carers: Identifying Us’ training sessions and 19 virtual sessions • Over 100 Young Carers supported through schools. • Training and awareness: a broad range of Gwent services have been represented at training sessions where 8 Community Awareness sessions were held attended by 120 people, 39 workshops were held attended by 332 people and 52 people completed the on-line training
	<p>Dewis figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of published resources in Gwent over the past year has increased by 400 resources. • Detailed views of resources have increased by 9,568. This is the number of times someone has searched for something on Dewis and then clicked to find more information. In March 2022 there was 31,227 clicks and in March 2023 there was 40,795. • Registered users have increased by 365. • Expired resources have reduced from 158 to 65 showing that currency of the directory is improving.
	<p>Dementia Conference: There were over 130 partners who attended the Gwent Dementia Friendly Communities conference at The Christchurch Centre, in September 2022 and 35 partners who attended the Gwent Dementia Friendly Webinar and 87% respondents wanted to become more involved in the dementia agenda across Gwent.</p> <p>Dementia Friends Dementia Friends sessions and supporting online connections with communities. 1,468 Dementia Friends have been made across 98 sessions during 2022 – 2023.</p>

	<p>Assistive Technology (AT): Over 650 AT devices have been distributed to all sectors across Gwent including the Happiness Programme, HUG and RITA to support well-being and positive stimulation.</p>
	<p>Workforce & College Consortium:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Care Work Placements - regional work placement process was launched in September 2022 to support students to apply for LA work placements and for LA social care teams to adequately prepare to accept these placements. 13 work placement applications have been received and facilitated by LA social care teams. • Coleg Gwent campuses, the 'Placement to Progression' events. Held in Oct/Nov across 4 Coleg Gwent campuses, events have supported students with securing work placements while providing local providers the opportunity to promote part-time vacancies to the current student cohort. 52 work placement applications have been received by providers and 24 commissioned providers attended the events, all were from the adult care sector or 3rd sector. • ABUHB Work Placements. 25 students have been cleared and are ready to start placements with ABUHB. As of the 14th of November, these students will be placed on wards
	<p>Micro carers MCC pilot: There are currently 7 micro carers on the directory, providing around 70 hours of carer each week as of Dec 22. There are 3 more micro carers going through training. Updated figures will be available following the project evaluation. Costings of Recruitment agencies costing a total of £1575 for 70 hours, whereas Micro carers costings a total of £1155 for 70 hours. Micro carers provide a saving of £420 per week.</p>
	<p>Launch of Autism Code of Practice and Autism Conference. 240 people attended, day long awareness and training event in which 100% delegates felt better informed of autism after the event.</p>
	<p>Communications and Engagement Regional Partnership page views have increased from 7,470 (2021-2022) to 22,502 (2022-2023) – See Annex: 4.</p>
	<p>AskSARA As of February, all metrics (users, new users, sessions, reports, bounce rate) have increased. The user/report percentage and bounce rate remain at very positive levels, indicating users are interacting well with the site. Good variety of referral sources. 90% of users would recommend AskSARA, 71% were helped to find a solution or equipment.</p>

3.3 The following is a summary of the use of grant funding taken from page 154 of the report:

In 2022-23 the Regional Partnership Board utilised Welsh Government grant funding and the following has been achieved across the region:

- 19,310 unpaid carers have accessed services, with 2083 feeling less isolated and 2479 achieving personal outcomes.
- 2,597 children at risk of entering care have been supported, to date 600 have achieved personal outcomes.

- We have provided intensive support to 267 care leavers to develop coping strategies and achieve personal outcomes.
- 611 neurodivergent children and their families have been supported, with 515 reporting good experiences.
- Additional capacity within Memory Assessment Services has enabled a total of 3644 people with cognitive impairment, living with dementia and young onset dementia to be supported and assessed.
- 12,462 contacts have been provided to support people to live well with Dementia, and an additional in-year referral acceptance of 2,577 people.
- The connected communities programme has assisted 25,276 adults via a range of prevention and wellbeing services to remain well within the community. Of which, 4968 report maintaining or improving their emotional health and wellbeing and 4396 are more aware of the support available to them.
- 12,498 individuals have received intermediate care in the community via the Place Based Graduated Care programme. 45% of stroke survivors have been supported to rehabilitate within the community, and 53% of individuals receiving intermediate care were prevented from hospital admission/crisis.
- Improving System Flow programme capacity supported 8824 individuals to leave hospital, with 1689 of these individuals receiving aids and adaptations to return home as independent as possible, and 2007 individuals achieved personal outcomes.
- 2505 people with learning disabilities achieved personal outcomes via the LD independence and wellbeing programme, with 1195 new individuals identified during 2022-23.
- 25,000 individuals have accessed information and advice via the Enhanced Foundation Tier programme, along with 169 training sessions provided across the partnership to support awareness and recognition of emotional wellbeing in self and others.
- The CVC led Third Sector Grants fund has supported 3107 individuals within the community, with 2511 reporting maintaining or improving their emotional health and wellbeing.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

1. Review the RPB Annual Report and progress made against the objectives; and provide any feedback/comments
 - The Annual report is presented to all the Strategic partnerships that sit within the governance structure of the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) including the RPB. The report highlights progress being made against the commitments in the area plan.

Conclusions:

- What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the reports?
- Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2022-23?
- Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
- Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the partnership?

4.1. Suggested Lines of Enquiry

In evaluating the delivery of the Regional Partnership Board's Strategic Priorities in Annual Report 2022/2023, the Committee may wish to provide further feedback or comment. The committee may wish to provide comment on national grant funding oversee by RPB.

- How will the Regional Partnership Board continue to deliver its strategic priorities in the face of ongoing challenges and uncertainties?
- What feedback has the Regional Partnership Board received from service users and other stakeholders about the delivery of its strategic priorities, and how has it responded to this feedback?
- How has the Regional Partnership Board collaborated with other organisations and agencies to deliver its strategic priorities, and what lessons have been learned from these collaborations?
- What specific actions has the Regional Partnership Board taken to engage with service users and other stakeholders in the delivery of its strategic priorities?
- What lessons has the Regional Partnership Board learned from overseeing the national grant funding, and how will it apply these lessons in the future?
- How does the Regional Partnership Board collaborate with local authorities and other organisations to ensure that the national grant funding is being used in a coordinated and effective way?

Section B – Supporting Information

5. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Well-being Objective	1 – Economy, Education and Skills	2 – Newport's Environment and Infrastructure	3 – Preventative and Equitable Community and Social Care	4 – An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council
Aims:	Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.	A city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.	Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.	Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core.

6. Impact Assessment:

- **Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act**
- **Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act**
- **Equality Act 2010**
- **Socio-economic Duty**
- **Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011**

The Regional Partnership Team worked closely with Local Authority officers developing the Regional Public Service Board Wellbeing Assessment for Gwent to ensure close alignment with the RPB's Population Needs Assessment. Population data and future trends were shared to

avoid duplication of effort and this also included equality impact assessments across statutory groups

6.1 Summary of impact – Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

This is included in PSB Wellbeing Assessment and Population Needs Assessment.

6.2 Summary of impact – Equality Act 2010

This is included in PSB Wellbeing Assessment and Population Needs Assessment.

6.3 Summary of impact – Socio-economic Duty

This is included in PSB Wellbeing Assessment and Population Needs Assessment.

6.4 Summary of impact – Welsh language

This is included in PSB Wellbeing Assessment and Population Needs Assessment.

7. Background Papers

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2022-2027](#)
- [Socio-economic Duty Guidance](#)
- [Public Sector Equality Duty](#)
- [Welsh Language Measure 2015](#)
- [Agenda and Minutes of the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019](#)

Report Completed: 10th October 2023