



Swyddfa Bangor | Bangor Office  
11 Llys Castan | 11 Chestnut Court  
Ffordd y Parc  
Parc Menai  
Bangor  
Gwynedd  
LL57 4FH

Ffôn | Tel: 01248 679 284  
Ebost | Email: admin@waleschc.org.uk

01 Gorffennaf 2021 / 01 July 2021

Annwyl Aelod / Dear Member

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Gogledd Cymru yn defnyddio 'Zoom' ar ddydd Mawrth 13 Gorffennaf 2021 am 10.00yb

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81320592767?pwd=cDBubEhnSy9qWjdWOUElYkIKV0Jsdz09>

Dalier sylw na fydd unrhyw eitemau yn cael eu hystyried o dan y pennawd 'Unrhyw Fater Arall' oni bai fod y Cadeirydd yn ystyried eu bod yn faterion brys a bod rhybudd ohonynt wedi ei roi a'i dderbyn yn swyddfa CIC erbyn dydd Gwener 9 Gorffennaf 2021, fan bellaf.

Cofiwch fod croeso i chi ddefnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg yn y cyfarfod - bydd cyfleusterau cyfieithu ar y pryd ar gael.

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The Meeting of North Wales Community Health Council will be held using 'Zoom' on Tuesday 13 July 2021, at 10.00am.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81320592767?pwd=cDBubEhnSy9qWjdWOUElYkIKV0Jsdz09>

Please note that no items will be considered under 'Any Other Business' unless they are considered by the Chair to be urgent and unless notice of them has been received at the CHC office by no later than Friday 9 July 2021.

Please remember that you are welcome to use the Welsh language at the meeting – simultaneous translation facilities will be available.

Yn gywir iawn / Yours sincerely

Geoff Ryall Harvey  
**Prif Swyddog / Chief Officer**



Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg. Os byddwch yn ysgrifennu atom yn Gymraeg byddwn yn ateb yn Gymraeg, ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi wrth ymateb i'ch gohebiaeth

We welcome correspondence through the medium of both Welsh and English. If you write to us in Welsh we will answer in Welsh, this will not lead to a delay in responding to your correspondence

Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Gogledd Cymru yw enw gweithredol Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Betsi Cadwaladr  
North Wales Community Health Council is the operational name of the Betsi Cadwaladr Community Health Council



CYNGOR IECHYD CYMUNED  
COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL

CIC GOGLEDD CYMRU / NORTH WALES CHC

## NWCHC FULL COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 13 JULY 2021, 10.00AM

VIA ZOOM LINK BELOW

The meeting will be conducted bilingually with the assistance of simultaneous translation. You are welcome to contribute in either Welsh or English.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81320592767?pwd=cDBubEhnSy9qWjdWOUElYkIKV0Jsdz09>

Please notify the Chair of Any Other Business prior to the start of the meeting.

<u>MINUTE</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ENC</u>	<u>TIME SLOT</u>
<b>FC21.28</b>	<b>WELCOME</b>		<b>10.00am</b>
<b>FC21.29</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>		
<b>FC21.30</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b> To receive any disclosure of interest by any member in respect of any item on the agenda		
<b>FC21.31</b>	<b>PRESENTATION</b> Alan Prosser, Interim Director Welsh Blood Service, will be in attendance to give an update about the work of the Welsh Blood Services and the challenges it has faced during the coronavirus pandemic	<b>Verbal</b>	<b>10.05am</b>
<b>FC21.32</b>	<b>UPDATE ON PROGRESS ON THE BILL TO ESTABLISH A NEW CITIZEN VOICE ORGANISATION</b>	<b>Verbal</b>	<b>11.05am</b>
<b>21.32(1)</b>	To receive an update in respect of the Citizen Voice Body		
<b>FC21.33</b>	<b>BCUHB GENERAL PRACTICE AND PRIMARY CARE</b>	<b>Verbal</b>	<b>11.15am</b>
<b>21.33(1)</b>	Deputy Chief Officer to report on current discussions with General Practice and BCUHB and to receive feedback from members		
<b>FC21.34</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>		<b>11.30am</b>
	To receive and approve the minutes of:-		
<b>21.34(1)</b>	Full Council Meeting held on 20 April 2021	<b>Enc 01</b>	
<b>21.34(2)</b>	Matters Arising not on the Agenda by exception	<b>Verbal</b>	
<b>21.34(3)</b>	Special Full Council Meeting held on 16 June 2021	<b>Enc 02</b>	
<b>21.34(4)</b>	Actions Arising from Special Full Council Meeting held 16 June 2021	<b>Verbal</b>	
<b>FC21.35</b>	<b>NWCHC EQUALITY DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN</b>		<b>11.40am</b>
<b>21.35(1)</b>	To receive a progress report in respect of the Equality Diversity and Human Rights Action Plan April 2021– March 2022	<b>Enc 03</b>	
<b>FC21.36</b>	<b>WELSH LANGUAGE</b>		<b>11.50am</b>
<b>21.36(1)</b>	Welsh Language Standards	<b>Verbal</b>	
<b>FC21.37</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<b>Verbal</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>
<b>FC21.38</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>		
	Tuesday 12 October 2021, 10.00am <b>subject to regulations this may be a blended meeting.</b>		



**Minutes of the Meeting of the North Wales Community Health Full Council held  
Via Zoom  
Tuesday 20 April 2021, 12.00pm  
Chair: Mrs Jackie Allen**

<b>PRESENT:</b>			
<b>CONWY LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Myfanwy Baines Joy Baker Frank Bradfield	Liz Liddall Sian Ramessur	Hilary Randall Roger Williams
<b>DENBIGHSHIRE LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Kelly Benton Eva Edwards	Gordon Hughes	Cheryl Williams
<b>FLINTSHIRE LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Michael Boyle Linda Harper	Stella Howard Russell Jackson	Rita Jones David Mackie
<b>GWYNEDD LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Adrian Drake-Lee Vicki Harvey	Michael Lloyd-Jones	Dewi Wyn Roberts
<b>WREXHAM LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Jackie Allen	Celia Hayward	Jayne Thomas
<b>YNYS MÔN LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Andy Burgen Trefor Hughes	Val Monaghan	Aaron Osborne-Taylor
<b>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</b>	Daniel Gold Brace Griffiths Dot Griffiths	Garth Higginbotham Mair Jones Morfudd Jones	Christopher Phillips Mike Theaker Mark Thornton
<b>Staff</b>	Rebeca Hughes Cerys Jones Jill Scupham Carol Williams	Management Officer Management Officer Administrative Officer Deputy Chief Officer	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Geoff Ryall-Harvey Sue Irlam Gwynfor Owen	Chief Officer Secretariat Translator	
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>			
<b>CONWY</b>	Phil Capper	Melanie Davies	Carina Edwards
<b>DENBIGHSHIRE</b>	Angela Marshall	Neil Taylor	Gill Williams



<b>FLINTSHIRE</b>	Di Gill		
<b>GWYNEDD</b>	John Jones	Paul Rowlinson	Vera Wilson
<b>WREXHAM</b>	Frank Hemmings	Peter Rendle	Niki Tabern-Price
<b>YNYS MÔN</b>	Richard Bladon Sadie Francis	Glyn Haynes	Dylan Rees
<b>STAFF</b>	Lucy Barker Bev Davies Eleri Ellis	Allison Hughes Debra Jones Bethan Perkins	Debra Postle Rachel Valentine
<b>NOT PRESENT</b>	Karen Bellis Deborah Chafer Jon Chorlton	Derek Holmes Linda Kinani Adrian Leslie	Menna Williams David Wisinger Emrys Wynne

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
<b>FC21.12</b>	<b>WELCOME</b> The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting. It was noted that Jo Whitehead, BCUHB Chief Executive Officer would be joining the meeting at 12.30pm.	
<b>FC21.13</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies were received and are as recorded	
<b>FC21.14</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b> There were no declarations of interest in respect of any item on the agenda.	
	The Chair varied the agenda at this stage to take agenda item FC21.16 Update on Progress on the Bill to Establish a New Citizen Voice Body (CVB)	
<b>FC21.16</b>	<b>UPDATE ON PROGRESS ON THE BILL TO ESTABLISH A NEW CITIZEN VOICE BODY (CVB)</b> The Chief Officer outlined the progress to date to establish a new Citizen Voice Body (CVB) making the following observations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The date to establish the CVB has been extended due in part to the challenges brought about by the pandemic. The Act would be fully operational from April 2023.</li> <li>• Professor Chris Jones, Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Wales and Chrishan Kamlan have been tasked to set up workstreams in preparation for the new CVB. The workstreams will be: People; Infrastructure-locations; Infrastructure-ICT; Governance; Legislation; Communication and Training.</li> <li>• The Chair and the Chief Executive Officer of the Board of CHCs will have a place on the Welsh Government workstreams.</li> <li>• 'CHCs' workstreams will also be established to mirror those of the Welsh Government. Each workstream will be led by a Chief Officer and will include: a CHC Chair; a CHC Vice Chair; a CHC Deputy</li> </ul>	



	<p>Chief Officer; an independent member of the Board of CHCs and the Chief Officer at the Board of CHCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NWCHC Chief Officer will lead on the Communications workstream. NWCHC Chair will sit on the People workstream. NWCHC Vice Chair will sit on the Governance workstream. NWCHC Deputy Chief Officer will sit on the Legislation workstream.</li> <li>• The workstreams will be used to gather thoughts which will be reported to the Senior Management Team.</li> <li>• Terms of Reference for the workstreams have been requested, but are yet to be received.</li> <li>• A briefing document prepared following the Board of CHCs development day held in March 2021 made no guarantees with regard to the CVB being able to undertake visits.</li> <li>• A requirement of the Bill was for a Code of Practice to be prepared in respect of entry to premises, therefore it is concerning to learn that this is to be delayed and referred to the Board of the CVB.</li> <li>• It was noted that the current Board of CHCs is made up of the Chairs of the 7 CHCs plus the Chair and CEO of the Board of CHCs with two independent members. The Board of the CVB will be appointed by Welsh Government.</li> <li>• With regard to staff being transferred to the new body TUPE is not the only mechanism that could be used to transfer staff and that, if TUPE turns out NOT to apply, another scheme could be created specifically to facilitate the transfer of CHC staff to the new body if, as in England, the TUPE assessment failed to protect staff.</li> <li>• There are also some concerns regarding the status and remit of the volunteers to the new CVB.</li> <li>• NWCHC is gravely concerned around the delay in respect of the Code of Practice. CHCs had been told that there would be an opportunity to feed into the Code of Practice and that prior to it being finalised there would be real engagement and consultation around the content of the document. This delay jeopardises this engagement and consultation.</li> <li>• Prior to the pre-election period, NWCHC Officers had met with the North Wales MSs to inform them about the need for the Code of Practice; in the main the MSs were sympathetic and understood the need for such a document.</li> <li>• Members are encouraged to speak to their MSs in a personal capacity regarding the delay with the Code of Practice as well as the lack of direct CHC involvement in the workstreams; a briefing document has been prepared and shared with the wider membership.</li> </ul>	
<b>FC21.17</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>	



21.17(1)	<p>To receive and approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 26 January 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2021 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.</b></li> </ul>	
21.17(2) 21.17(2.1)	<p><b>Matters Arising Not on the Agenda</b> <b>Vascular Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adrian Drake-Lee and Richard Bladon continue to attend the meetings of the Vascular Task and Finish Group.</li> <li>• The most recent meeting report prepared by Adrian Drake-Lee and the BCUHB Quality Safety and Experience report is to be shared with the attendees of the vascular ‘Safe Space’ events for information.</li> <li>• NWCHC has requested via the BCUHB Executive Director of Nursing, the Executive Medical Director and the Chief Executive Officer, that a public facing summary of the Royal College of Surgeons Invited Review report be prepared and published to provide a position statement in respect of the publication of the final report.</li> <li>• It is understood that there are some GDPR issues that need to be overcome in respect of the Invited Review report, which have led to the delay in its publication. NWCHC has also encouraged BCUHB to issue a statement explaining the reasons for the delay.</li> </ul>	
21.17(2.2)	<p><b>Resting Times Following Covid-19 Vaccinations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was confirmed that concerns regarding patients not being observed following their Covid-19 vaccinations had been raised with the BCUHB and that this was now being undertaken.</li> </ul>	
FC21.18 21.18(1)	<p><b>NWCHC EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2021 - 2022</b></p> <p>To receive the Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Action Plan April 2021 – March 2022</p> <p>Linda Harper briefed the Full Council meeting in respect of the following NWCHC Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Action Plan 2021 – 2022, making the following observations in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan for 2021 – 2022 financial year is similar to 2020 – 2021 as some of the actions remain current issues and initiatives.</li> <li>• The briefing note approach adopted during 2020 – 2021 will continue to inform members of emerging themes and issues for consideration.</li> <li>• The national CHC ‘equality aims’ have been cross referenced in NWCHC’s annual plan.</li> <li>• The socio-economic duty is part of the Equality Act and came into effect on 31 March 2021, meaning that NWCHC along with other public organisations have to give due regard to socio-economic factors when making strategic decisions; with these being noted in Equality Impact Assessments.</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that all the members of the BCUHB Strategic Equality Group are to undergo cultural compliance training to be delivered by Diverse Cymru.</li> <li>• The Plan as presented lays out the aims in respect of Equality Diversity and Human Rights with justifiable actions to achieve the plan.</li> <li>• Regular updates will be provided to both the Executive Committee and the Full Council.</li> </ul>	<b>LH</b>
<b>FC21.15</b>	<p>The Chair returned to the agenda proper at this stage taking agenda item FC21.15 Presentation by Jo Whitehead, BCUHB Chief Executive Officer.</p> <p><b>PRESENTATION REFERRAL TO TREATMENT (RTT) AND TARGETED INTERVENTIONS FRAMEWORK</b></p> <p>A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes. The following points in particular were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wales has an ageing population with a growing number of those aged over 85 years and over. 15% of houses are solely occupied by one person over the age of 65. Work is being undertaken to reduce the number of admissions via Emergency Departments as a result of falls via falls prevention work. Almost 25% of children and young people under the age of 20 live in poverty.</li> <li>• BCUHB was placed in Special Measures in 2015; areas for improvement included: Governance; Mental Health Services; Maternity Services at Ysbyty Gwynedd and reconnecting with the general public and regaining public confidence. There have been great improvements in some areas but areas such as mental health need further improvement with regard to engagement and partnership working.</li> <li>• Living Heathier Staying Well was established in 2016 with the strategy being published in 2018. Together for Mental Health was published in 2017.</li> <li>• BCUHB was deescalated from Special Measures in November 2020 and was moved to a Targeted Interventions Framework. The four areas previously subject to Special Measures are now subject to the targeted interventions and will be assessed against a route map. Targeted Interventions have been used by other Health Boards at the request of Welsh Government. BCUHB has been that advised to progress from the current baseline for the areas subject to the targeted interventions could take between 18 months and 2 years.</li> <li>• BCUHB faces a number of challenges in respect of its estate including, but not limited to, the challenges to ensure that sites are Covid safe and ageing estate which requires significant capital investment. Initiatives as to how these estate challenges in respect of finance are being considered.</li> </ul>	



- The response to the Covid-19 pandemic cannot be underestimated. BCUHB has delivered Test, Track and Protect along with the mass vaccination programme. Three field hospitals were commissioned and Well-Being hubs have been developed for BCUHB staff. Essential services have also been maintained.
- With regard to priorities for 2021 – 2022 BCUHB will continue to focus on its Covid-19 response as well as focussing on revering access to planned and unscheduled care pathways. It will also look to integrate and improve mental health services. Services will be co-designed with clinicians and other stakeholders to ensure they meet the needs of the patient and provide an excellent patient experience.
- BCUHB will also update its estate strategy published in 2019 so as to ensure it meets the emerging clinical strategy. A number of business cases are also under development; if approved these will bring about a significant number of estate improvements.
- Following the lessons learned during the pandemic, the time is right to refresh Living Healthy Staying Well; it will also help to develop the Clinical Services Strategy, which has been lacking.
- The Clinical Services Strategy would look at areas such as medical staff; the development of a diagnostic centre at both the Wrexham Maelor and Ysbyty Gwynedd; examine how some services delivered over the border could be delivered in North Wales; and how to deliver value based healthcare. Particularly exciting is the prospect of a medical school in North Wales and collaborative work this could bring about.
- Notwithstanding the challenges facing BCUHB, the plans to bring about a change for the better are ambitious. Services and service redesign will be co-designed in partnership. Patients will be empowered and supported to be equal partners in their care.
- It is hoped that the current support from the NWCHC will continue and that NWCHC continues to challenge and support the BCUHB to help create an environment for change and influence.

In response to questions received the following observations were made:

- The challenges of Covid-19 have exacerbated health inequalities. All planned services have been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment and it is the intention for there to be an equality thread through all aspects of BCUHB's work. With regard to the Targeted Interventions, Welsh Government has requested that BCUHB use 'maturity matrices' so as to measure performance; BCUHB will self-asses against the matrices but these will be validated by the Welsh Government and independently against the criteria. The socio-economic duty will also be considered. BCUHB will also encourage aspiration as an employer, by being a promoter of opportunities.





- Relationships with key Local Authority partners are being developed and nurtured as part of the partnership working. With regard to nursing homes, the global pandemic has brought undoubted challenges. It is pleasing to report partnership work is working well with Health Care Assistants from Ysbyty Alltwen also delivering care in the community.
- With regard to issues at **Ysbyty Penrhos**, Jo Whitehead undertook to familiarise herself with the issues and provide a position statement. JW
- It was noted there is a vacancy for a BCUHB partnership governor on the Countess of Chester. It would be useful if this could be filled; Jo Whitehead undertook to give this further consideration and would liaise with the Chief Executive Officer of the Countess of Chester. JW
- Noting the intention to repatriate some services to North Wales, consideration must be given to the critical mass needed to sustain not only the services but the skill set of those clinicians providing the services. It was noted that neighbouring health boards such as Powys, could also take advantage of services being delivered in North Wales.
- Patients receiving care across the border are often discharged to North Wales where the pathway of care following specialist care is lacking; this was acknowledged and would also need to be given further consideration.

The Chair thanked Jo Whitehead for attending and for presenting to the membership regarding Referral to Treatment Times and the Targeted Interventions Framework and went on to make the following observations:

- The presentation should be seen as the beginning of the dialogue between BCUHB and NWCHC in relation to the Health Boards 'new journey'. The NWCHC is the Critical Friend of the Health Board, and it is hoped that feedback is accepted in the spirit that is intended
- It is noted that the presentation provided a summary of the BCUHB's priorities for the future, it is likely that NWCHC will require a more detailed insight into these priorities over the coming months
- There are some aspects of the presentation that do not seem in line with the NHS Guidance on Engagement and Consultation in respect of Service Changes, and the protocols that NWCHC and BCUHB have developed together to support the Guidance and also the Gunning Principles. NWCHC is sure that it will be able to work with BCUHB through the Services Planning Committee to ensure that the patient experience is at the heart of everything BCUHB does going forward. One approach, perhaps would be to review the language and tone of the slide in relating to Involvement and Engagement and the NWCHC would be happy to discuss this with BCUHB.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NWCHC has seen in previous years that a top down approach and a gap between 'the ward and the board' is not the desired way of planning and delivering services.</li> <li>Jo Whitehead acknowledged the feedback received and thanked the Chair for the opportunity to attend and present to the Full Council.</li> </ul>	
<b>FC21.19</b> 21.19(1)	<p><b>WELSH LANGUAGE</b></p> <p>Welsh Language Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was confirmed that NWCHC is compliant with the 110 Welsh Language Standards.</li> <li>Questions have been received via the Board of CHCs regarding the 'policy making' standards, which are being addressed.</li> <li>A Welsh Language Officer has been appointed at the Board Office and will undertake translation for all the CHCs in Wales. It was however noted that some CHC documents had had to be outsourced to another external translator due to capacity issues.</li> <li>Thanks were extended to the Deputy Chief Officer and Cerys Jones for their work in respect of the Welsh Language Standards and the associated work</li> </ul>	
<b>FC20.20</b> 20.20(1)	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Formal thanks were noted to the Chief Officer and his team for the work undertaken during 2020 – 2021 particularly with regard to the 'safe space' engagement events and ensuring a balanced budget.</p>	
	<p>All were thanked for attending the meeting</p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 13.35</b></p>	

CHAIR .....

DATE.....



**Minutes of the Meeting of the North Wales Community Health Full Council held  
Via Zoom  
Wednesday 16 June 2021  
Chair: Mrs Jackie Allen**

<b>PRESENT:</b>			
<b>CONWY LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Joy Baker Frank Bradfield	Phil Capper Liz Liddall	Sian Ramessur Roger Williams
<b>DENBIGHSHIRE LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>			
<b>FLINTSHIRE LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Stella Howard		
<b>GWYNEDD LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Adrian Drake-Lee	Vicki Harvey	
<b>WREXHAM LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Jackie Allen	Frank Hemmings	Adrian Leslie
<b>YNYS MÔN LOCAL COMMITTEE</b>	Glyn Haynes	Val Monaghan	
<b>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</b>	Brace Griffiths Dot Griffiths	Mair Jones Peter Rendle	Mike Theaker Mark Thornton
<b>Staff</b>	Rebeca Hughes Cerys Jones Carol Williams	Management Officer Management Officer Deputy Chief Officer	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Geoff Ryall-Harvey Sue Irlam Lynwen Davies Jill Scupham	Chief Officer Secretariat Translator Administration Officer	
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>			
<b>CONWY</b>	Carina Edwards	Hilary Randall	
<b>DENBIGHSHIRE</b>	Kelly Benton Gordon Hughes	Angela Marshall Neil Taylor	Gill Williams



<b>FLINTSHIRE</b>	Michael Boyle Di Gill	Linda Harper	David Mackie
<b>GWYNEDD</b>	John Jones	Michael Lloyd Jones	Paul Rowlinson
<b>WREXHAM</b>	Celia Hayward Adrian Leslie	Niki Tabern-Price	Jayne Thomas
<b>YNYS MÔN</b>	Richard Bladon Andy Burgen	Sadie Francis Aaron Osborne -Taylor	Dylan Rees
<b>STAFF</b>	Lucy Barker Bev Davies Eleri Ellis	Allison Hughes Debra Jones Bethan Perkins	Debbie Postle Rachel Valentine
<b>NOT PRESENT</b>	Myfanwy Baines Karen Bellis Jon Chorlton Eva Edwards Gladys Healey Derek Holmes	Trefor Hughes Russell Jackson Gwenfair Jones Rita Jones Linda Kinani Dewi Wyn Roberts	Menna Williams Emrys Wynne

<b>MINUTE</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>FC21.22</b>	<b>WELCOME</b> The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting and introduced the BCUHB attendant officers to the members of the NWCHC present at the special meeting. The Chair noted that the meeting was not a decision making meeting, but an information receiving meeting.	
<b>FC21.23</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies were received and are as recorded	
<b>FC21.24</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b> There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting. During the course of the meeting, Frank Bradfield declared that he had a relative who works at the Ablett Unit.	
<b>FC21.25</b>	<b>PRESENTATION</b> Jill Timmins BCUHB Project Lead for the Ablett Unit Development, Alberto Salmoiraghi BCUHB Consultant Psychiatrist/Medical Director and Mike Smith BCUHB Interim Director Of Nursing Mental Health and Learning Disabilities (MHLDD) were in attendance to provide an update and information in respect of the proposed development at the Ablett Unit including changes to Bryn Hesketh. The following points and observations were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jill Timmins provided an overview of her role as the Project Lead for the Ablett Unit development noting that this involves liaison with the</li> </ul>	



project team, external design and consultancy partners and finance to bring about the proposed new build for the Ablett Unit.

- Jill also noted that she had family experience of inpatient mental health services in North Wales and was keen to ensure that the proposed new build of the Ablett Unit and the proposed changes to Bryn Hesketh brought about improved experiences for patients and their families using the service.
- Since the publication of the HASCAS and Ockenden reports into Tawel Fan, mental health services in North Wales has not had the best reputation; the proposed new build and changes will considerably enhance and improve the patient experience as well as mental health services generally.
- The original objectives of Strategic Outline Case, (SOC) were noted; it was confirmed that these remain and are not considered to be unreasonable.
- The SOC was prepared and issued after the publication of the HASCAS and Ockenden reports; the Outline Business Case, (OBC) was submitted in September 2019.
- Notwithstanding the previous public engagement undertaken, which included speaking to people with lived experiences, families and carers, and social media campaigns, the NWCHC had expressed concern at the level of engagement taken, given the changes that were being proposed at the time. The original service change protocol had been presented to the Services Planning Committee in January 2020; as a result of the pandemic and the response thereto, this had been put on the back burner.
- Feedback received from the engagement activity is to be used to shape the design and delivery of the new facilities, should approval be granted. The feedback outlines what is important to those with lived experiences as well as how this can make a difference to their progress and recovery.
- The proposed new build would include a welcoming reception area, with a café, which would give volunteering opportunities.
- The therapeutic space would be larger and would accommodate occupational therapists and psychological therapists as well as both indoor and outdoor well-being areas.
- Facilities for staff will be enhanced; as will the facilities for providing administrative support to the team of staff. Better accommodation will be provided so as to provide more private consultation space for pharmacy services upon discharge. It was noted the original SOC did not address the wider issues that were important to service users and concentrated solely on the bedroom facilities.



- The Electroconvulsive therapy suite (ECT) at the Ablett Unit provides treatment to both inpatient and outpatients. It is a small unit and to ensure its continued accreditation, it needs to be expanded, which will be done in the proposed new build.
- The number of section 136 admissions has increased; the new build would afford more comfortable facilities.
- Extra care facilities along with care closer to home would also be considered as part of the proposed new build; bed modelling has focussed on this area. Parking facilities for visitors and carers to the unit would also be considered as part of the development.
- In addition to the consultation with those with lived experiences, engagement had also been undertaken with residents, Members of the Senedd. A dedicated website had been set up and staff were consulted. Staff on mental health wards were canvassed for their feedback and thoughts; the project was also presented to the BCUHB Stakeholder Reference Group.
- In spite of support from the planning officer at Denbighshire County Council outline planning permission for the proposed development was not granted. Although BCUHB had been informed that permission would more than likely be granted if the rejection was appealed, a decision was taken not to appeal and to present a new application on a new area of the YGC site.
- The proposed new build will form part of the already significant investment in the mental health division.
- Moving on to the proposed changes to Bryn Hesketh, it was confirmed that it had never been designed as a dementia assessment unit and despite significant investment it was still not a dementia friendly unit. Bryn Hesketh had become the assessment following the closure of Tawel Fan.
- As it is an isolated unit there are a number of clinical risks, all of which have been flagged by HIW and other reports, including those of the NWCHC. The proposals provide an opportunity to create a bespoke dementia facility which would offer individual accommodation.
- Bryn Hesketh is an isolated unit that lacks on site medical cover at evenings and weekends. It also lacks access to diagnostics such as x-rays and scanning. There are also staffing challenges in the event of unplanned staff sickness and the ability to cover the staff rota. The new development would provide a more integrated service along with a more robust staff cohort.
- Co-locating the Ablett Unit and Bryn Hesketh would eliminate other identified risks such as delays in pharmacy provision; patient observations due to the current layout; and patient transfer to YGC.



The new development would provide en-suite bedrooms thus affording patients more dignity and gender appropriate spaces.

- It is anticipated that the OBC would be finalised by mid-July; this will then be presented to the project board. This will then pass through the various BCUHB governance committees before being presented to the Board meeting on 23 September 2021. Should the OBC be approved this would then be submitted to Welsh Government, again subject to approval, this would move to Full Business Case (FBC).

Jill Timmins thanked the Chair and the Chief Officer for the opportunity of presenting to the Full Council. Formal support for the proposed changes from the NWCHC was requested; should the support be received, this would be included in the OBC.

In response to questions received the following observations were made:

- There proposed new build would not include a rehabilitation unit. Consideration is being given to where this could be located in line with new guidelines for patient rehabilitation. Rehabilitation could be provided at Bryn Hesketh; NWCHC input and support for the rehabilitation services would be welcomed.
- Many patients need long-term rehabilitation which is not best done in a locked unit, but better done in a community setting where interventions from occupational therapists and other health care staff are available. Patients needing rehabilitation would also receive support in other areas, such as housing. The Clinical Strategy Group is cited on the discussions in respect of rehabilitation; Alberto Salmoiraghi agreed to share further information with NWCHC in this respect.
- Provided the various stages of the business case progress as expected, the new build should be open in 2025. It was noted that the OBC is being authored so as to anticipate any supplemental questions that may come from Welsh Government so as to avoid further delays.
- As the project moves forward work is already underway to develop a staff training programme to bring about a change of culture; a staff recruitment is already being drafted to ensure that the right staff with the right qualifications and experience are in place for when the proposed new build opens.
- It is pleasing to hear that the BCUHB has acknowledged the issues at both the Ablett Unit and Bryn Hesketh, many of which have been observed by NWCHC members when undertaking visits.
- Noting the intent to provide modern facilities, it was pointed out that some patients with dementia might not recognise the facilities thus causing further confusion. The design of the facilities will be undertaken using guidance as issued by the Kings Fund and will adhere to the Welsh Government's green agenda for new builds. It was also

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noted that carers, those with lived experiences and other stakeholders will be involved in the design of the facilities so that they are recognisable to the patient.

- Staffing continues to be a challenge, but much work is underway to grow, train and retain staff in North Wales, with a focus on the whole patient pathway for mental health patients. The team will have a multi-disciplinary focus and will be more integrated than previously.
- The services and facilities will be designed and delivered using the clinical evidence and guidelines whilst ensuring that humanity is also present throughout.
- Stakeholders are cited on the proposed change to the services; it is hoped that the changes will be undertaken with collaboration in line with the recently published Co-Production strategy from the Welsh Government.
- It was confirmed that the number of beds will not be reducing; bed modelling has been undertaken so as to predict the numbers needed to future proof the new build as demand for mental health services increases.
- It is acknowledged that there is a lack of crisis care currently, in the community; this will also be addressed as part of the project.
- With regard to the loss of car parking spaces, it was confirmed that 196 car parking spaces will be lost during the construction of the new build. BCUHB is trying to mitigate the loss of these spaces by establishing another park and ride scheme. Co-locating Bryn Hesketh in the new build will increase the number of car parking spaces needed to accommodate visitors and carers.
- It was confirmed that mechanical ventilation is a requirement. The outside space will be used for fresh air and for therapy.
- As regards the previous 'toxic mix' of patients, it was confirmed the wards and the gardens are not interchangeable. Each category of patient, functional mental health, including adult psychiatric care, and organic, including dementia care, would have their own areas in respect of relaxation, dining and outside space. The gardens would be a safe therapeutic space for patients.
- The bedrooms have been designed with maximum flexibility; should there be the need, specific bedrooms can be locked off.
- It was noted that the Terms of Reference for the project team leading on the new build had been varied so as to allow a CHC member; the representation on the project board would be considered by the NWCHC Executive Committee.
- It was suggested that the previous level of engagement be revisited so as to ensure wider and broader engagement be undertaken as the





	<p>project progresses; NWCHC would be able to assist and act as a key partner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that the NWCHC Executive Committee will be meeting on 5 July and would discuss the proposed new build and changes to the Ablett Unit, following which the Chief Officer would liaise with the BCUHB Project Lead regarding its support for the proposed development.</li> </ul>	<b>CO</b>
<b>FC20.26</b> 20.20(1)	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b> There was no other business transacted.	
<b>FC20.27</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL</b> Tuesday 13 July 2021, 10.00am	
	All were thanked for attending the meeting <b>The meeting closed at 12.16pm</b>	

**CHAIR** .....

**DATE**.....

## North Wales Community Health Council

### Equality and Human Rights – Briefing 1

This briefing is the first relating to the current Equality and Human Rights Plan 2021-2022. It follows on from the previous five updates relating to last years' plan.

- A commitment was made by the Welsh Government, in March 2020, to produce an Action Plan following calls from the Wales Race Forum and broader stakeholders. Following the convening of the First Minister's Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic COVID-19 Steering Group work and the report from the Socio-economic Sub Group the work to develop the Race Equality Action Plan was accelerated and the consultation runs until 17 June<sup>1</sup>.
- Owen Hurcum, 23, has become the first openly non-binary mayor in Wales after they were chosen by fellow councillors on Bangor City Council in Gwynedd. Owen identifies as "genderqueer" or "agender"<sup>2</sup> and is also understood to be the youngest-ever mayor in Wales. They thanked fellow councillors for their support when facing online abuse. After the mayoral vote by fellow councillors, they tweeted they were *"beyond humbled to become the first openly non-binary mayor of any city anywhere"* after fearing coming out would mean they would be *"ostracised by my community or worse"*.
- The King's Fund has released an independent report<sup>3</sup> into the NHS's role in tackling poverty. The report concludes that there are three areas in which the NHS can take a leading role in eradicating poverty: raising awareness, practical actions and being a strong advocate.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://gov.wales/race-equality-action-plan-anti-racist-wales>

<sup>2</sup> The terms "non-binary" and "genderqueer" are defined by the Terrence Higgins Trust as: *"Gender is often referred to as a 'binary', meaning two – male and female. The term 'non-binary' refers to people who do not believe that there are just two genders and who exist outside of the gender binary. Non-binary people class themselves as neither exclusively male nor female."*

<sup>3</sup> "The NHS's role in Tackling Poverty – awareness, action and advocacy" – Deborah Fenny and David Buck

- This year all Local Health Boards and Trusts came together to mark Equality and Diversity week (10-14 May). BCUHB organised several free “lunch and learn” sessions from 12:00 - 1:30. Details of these were circulated to CHC staff and members. The sessions were well received and the following statistics relating to autism were given in one of the sessions. People with autism are: 2.5 times more likely to have a premature death than the general population / Suicide death rate 9 times higher for autistic people / 80% of autistic children have severe sleep problems / 73% of Autistic people did not report crimes against them to the police / 81% of autistic people have experienced verbal abuse.
- A new study has found large numbers of people have borrowed money to pay for their own private mental health care during the Covid-19 crisis. Research seen by ITV News shows one in six of people aged 18-24 year have been taking out loans to pay for their own care. The study also reveals how one in ten people aged 25-40 are also taking out loans to pay for their own private mental health care. A study conducted by The Guardian, of 16 to 25 year olds, has also found that Covid-19 policies may be leaving psychological and socio-economic scars on young people across Europe. “Generation Z” expressed profound anxiety about their future and accused governments of failing them during 15 months of lockdown that has destabilised their mental well-being, education and job prospects. Another survey<sup>4</sup> into the lives of LGBTQI women also found that out of the entire sample, including those who did not consider themselves to have a mental health issue, 77% felt their mental health had suffered because of Covid-19. The figure was 88% for 16 to 24 year olds.

The next briefing note will be sent out in the Autumn. In the meantime, please contact me if you need further information.

Linda Harper

June 2021

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<sup>4</sup> The DIVA Survey – published by Stonewall and Kantar 2021