

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Report to a Meeting of Gwynedd Council Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 27 July 2021
Cabinet Member: Councillor Dafydd Meurig
Contact Officer: Morwena Edwards, Corporate Director
Title of Item: Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board 2020/2021

1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1. The Cabinet is requested to note the work and progress in 2020/2021 on the areas of work that are brought forward regionally through the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

2. THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information to partners in relation to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2020/21. The report demonstrates the progress made and the Board's work streams during the year.
- 2.2 The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 requires that every Regional Partnership Board in Wales produce and publish an annual report on its work to be presented to the Welsh Government.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 This report is the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board for 2020/21 (Appendix 1). It is a requirement under Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 that every Regional Partnership Board prepares, publishes and presents an annual report on their work to the Welsh Government.
- 3.2 The Welsh Government publish guidance every year on the completion of the Annual Report. Therefore, the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board gets to grips with the information required by Welsh Government. Further information on the Board's work is available at <https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/>. The report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board is written in a format that includes all of the required information.
- 3.3 The Regional Partnership Board is the Board that was established to satisfy the

requirements of Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. The Act requires local authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with care and support needs, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to the local authorities for the purposes of their social services functions.

- 3.4 Part 9 of the Act also includes partnership arrangements between local authorities and Local Health Boards to achieve their functions. The Act also provides Welsh Ministers with regulation making powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements, resources for partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.
- 3.5 The purpose of Part 9 of the Act is to improve people's outcomes and well-being, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. Therefore, the key objectives of co-operation, partnership and integration can be described as follows:
- To improve care and support, ensuring that people have a greater voice and control
 - Improve health and well-being outcomes
 - Provide coordinated, person-centred care and support
 - Make more effective use of resources, skills and expertise.

The purpose of the Annual Report is to note the progress made by the Regional Partnership Boards and it considers how the board achieves the principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

- 3.6 In January 2020, Welsh Government published new Part 9 Statutory Guidance and the North Wales Regional Partnership Board operates in accordance with this Guidance. The main changes deal with additional membership, additional focus on outcomes for children and young people with an additional focus on the integration of services.
- 3.7 In 2020/21, the award of budgets and partnership grants to the Board have been able to fund some of the Board's activities and pay for additional members of staff to manage the Board's work streams by using this funding.
- 3.8 The Welsh Government awards regional grant funding via the Regional Partnership Boards e.g. the Integrated Care Fund, Transformation Provision Grants. Partners agree on the use of the grants and agree jointly on the capacity required regionally to provide their programmes.
- 3.9 The risk is to ensure compliance with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and with the Guidance for Regional Partnership Boards. The Boards do not have designated financial sources and their activities are currently funded by a mixture of funding from the local authority combined with top-sliced grant funding from Welsh Government.

3.10 Working in partnership across the health and social care services is expected to assist with supporting resilient communities and also to ensure a seamless service for individuals who require care and support.

4. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

5.1 None to note.

5. Views of the Statutory Officers:

i) The Monitoring Officer:

The report meets the legal requirement placed on the Board to prepare and annual report on the extent to which it has achieved its statutory objectives.

ii) Head of Finance:

In 2020-21, the award of partnership funds and grants to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board has enabled the funding of activities and continued payment of staff to manage the Board's work streams.

Welsh Government is awarding regional grant funding streams via the Regional Partnership Boards, e.g. the Integrated Care Fund, and Delivering Transformation grants. Partners agree the use of the grants and agree jointly on regional capacity required to deliver its programmes.