

Name of Committee	Care Scrutiny Committee
Title of Item	A Healthier Wales Transformation Programme (Children)
Date of Meeting	30 January 2020
Cabinet Member	Councillor Dilwyn Morgan
Purpose	Update members on progress with the implementation of A <i>Healthier Wales</i> (Children) transformation programme in Gwynedd.
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1. Background

1.1 *A Healthier Wales*, is the Welsh Government's long term plan for Health and Social Care in Wales, and its response to the parliamentary review of Health and Social Care, was published in June 2018.
<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-10/a-healthier-wales-action-plan.pdf>

1.2 *A Healthier Wales*, sets out a future vision of a whole system approach, with greater emphasis on prevention and wellbeing, using models of seamless local health and care which are designed and co-ordinated around people's needs.

1.3 Linked to the future vision there is a short term action plan, structured as a national transformation programme and supported with a Transformation Fund.

1.4 The Transformation Fund aims to accelerate the development of new models of local health and social care services delivered through the Regional Partnership Boards.

1.5 North Wales Regional Partnership Board responded to *A Healthier Wales* and secured funds through the Transformation Fund for 4 areas of work. One of these areas of work is to **Transform Integrated Early Intervention and Intensive Support for Children and Young People.**

2. Transforming Integrated Early Intervention and Intensive Support for Children and Young People Programme.

2.1 The programme's aims are :

- Help prevent problems from escalating through timely integrated support - including new approaches to early help and accessing therapeutic support,
- Establish multi-functional 'assessment and support' teams that provide responsive and intensive support that seeks to build individual and family resilience. This support would stop complex family situations and crisis from escalating further.
- Achieve better outcomes for children and young people whilst reducing the need for costly, long term statutory intervention.

2.2 The programme has 4 work streams which are :

2.2.1 Pilot an “Effective Child Protection” model.

The pilot has been operational here in Gwynedd since April 2019.

The project seeks to ensure that child protection practice is effective. This is done by addressing 4 cornerstone for effective child protection practice. These include the following elements.

- Ensuring that our conversations with families are collaborative rather than leading to conflict
- Ensure that our decisions on statutory intervention are of a high quality
- Ensure that any change needed to keep a child safe is clear and understandable to the family
- Ensure that progress towards such a change can be measured

A practice mentor for the project has been appointed. The pilot started in Meirionnydd-Dwyfor area in May 2019. The project has included staff training, individual and group mentoring sessions and a change in how Safeguarding Conferences are held. New tools and practice techniques are in operation and the project is already learning from the experiences of the first area of the pilot. Other regions of North Wales are keen to see whether the project will succeed in creating a new, workable model of more effective practice in protecting children from harm

2.2.2 Multi Disciplinary Intensive Support Teams

The project will establish a multi-disciplinary team across Gwynedd and Anglesey to work with a small cohort of families to improve their outcomes.

Families who will receive support are already supported by a social worker and have been identified as families who would benefit from intensive intervention due to their complex needs.

The team draws together the disciplines of health, mental health, children's social care, and adult social care to deliver integrated intensive interventions for the families.

The Work Stream is addressing the transformation agenda as we are pulling together specialties and services into one team, rather than the current position of signposting families to expertise between services.

Anglesey Council is acting as the host authority on behalf of both counties, and they are currently undertaking the recruitment process for the team.

2.2.3 Early Help Hub

Continue to develop our early support hub which has already pulled together the children's social service intake team, family information service and team around the family. The current 'hub' uses a single admission, assessment and referral procedure and is a single

point of entry to access information, early support, preventative family services, care and support, and safeguarding.

This work stream is piloting the inclusion of adult health and social care services to the HWB to better understand, advise and respond to the needs of parents within a family, alongside the existing services that focus on the needs of the child.

2.2.4 Children and Young People Emotional Resilience and Mental Health.

Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board is leading on this work stream. A project manager has recently been appointed and a Steering Group has been established, with an initial meeting scheduled for the end of January to scope the project.

2.3 The individual work streams are progressing on different timescales.

3. Governance.

3.1 The work streams, supported by dedicated project managers, report to the North Wales Children and Young People Transformation Group.

3.2 Local stakeholders to the programme in Gwynedd and Môn meet regularly to develop the work streams, provide local overview, and strategic connections via the West Transformation Group, as a sub group to the above mentioned regional group.