

# GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

## REPORT TO A MEETING OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

**Date of Meeting:** 26 November 2019

**Cabinet Member:** Cllr Dafydd Meurig

**Contact Officer:** Morwena Edwards, Corporate Director

**Contact Number:** **Telephone** 01286 679468

**Title of Item:** Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board 18/19

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### 1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1. That the Cabinet considers and accepts the annual report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and notes the work and progress made in 2018-19 on the areas of work that are brought forward through the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

### 2. THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

- 2.1 This report is the 2018/19 Annual Report for the North Wales Regional Partnership Board. 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 its work and sends it on for the attention of the Welsh Government.
- 2.2 The Annual Report is attached in Appendix 1 and has been approved by the members of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board as a fair and balanced outline of the Partnership's work for 2018/19.

### 3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 In March 2018 the Welsh Government issued guidance for completing annual reports of the Regional Partnership Board. The Boards must use this guidance to complete their reports. The attached report contains all the information that was required in this guidance. The report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board is written in a format that tries to portray all of the information required. The report also includes the views of many Board members.

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- 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 needs for care and support, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to the local authorities for the purpose of their social services functions.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 The Welsh Government is re-writing Part 9 of its Statutory Guidance at present, and we should receive this in the autumn. This updated guidance will come into force from April 2019, therefore it does impact on this current report.
- 3.6 In terms of the main messages within the annual report, I wish to draw Cabinet members' attention to the following:-
- 3.6.1 The Council has played a prominent part in the Regional Partnership Board for the year in question - with Councillor Gareth Roberts (former Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Well-being) acting as chair, and Morwena Edwards, Corporate Director, being a member of the Board and leading on several work streams for the Partnership.
- 3.6.2 The Partnership has continuously reviewed the Board's membership and there are now two representatives from housing and also two members representing citizens and carers.
- 3.6.3 An outline is provided of a number of the Board's successes and areas of work for the year (noted on page 4 of the report in Appendix 1) including:-
- The Regional Carers Strategy,
  - Regional Learning Disabilities Strategy,
  - Regional Workforce Strategy,
  - Strategic Commissioning Arrangements,
  - Regional Integration Agreement (including work on combined budgets),
  - A Regional Plan for implementing A Healthier Wales (including 4 successful bids from the Transformation Fund),
  - Supporting the North Wales More Than Just Words Forum
  - Establishing the Regional Research, Innovation and Information Hub
  - Establishing the North Wales Citizens Panel.
- 3.7 The Regional Partnership Board has developed considerably over 2018/19 and the members of the Board are of the view that there is now maturity in the relationship between members of the Board which enables key and important discussions to take place. There are certainly still challenges in terms of operating

in a large region with so many members and partners. It is often unavoidable that the work of implementing changes and planning happens on a more local level, and 3 sub-regions are often used under the regional arrangements. In respect of the west, operating at this sub-regional level happens through formal arrangements to the Public Services Board (Gwynedd and Anglesey) and also through the reporting to the Regional Board. This arrangement is seen to be working well, although there are some challenges from working locally for some of the partners that are regional organisations by nature.

#### **4. THE REASONING AND JUSTIFICATION FOR RECOMMENDING THE DECISION**

- 4.1 There is a clear requirement in Legislation of the need to establish a Regional Partnership Board in the field of health and care, and it is a requirement by the Welsh Government that we submit an annual report to summarise the Board's work.
- 4.2 The Corporate Director and the former Cabinet member have provided input to the contents of the report and they are of the view that it is a fair reflection of the Board's work for the year 2018/19.

#### **5. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE**

- 5.1. None to note.

#### **6. ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO RECOMMENDING THE DECISION**

##### **6.1. Views of the Statutory Officers:**

###### **i. Monitoring Officer:**

"No observations to add in relation to propriety"

###### **ii. Head of Finance Department:**

"Nothing to add from a financial propriety perspective."

##### **6.2. Views of the Local Member:**

- 6.2.1 Not a local matter.

##### **6.3. Results of Any Consultation:**

- 6.3.1 Members will be aware of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and they will have had information about Part 9 of the Act and the development of Regional Partnership Boards. There has been no formal consultation, except with members of the Regional Partnership Board which includes a broad range of membership, including citizens and carers.
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**Appendices:**

**Appendix 1**