



Gwent Supporting People Regional Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020



Working Together for People with Support

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Glossary

LA:	Local Authority
LCP:	Local Commissioning Plan
RCC:	Regional Collaborative Committee
RSP:	Regional Strategic Plan
SPNAB:	Supporting People National Advisory Board
SPPG:	Supporting People Programme Grant
SP:	Supporting People
WG:	Welsh Government

Introduction

The Supporting People Programme funds a wide range of innovative housing related support services for vulnerable people across Gwent, who may be at risk of losing their homes and their independence.

The preventative nature of the Supporting People Programme supports local, regional and national policy objectives that help people to live independently in the community. Supporting People services help prevent homelessness, social exclusion, isolation and institutionalisation. Services also help with the reduction of crime and disorder.

National Vision for Supporting People

The national vision for the Supporting People Programme is to help people find and keep a home that meets their needs and encourages independence in a healthy and safe environment.

The specific aims of the Supporting People Programme are:

- Helping vulnerable people live as independently as possible
- Providing people with the help they need to live in their own homes, hostels, sheltered housing or other specialist housing
- Preventing problems in the first place or providing help as early as possible in order to reduce demand on other services such as health, social services and housing.
- Providing help to complement the personal or medical care that some people may need
- Putting those who need support at the heart of the Programme.
- Ensuring quality services, which are delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible through joint working between organisations that plan and fund services and those that provide services
- Providing funding for support based on need
- Promoting equality and reducing inequalities.

The types of services funded by Welsh Governments Supporting People Programme Grant include supported housing schemes such as homeless hostels, domestic abuse refuges and floating support services (housing related support provided within a person's home or alternative suitable location).

This Regional Strategic Plan will:

- **Establish the strategic context and evidence the supply, demand and unmet regional housing and support needs prevalent in Gwent**
- **Explore and analyse the consultation and engagement evidence gathered through the local and regional Supporting People planning frameworks**
- **Provide an overview of the service user groups that are prioritised and proposals for service development.**

Introduction to Gwent



Gwent comprises of the five local authority areas: Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. Gwent benefits from following the same geographic footprint as the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Demographics of Gwent are varied and include rural countryside areas, urban centres and the most easterly of the south Wales valleys.

Blaenau Gwent is situated in the valleys of south east Wales and covers approximately 10,900 hectares with a population of 69,674*. It is an area with high levels of unemployment and a high percentage of people who are dependent on benefits.

Caerphilly with the largest population in Gwent of 179,941* its people are widely dispersed amongst fifty small towns and villages with the main settlements largely reflecting the area's coal mining heritage. Its demise has left a legacy of high unemployment and poor health.

Monmouthshire is classed as a 'semi rural accessible area'. There are four major towns, with a total population of 92,336*. Monmouthshire has the lowest level of unemployment in Gwent: however there are pockets of deprivation as evidenced in north Abergavenny.

Newport is the third largest urban centre in Wales with a population of 146,841*. The city has the second largest number of people from minority ethnic communities of all the Welsh counties (after Cardiff) and has continued to increase since 2009 when the figure was estimated at 6.6% of the population.

Torfaen is the most easterly of the south Wales urbanised valleys with a population of 91,609. There are three urban centres: Pontypool, Blaenavon, and Cwmbran. The largest number of traveller caravans was recorded in Torfaen during the January 2016 bi annual Gypsy and Traveller count with a total of sixty-one, which was 40.66% of the Gwent total.

* Stats Wales national level population estimates

Strategic Priorities

The Supporting People Programme is a cross cutting policy framework that links to a wide range of national, regional and local priorities and strategies. There are a range of policy and legislative initiatives that are influencing the future provision, direction and delivery of housing related support services for vulnerable people in Gwent. These are key drivers of the Gwent Regional Strategic Plan, which has been developed to encompass the aims of the Supporting People Programme.

National overview

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Act seeks to strengthen existing governance arrangements for improving the social, economic and cultural well-being of Wales to ensure that present needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Public bodies listed in the Act need to think about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other and look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.

With the Supporting People Programme now included amongst the other Welsh Government tackling poverty programmes, there is an expectation that closer working and flexibility across these programmes is realised. This encompasses the recommendations made in the “Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery (January 2014)” and assists in delivery of the Tackling Poverty Action Plan. This is especially important whilst public services are stretched and Local Authorities have fewer resources, but still need to be able to provide the services that people need now and into the future.

The Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee and Gwent Local Authorities have recognised the synergies between the various Welsh Government Tackling Poverty programmes and the benefits of closer working for Services Users supported by the Supporting People Programme. Close working relationships are established across all Gwent Local Authority areas with the teams from respective Tackling Poverty Programmes undertaking evaluation of the services that are commissioned and provided. This aids with the development of a deeper understanding of the client bases across the programmes and opportunities for further joint contracts or initiatives that can be delivered across Gwent. Co-opting a representative from the Gwent Tackling Poverty Champions to the RCC during

2016 will ensure that alignment of the Tackling Poverty Programmes continues to be a priority area for the Committee.

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

The Housing Wales Act is a major piece of legislation that links housing with national strategies such as community safety, children and young people, health and social care, older people and business and economy. The Act prioritises that essential support should be provided to people to assist in finding and keeping a home and is having a far reaching impact on the services that are being developed under the Supporting People Programme in Gwent.

The duty on Local Authorities to take 'all reasonable steps to achieve a suitable housing solution for all households which are homeless or threatened with homelessness'; is leading to a significant increase in demand for Supporting People funded services. The Supporting People Programme is responding to this challenge by working closely with Local Authority housing teams across the region to remodel existing services, develop new specific support services and / or locate additional specialist support workers within the housing options teams to meet this strategic agenda.

Housing is represented on the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee (RCC) by Local Authority representatives from Torfaen and Newport; Landlord and Support Provider representatives. This enables the RCC to keep abreast of the changes proposed by the Act and the impact this is having on services funded by the Supporting People Programme. A priority for the Gwent RCC will be to contribute towards the development of the new Homelessness Strategies as required from LAs for 2018.

Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act provides the legal framework for improving the well-being of people who need care and support, carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales.

The Act recognises the increase in the number of people accessing social services. In order to help meet and reduce the demand it outlines the need for increased comprehensive early intervention and intensive support services. Supporting People services will play a vital role in providing preventative support to vulnerable people in order to meet this strategic agenda.

Social Services representatives from Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly and Monmouthshire attend the Gwent RCC enabling the RCC to keep abreast of the changes being proposed by the Act and the impact this will have on the Supporting People Programme. In some areas Community Connector posts have been commissioned to ensure that preventative work is taken forward as required by the Act. A mental health support worker (commissioned as a pilot in Blaenau Gwent) is based within the Information, Advice & Assistance Team

within Social Services to further assist with the preventative duties of the Health and Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act.

Supporting People funded services will feature significantly as part of Information, Advice and Assistance services that vulnerable people can access. Ensuring SP services are accessible to eligible vulnerable people in Gwent, and complement existing universal and community services and packages of care will be a key priority for the Gwent RCC.

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015

This legislation focuses on the prevention of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, the protection of victims and support for those affected by such issues.

The Act aims amongst other things to:

- Improve arrangements to promote awareness of, and prevent, protect and support victims of gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Introduce a needs-based approach to developing strategies which will ensure strong strategic direction and strengthened accountability
- Ensure strategic level ownership, through appointment of a Ministerial Advisor who will have a role in advising Welsh Ministers and improving joint working amongst agencies across this sector
- Improve consistency, quality and join up of service provision in Wales

The Gwent RCC Chair is a member of the South East Wales VAWDASV Board to represent the Gwent RCC. This ensures that close links are maintained between the regional boards, whereby both fora are kept abreast of changes being implemented as a result of the Act and priorities and developments associated with the Gwent SP Regional Strategic Plan. The work streams that sit under the regional board are attended by the RDC and by RCC advisory members. Close links have been formed with the regional team enabling information to be shared about the services commissioned through the Supporting People Programme and the progress made in line with the recommendations from the Domestic Abuse Modernisation Report (Gwent) 2012. As the primary funder of Domestic Abuse services across Gwent, the sharing of information assists the SEW VAWDASV Board to collate the information it needs to map all domestic abuse services commissioned across the region.

As from April 2016 installation of target hardening equipment is now eligible for Supporting People Programme Grant funding. A pooled approach to the provision of target hardening equipment has been progressed in Gwent and is available through the housing options teams in each Gwent local authority.

Assisting with progressing and implementing the requirements of the VAWDASV Act in Gwent is a Gwent RCC priority.

Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016

The Renting Homes (Wales) Act will make it simpler and easier to rent a home, replacing various complex pieces of existing legislation with one clear legal framework.

The Act is due to be implemented in 2017/18. Once implemented, the Act will require landlords to issue a written statement of the occupation contract which clearly sets out the rights and responsibilities of landlords and those renting from them. To help landlords comply with this requirement, the Welsh Government will provide free model contracts.

People who find themselves in difficult circumstances will also benefit from the Act. It will help to prevent current homelessness situations where a joint tenant leaves the tenancy, thereby ending the tenancy for everyone else. The new approach to joint contracts will also help victims of domestic abuse by enabling the person carrying out domestic abuse to be targeted for eviction.

The White Paper correlates to other strategic agendas. It proposes a more effective response to the anti-social behaviour of some households and of dealing with domestic abuse by targeting action on the perpetrator and enabling the victim to remain in their home.

The Act plans to achieve equality for young people (aged 16 and 17 years old) by enabling them to rent on the same basis as an adult. The Supporting People Programme will need to respond to these proposed changes by ensuring that services are able to respond to increased demand.

Housing and Community Housing Cymru are represented on the Gwent RCC enabling the RCC to keep abreast of the proposed changes and the impact this will have on Supporting People Programme services. The RCC has also had the opportunity to feed into Bill's consultation process through its Housing members.

Welfare Reform Act 2012

The Welfare Reform Act continues to introduce a wide range of reforms. The Act introduces the Universal Credit (UC) which replaces many existing benefits and limits the total amount of benefit a person can claim. It has introduced a new size criteria or 'bedroom tax' and Local Housing Allowance rates in the social rented sector and a reduction in the amount of housing benefit that can be claimed for single claimants under the age of 35 years. The welfare reforms will impact on the way tenants receive benefit, in many cases, removing the option of having benefits paid direct to landlords.

The number of people approaching Supporting People services with benefit and money problems continues to increase and this has been reflected in the Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise (GNME) returns over the past few years which continue to inform that managing money is one of the most required support needs requested by people.

The Welsh Government Acts and subsequent legislative and policy changes unique to Wales as a result are welcomed by the Gwent RCC and whilst they present some challenges, they are embedded into this Regional Strategic Plan as priorities for development over the next 3 years.

The scope and diversity of the Supporting People Programme is also reflected in a wide range of other national strategies and plans. The following have influence over the direction of the Regional Strategic Plan in Gwent and the delivery of Supporting People services to vulnerable people:

- Working Together To Reduce Harm – The Substance Misuse Strategy for Wales 2008 – 2018
- Welsh Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study
- The Strategy for Older People in Wales (2013/23)
- Ten Year Homelessness Plan for Wales

Regional overview

The governance arrangements established through the RCC have helped to raise the profile of the Supporting People Programme across many of the regional forums, boards and initiatives that are established in Gwent. The groups and forums highlighted within this section are represented by either the attendance of the Gwent RCC Chair, Gwent RCC members or the Regional Development Co-ordinator who are able to ensure Supporting People priorities are considered and also hold responsibility of feedback of relevant items to the Gwent RCC meeting.

Regional Partnership Board

As set out in the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 local authorities and local health boards are required to establish a Regional Partnership Board (RPB) to manage and develop services to secure strategic planning and partnership working and to ensure effective services, care and support are in place to best meet the needs of their respective population.

The objectives of the Regional Partnership Boards are to ensure the partnership bodies work effectively together to:

- Respond to the population assessment carried out in accordance with Section 14 of the Act, and

- Develop, publish and implement the Area Plans for each region covered as required under section 14A of the Act.
- Ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements, in accordance with their powers under section 167 of the Act.
- Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate.

Regional Partnership Boards (RPB) will also need to prioritise the integration of services in relation to:

- Older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia.
- People with learning disabilities.
- Carers, including young carers.
- Integrated Family Support Services.
- Children with complex needs due to disability or illness.

The Greater Gwent Health, Social Care & Well-Being RPB became a co-opted non-voting member of the Gwent RCC during Quarter 3 of 2016 formalising the reporting structures between the RCC and the RPB.

Public Service Boards

The purpose of Public Service Boards (PSBs) is to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area by strengthening joint working across all public services in Wales.

Overview

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 establishes statutory PSBs which will replace the voluntary Local Service Boards in each local authority area. Each Board will:

- Assess the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area
- Set objectives that are designed to maximise the PSBs contribution to the well-being goals.

Each PSB must prepare and publish a plan setting out its objectives and the steps it will take to meet them. This is called a Local Well-being Plan. It must say:

- Why the PSB feels their objectives will contribute within their local area to achieving the well being goals
- How it has had regard to the assessment of local well-being in setting its objectives and steps to take.

The Supporting People Programme was recognised as a key initiative in respect of delivering many of the outcomes and objectives contained in the previous Local Service Boards Single Integrated Plans. It is anticipated that this recognition will continue. Supporting People teams are committed to working with the PSBs to deliver against the key themes and priorities that will be highlighted within their local action plans once drafted.

A key priority for this Regional Strategic Plan will be to create a closer alignment with the Gwent RCC and the recently developed Public Service Boards

The Regional Partnership Board and Public Service Boards are currently considering how they will work together and it is anticipated that formalised arrangements will be established to ensure effective partnerships are in place.

South East Wales Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board

Building on the Pan Gwent Domestic Abuse Forum the Board has been established to provide the governance vehicle for the regional partnership for violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence services.

The Board parallels the South East Wales Safeguarding Children's Board and Gwent Adults Safeguarding Board. All three Boards will link together to provide a framework of safeguarding governance and will ensure that communication links exist with strategic multi-agency partnerships working across the region.

The Board will provide senior leadership bringing together agencies to work together in a joined up way and to ensure the best possible services are provided to protect and support victims and prevent crime. Where there are gaps in service or shortcomings in performance the Board will bring together the key agencies to prioritise and address issues.

Supporting People makes a substantial contribution to the funding of domestic abuse services across the region; funding both accommodation based services and floating support services. Supporting People is represented by the attendance of the RCC Chair at the Strategic Board. As an early adopter site to pilot and implement the process ahead of the national rollout of "Ask and Act", Supporting People Lead Officers and the Regional Development Co-ordinator attend the working groups that have been established to take forward this work.

Gwent Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse

Its role is to act as a forum bringing together all agencies involved in the planning, commissioning and delivery of substance misuse issues at a regional level. It provides a regional decision making framework to assess need across all communities, pool expertise and resources, monitor the impact of the national strategy and improve and strengthen planning, commissioning and performance management of substance misuse.

Supporting People makes a substantial contribution to assisting people with substance misuse issues in Gwent through the provision of supported housing schemes and floating support services. Nominated Gwent RCC reps provide the link between the Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse and the RCC.

Gwent Welfare Reform Partnership

The Gwent Welfare Reform Partnership was formed with a clear purpose to lessen the impact of the welfare reforms for people living in Gwent, it aims to raise awareness of the welfare reforms with fellow professionals, Welsh Government, MPs and local Councillors to draw their attention to the implications that the introduction of the Welfare Reform Act will have outside of the housing sector.

Gwent RCC members are well represented on this group that continues to meet several times a year.

In One Place Programme

The In One Place Programme is a collaborative programme that was launched during 2014 to improve the provision of accommodation to those with complex health and social care needs within the Gwent geographical region. The In One Place Programme brings together the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, the five local authorities and eight housing associations.

The Regional Collaborative Committee is represented by the attendance of RCC Members and the Regional Development Co-ordinator at this meeting. This ensures the Supporting People Programme is feeding into this collaborative programme.

Office of the Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

The role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is to ensure that the policing needs of Gwent's communities are met so that people are safe, and have confidence in and satisfaction with the services provided by the police.

Gwent PCC Jeff Cuthbert represents the people of Gwent by making sure the service provided by the police is efficient, effective and economical. To ensure that the policing needs of communities are met, the Commissioner has consulted widely with the public on the policing requirements for Gwent. The Police and Crime Plan will set out his key priorities for Gwent and will be presented to the public in April 2017

The OPCC became a co-opted non-voting member of the Gwent RCC during 2014 and the Gwent RCC Chair now also attends the OPCC Strategic Commissioning Board and the Safer Gwent Partnership to represent the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee; the synergies and linkages to be made

between these groups are well recognised and understood and it is anticipated that relationships and partnerships will strengthen further going forward.

Wales Community Rehabilitation Service (CRC) – Provider of Probation Services

Wales CRC provides a wide range of probation services to help reduce reoffending and protect the public from harm. They work with low and medium risk offenders, managing their community sentences and giving them the knowledge, skills and support to enable them to stop offending. This includes specialist recovery and rehabilitation programmes, community payback unpaid work, education, training and employment, mentoring and working with families of offenders. They also manage those released from prison on licence.

Wales CRC is owned by Working Links, a public, private, voluntary company committed to helping people change their lives for the better.

Wales CRC has been fully engaged with the RCC Governance since its inception in 2012.

Together for Mental Health in Gwent and South Powys 2012-2017

The very first integrated strategy for mental health across the areas of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, Torfaen and South Powys has been developed by representatives of Local Government, Health and third sector organisations in each of these areas, but most importantly its development has been guided through service user views and experiences.

The Supporting People Programme makes a substantial contribution to assisting people with mental health issues in Gwent. The Regional Development Co-ordinator attends the Regional Mental Health Commissioning group to represent the Supporting People Lead Officers and the Gwent RCC.

Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability 2012-2017

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a clear strategic direction regarding the future planning and delivery of services for adults with a learning disability who live within, or have services commissioned by, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire and Torfaen. It describes the core principles that are fundamental to service provision and outlines the key issues that need to be addressed in forthcoming years in order to continue to deliver high quality, safe and cost effective services.

Supply, needs assessment, outcomes analysis, consultation evidence and service gaps

The local Supporting People teams have established local and regional planning and commissioning frameworks that:

- Create a clear picture of the supply of services and the identified housing related support needs across the locality and the region.
- Enable the planning of services to meet identified gaps in service provision
- Develop and maintain quality services that are sustainable, strategically relevant and offer value for money.
- Ensure services are citizen centred; putting the needs of service users first by conducting appropriate consultation and by providing opportunities to be involved in the planning, commissioning and review of Supporting People funded services.

The Gwent strategic planning process consists of collation and analysis of local, regional and national data sets and information. Sources of information and data that are considered include:

Demographics

- National & Regional Data: relevant national data, available through the Data Unit Wales, Daffodil and Info Base Cymru.

Supply

- Supply Map: this is completed by local Supporting People teams on an annual basis and collated regionally; for this Regional Strategic Plan the data was a snapshot of services as at 1st April 2016.
- Availability of alternative services and provision.

Demand

- Provider monitoring information including waiting lists and void rates: providers are monitored through contractual and strategic planning mechanisms by local authority Supporting People teams.

Needs

- Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise (GNME): collects information on individuals presenting to homelessness, Supporting People providers of services, Social Workers, Probation Officers and other relevant services in the local area. The form is collected and collated locally and then feeds

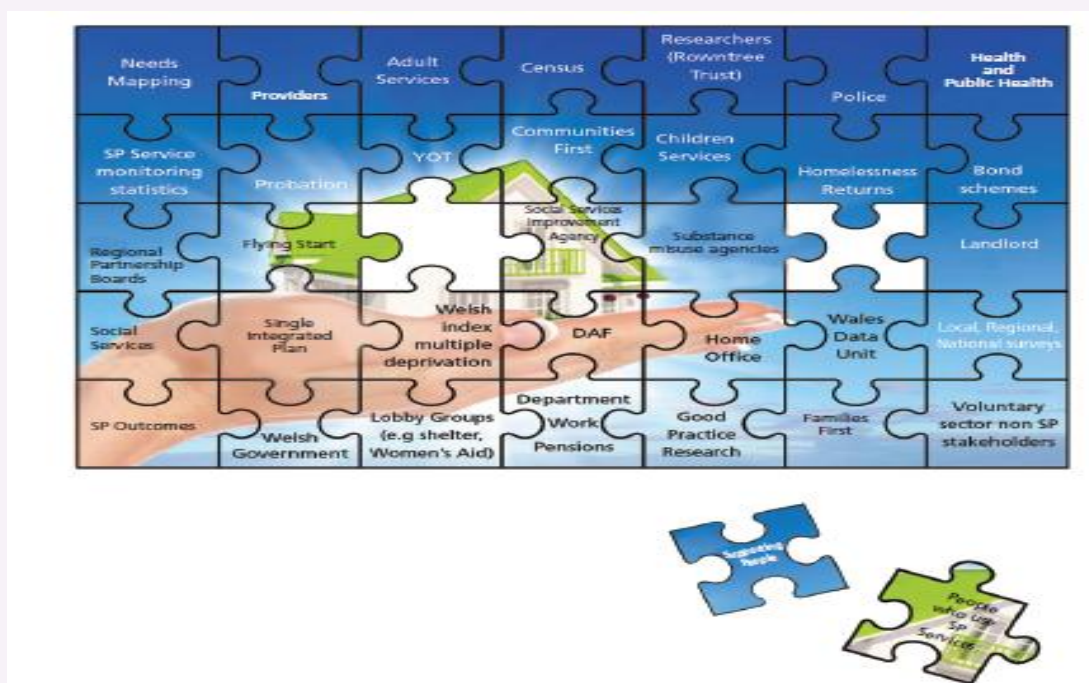
into a regional data collection tool managed by the Regional Development Co-ordinator.

- The annual needs planning event. Stakeholders are invited to attend; giving their views and thoughts on services provided locally and regionally, information from these events helps to inform the understanding of unmet needs.
- Regional project proposal form: provides an opportunity for interested stakeholders to provide information that aids the planning of regional services across Gwent.
- Service User events. Service users are invited to give their views to their local Supporting People teams providing an opportunity to give their views and thoughts on the services provided and the services needed.
- The Supporting People Outcomes Framework collects information relating to eleven well-being outcomes across four themes; which enables commissioners and other stakeholders to determine the benefits of receiving housing related support to improve the lives of vulnerable people.
- Strategic priorities and gaps in service provision from other strategies, evidence bases and fora also contribute to the understanding of needs

Other research and data

- Research from other interest groups and organisations is considered when published e.g. Joseph Rowntree, Shelter.

The following diagram highlights the needs assessment processes and data sources that are analysed to inform the development of the Local and Regional Strategic Plans and that are also undertaken when additional scrutiny, review and focus are directed to particular client group categories.



Supply

There is an established regional supply map database, developed over the past nine years which holds the details of the existing accommodation based and floating support schemes; this is updated as a snapshot of services commissioned across the region on April 1st each year.

The current supply of services shows that there were 15163 units and 12639.99 hours of support contracted by 83 support providers across Gwent on this date.

Supply Map Summary comparison (Snapshot as of April 1st 2015 and 2016)

Summary by Lead Authority 2015		
Lead Authority	Units	Hours
Blaenau Gwent	678	0
Caerphilly	6068	1404
Monmouthshire	2946	0
Newport	2210	2841.1
Torfaen	3600	119
Total	15502	4364.1

Summary by Lead Authority 2016		
Lead Authority	Units	Hours
Blaenau Gwent	515	169
Caerphilly	5785	4566.5
Monmouthshire	2651	1570.45
Newport	2584	6215.04
Torfaen	3628	119
Total	15163	12640

The above two tables show the comparison of units and hours commissioned by each local authority as at April 1st 2015 and 2016.

Summary by Scheme type 2015		
Scheme Type	Units	Hours
Alarm	11214	0
Sheltered / OP Floating Support	2170	571
Float Sup	1334	3793.1
Direct Access	75	0
Permanent Supported Housing	345	0
Temporary Supported Housing	364	0
Totals	15502	4364.1

Summary by Scheme type 2016		
Scheme Type	Units	Hours
Alarm	12107	0
Sheltered / OP Floating Support	1647	1020.5
Float Sup	929	8613.35
Direct Access	40	262
Permanent Supported Housing	193	1200.5
Temporary Supported Housing	247	1543.64
Totals	15163	12640

The above tables provide a summary of the number of units and hours of support commissioned by scheme type as at April 1st 2015 and April 1st 2016

The tables below show a comparison of the number of units and hours commissioned by client group as at April 1st 2015 and April 1st 2016. The tables evidence the increase in commissioned services across client categories.

Summary By Client Group 2015		
Client Group	Units	Hours
People with Learning Disability	394	470
People with Mental Health	349	531
People with Alcohol Issues	0	0
People with Substance Misuse Issues	91	140
People with Physical and/or Sensory Disability	6	141
Alarm Services (including sheltered/extra care)	11071	0
People with Criminal Justice	51	70.1
Generic/Floating Support/Peripatetic	351	1186
People with Chronic Illnesses including HIV, Aids	0	0
People with Refugee Status	0	0
People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	2603	571
People with Developmental Disorders	0	212
Young People who are Care Leavers	12	40
Young People with Support Needs 16-24	310	361
Families with Support Needs	102	88
Single Parent Families with Support Needs	2	141.5
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	86	403.75
Men experiencing Domestic Abuse	5	8.75
Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	69	0
Totals	15502	4364.1

Summary By Client Group 2016		
Client Group	Units	Hours
People with Learning Disability	289	1177
People with Mental Health	233	2341.95
People with Alcohol Issues	0	0
People with Substance Misuse Issues	16	354
People with Physical and/or Sensory Disability	6	254.9
Alarm Services (including sheltered/extra care)	11920	0
People with Criminal Justice	41	230
Generic/Floating Support/Peripatetic	183	3911.5
People with Chronic Illnesses including HIV, Aids	0	0
People with Refugee Status	0	0
People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	2148	1244.5
People with Developmental Disorders	0	188
Young People who are Care Leavers	8	56
Young People with Support Needs 16-24	121	696.1
Families with Support Needs	85	312
Single Parent Families with Support Needs	2	116
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	88	837.25
Men experiencing Domestic Abuse	5	8.75
Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	18	912.04
Totals	15163	12640

Gwent Supporting People Cross-Authority & Regional Schemes 2016

The Supporting People Programme funds 504 units and 1,229.84 hours of support for cross authority or regional schemes across Gwent. The current regional schemes and the cross authority services can be seen in the charts below. All services contract directly with the lead Local Authority who holds responsibility for contract monitoring and review.

Jointly funded regional or sub regional services

Lead Authority	Cross Authority	Client Group	Nº Units or hours	Contract by Units or hours	Scheme Type
Caerphilly	yes	People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	56	units	Sheltered / Older Persons Floating Support
Monmouthshire	yes	People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	63	hours	Sheltered / Older Persons Floating Support
Monmouthshire	yes	Alarm Services (including sheltered/extra care)	374	units	Alarm
Monmouthshire	yes	People with Criminal Justice	12	units	Floating Support
Newport	yes	Young People who are Care Leavers	16	hours	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	yes	People from ME Communities experiencing domestic abuse	25	hours	Floating Support
Torfaen	yes	People with Criminal Justice	22	units	Floating Sup
Torfaen	yes	Generic/Floating Support/Peripatetic (Gypsy & Traveller)	10	Units	Floating Sup

Cross Authority services

Lead Authority	Cross Authority	Client Group	Nº Units or hours	Contract by Units or hours	Scheme Type
Blaenau-Gwent	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	6	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Monmouthshire	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	5	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	112	hours	Direct Access
Newport	yes	Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	8	units	Direct Access
Newport	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	150	hours	Direct Access
Newport	yes	Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	812.84	hours	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	yes	Young People who are Care Leavers	16	hours	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	Yes	Generic (hospital in-patients)	35	Hours	Floating support
Torfaen	yes	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	11	units	Direct Access

Gwent Supporting People Local Service Directory Links

The list of local services funded by the Supporting People Programme can be accessed through the individual service directories using the links below:

Blaenau Gwent

http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/fileadmin/documents/Resident/Health_and_Social_Care/Supporting_People_Service_Directory.pdf

Caerphilly

http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/supportingpeople/sites/your.caerphilly.gov.uk/supportingpeople/files/docs/SP%20Directory%20English_0.pdf

Monmouthshire

A web page is currently unavailable; please contact the Supporting People team for the Monmouthshire directory of services.

Newport

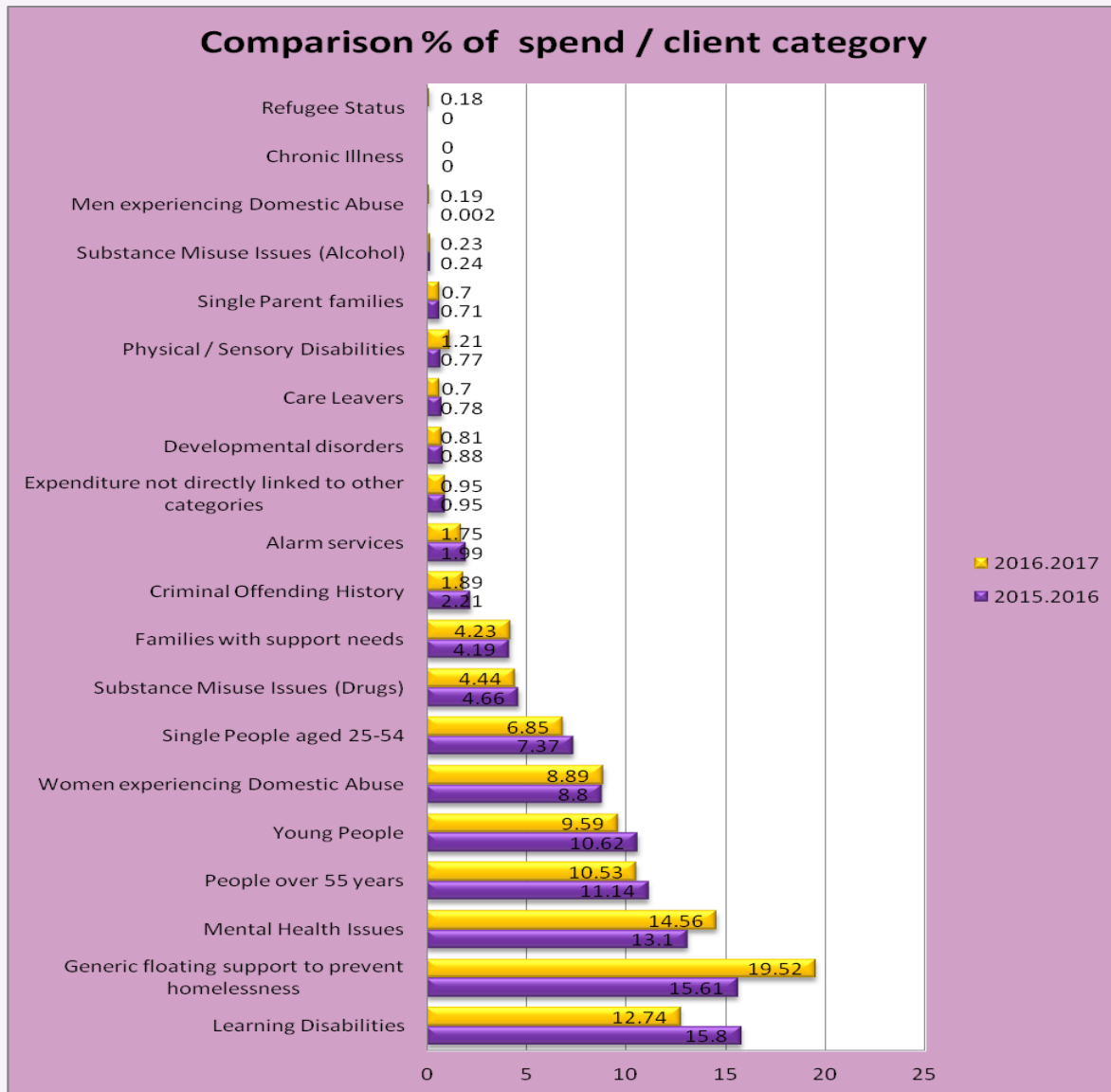
<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Care-and-Support/Newport-Directory-of-Supporting-People-Services-2015.pdf>

Torfaen

<http://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/Related-Documents/Supporting-People/Directory-of-Services.pdf>

Spend

The following chart provides an overview of how spend was allocated against each of the Supporting People client categories for the 2016/2017 Spend Plan and provides a comparison to the 2015/2016 spend plan.



* Some support issues where there appears to be little direct spend; tend to be supported by other projects receiving funding allocated under other client categories. E.g. chronic illness; men experiencing domestic abuse; substance misuse; single parents; physical sensory disabilities and care leavers.

The recently introduced new legislation is determining the future direction and delivery of the Supporting People Programme in Gwent; the RCC and Local Planning Groups are continuing to prioritise service delivery that is increasingly preventative in nature.

Learning Disability services were scrutinised by the RCC during 2014 and 2015 and spend is reducing through the remodelling of services to this client group; refocusing services delivered to this client group will ensure that services are able to meet future need and free up funding to develop the preventative services that will meet the requirements of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

Needs

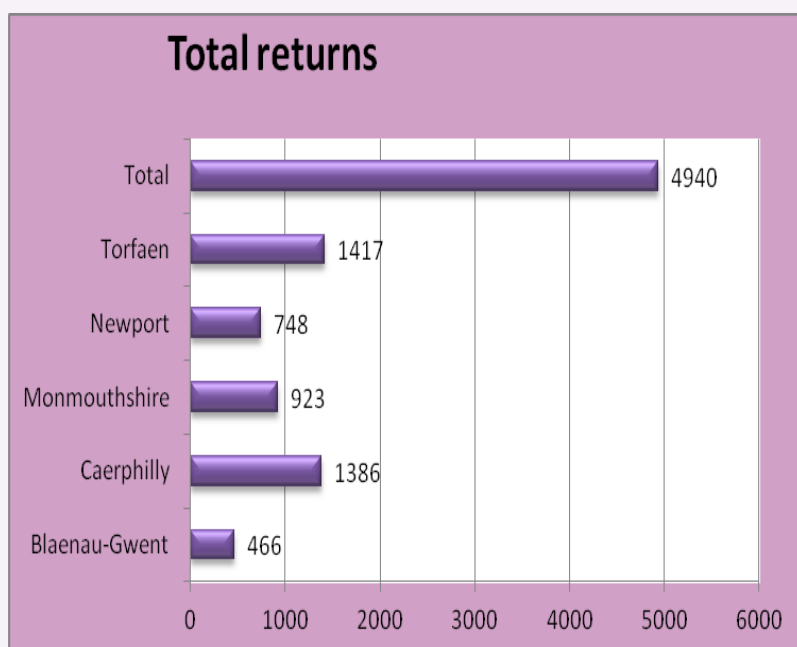
Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise (GNME) Analysis April 2015 – March 2016

The GNME form is distributed to agencies working with vulnerable people to complete on an on-going basis.

It is a planning tool that is used to gather information on the current and future accommodation needs, the housing-related-support needs and the additional support needs of individuals presenting to homelessness, Supporting People providers and other relevant organisations e.g. Social Services and Probation.

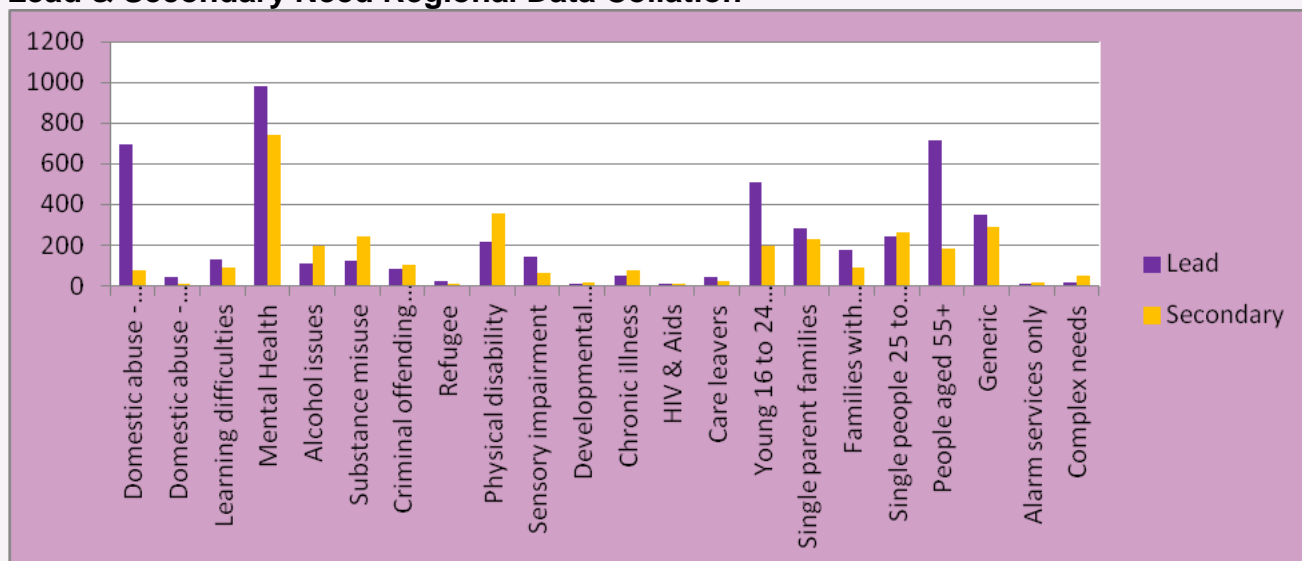
The updated version of the GNME form launched across Gwent on 1st April 2015 better reflects the Outcomes Framework; during 2016 a review of the data analysis was completed to ensure that the data related to priorities such as homelessness was captured.

During 2015 /2016 a total of 4940 GNME returns were received from across the five Gwent Authorities; an increase of over a thousand more returns compared to the previous reporting period. The Supporting People teams continue to raise the profile of the GNME form to organisations to increase awareness of the importance of this submission data as a needs planning tool.

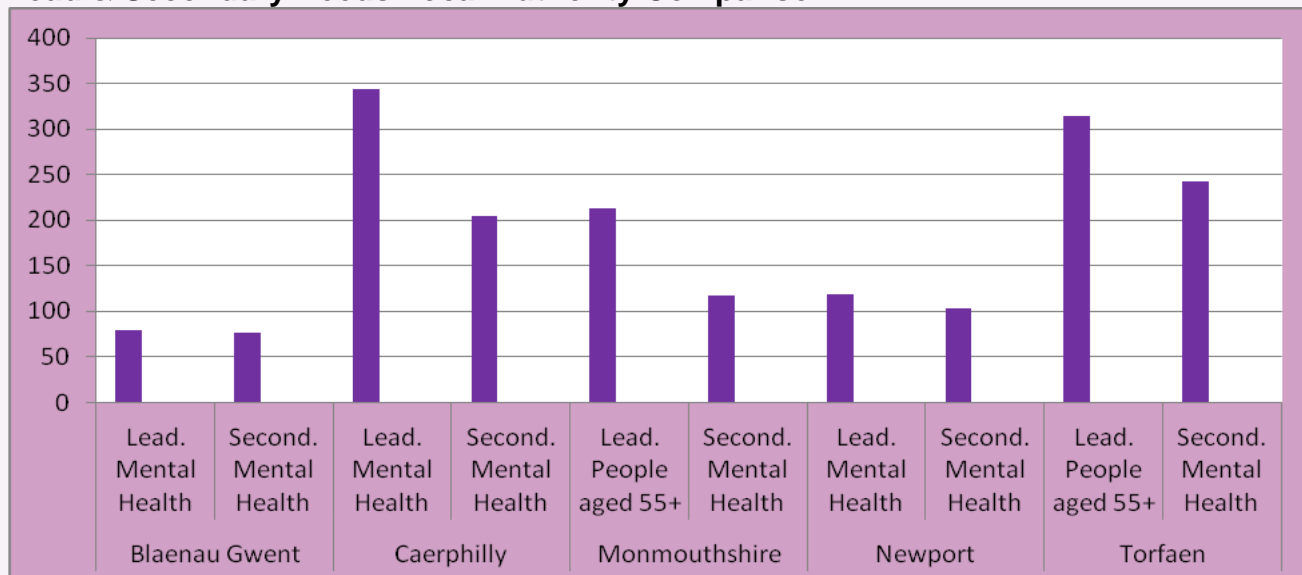


"Since 2003 over 35,000 GNME forms have been returned to the local Supporting People teams; providing a significant amount of information to analyse housing related support needs locally and regionally"

Lead & Secondary Need Regional Data Collation



Lead & Secondary Needs Local Authority Comparison



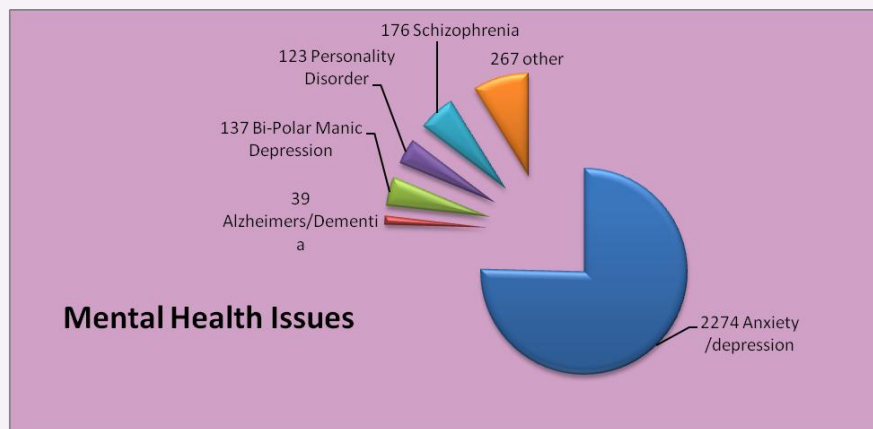
The graphs above provide an analysis of the lead and secondary needs that people are presenting to services with by regional collation and by local authority comparison of the data.

The data continues to reflect that people are presenting to services with the same predominant needs as in previous years; this year mental health appears as either a lead or secondary need in every local authority, with older people aged 55+ being the prevailing lead need in Monmouthshire and Torfaen.

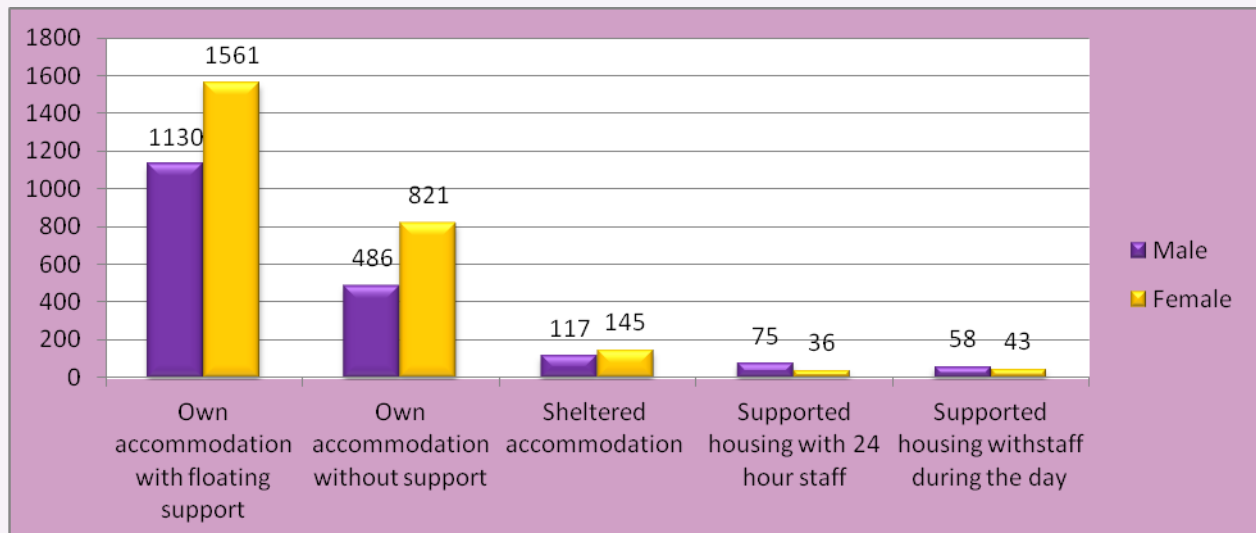
The pie chart below illustrates the mental health problems that are being experienced by those completing the GNME; anxiety and depression continue to be the most predominant mental health issues as in previous years.

Almost a quarter of those completing the GNME appear to have a diagnosed mental health condition.

Housing crisis contributes to the development of mental health issues or makes existing mental health problems much more difficult to manage without support. Review of client category People with Mental Health Issues has been prioritised by the RCC for their 2016-2017 work plan.



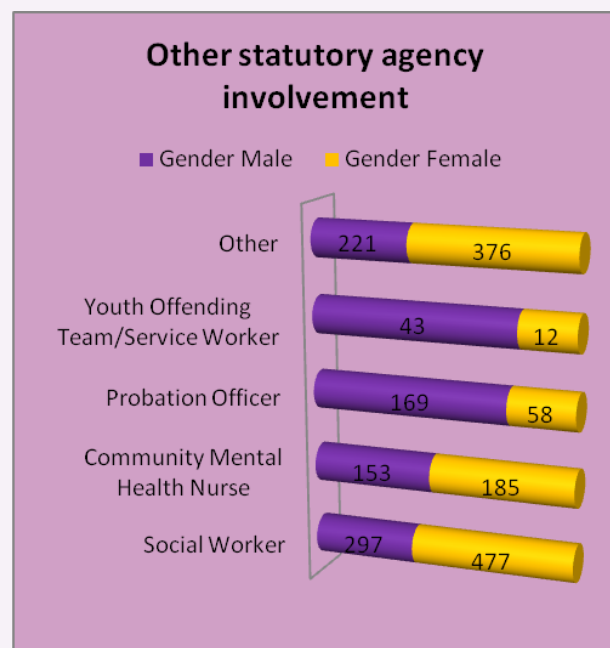
The analysis from the graph below identifies the top five accommodation needs from those completing the GNME.



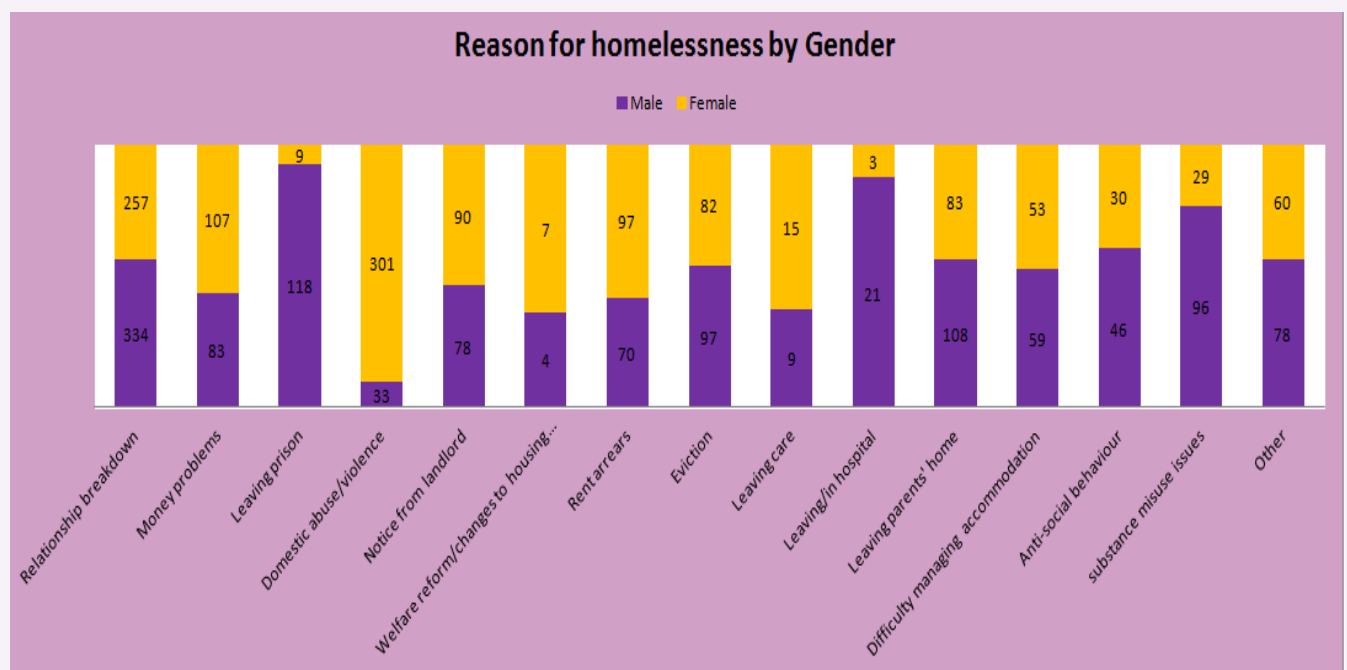
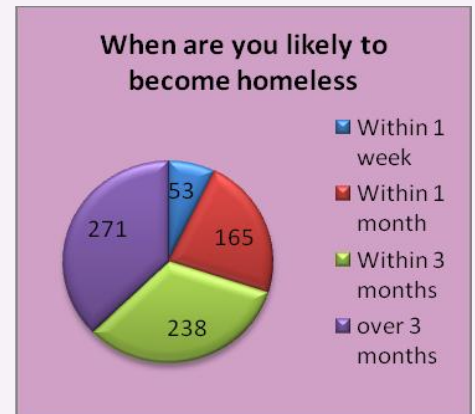
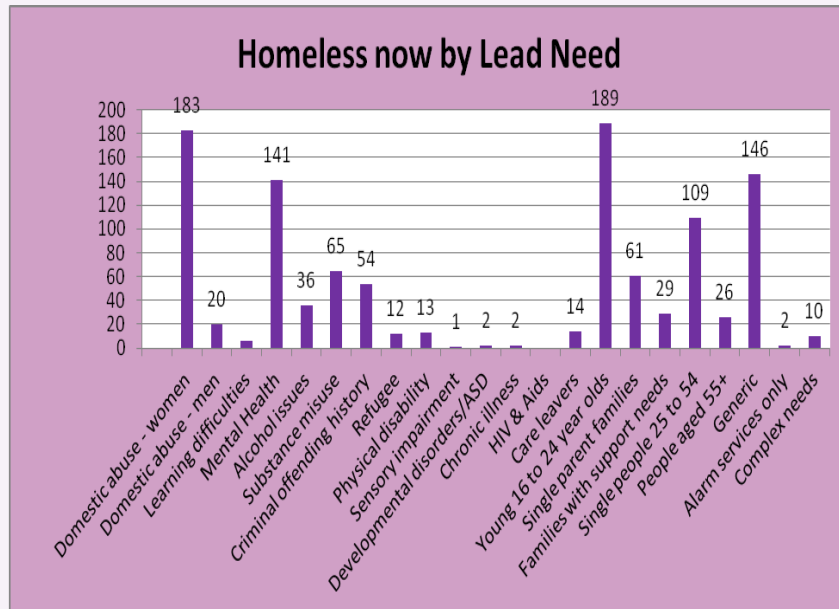
Current Accommodation (Where do you currently live?)		
	Gender	
Accommodation type	Male	Female
Armed Forces Accommodation	1	0
Extra Care accommodation	13	32
Hospital - Medical	11	4
Hospital - Psychiatric	23	12
Hostel	270	122
Living with family or friends	203	235
Long term/secure tenancy, e.g. LA/RSL/HA	522	1149
Temporary accommodation/unsecure tenancy, inc b & b	106	149
Owner Occupier	109	247
Night shelter	28	4
Prison	25	3
Private rented, including private rented sector	199	357
Sheltered Accommodation	93	117
Refuge (for Domestic Abuse)	0	234
Sofa surfing	141	84
Sleeping Rough/street homeless	94	21
Shared house	31	19
Supported housing	82	66
Other, e.g. caravan etc	32	31
Total	1983	2886

These tables and graphs highlight the accommodation that people are living in when approaching agencies for support, the areas that they require support with and the numbers who are receiving support from another statutory agency.

Type of support needed			
	Gender		
	Male	Female	Total
Feeling safe	544	1031	1575
Contributing to the safety/well-being of self and others	517	824	1341
Managing accommodation	1122	1631	2754
Managing relationships	526	924	1451
Feeling part of the community	611	899	1510
Managing money	981	1387	2369
Engaging in education/learning	384	520	905
Engaged in employment/voluntary work	434	422	856
Being physically healthy	503	638	1141
Being mentally healthy	670	987	1658
Leading a healthy and active lifestyle	521	622	1143



The following tables and graphs provide an analysis of the homelessness data captured through the Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise collation tool.



Supporting People Outcomes Framework

The Outcomes Framework aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Supporting People Programme and collects information that highlights the benefits of receiving housing related support to improve the lives of vulnerable people. Welsh Government, Local Authorities and support providers have been working in partnership to develop an Outcomes Framework since 2008; and collection of the outcomes data has been compulsory for Supporting People funded services since April 2012.

The purpose of the framework is:

- To adopt a system to collect meaningful outcome information.
- To use the information to measure, maintain and improve the quality of services provided.
- To recognise the effectiveness of the Supporting People Programme.

The tables demonstrate the outcome categories that have either been fully achieved or a positive outcome achieved for service users during 2015/2016. Work is ongoing to improve the quality of the data submitted and to better understand the information so that this can be analysed to further develop services.

		Period 1 (2015)			
2015-2016 Outcomes Data April to Sept 2015		Identified Need	Positive Outcome Achieved	Outcome Fully achieved	% making progress & fully achieving
1	Feeling Safe	5950	576	3073	61%
	Contributing to the safety/wellbeing of self and others	5148	498	2395	56%
2	Managing Accommodation	8112	955	3233	52%
	Managing Relationships	5210	563	2490	59%
	Feeling Part of the Community	4885	528	2405	60%
3	Managing Money	6989	841	3076	56%
	Engaging in Education/Learning	3486	268	1816	60%
	Engaging in Employment/Volunteering work	3279	232	1807	62%
4	Physically Healthy	5280	539	1963	47%
	Mentally Healthy	5771	704	2218	51%
	Leading a Healthy, Active lifestyle	4799	480	2315	58%

		Period 2 (15/16)			
2015-2016 Outcomes Data Oct to March 2016		Identified Need	Positive Outcome Achieved	Outcome Fully achieved	% making progress & fully achieving
1	Feeling Safe	6273	954	3313	68%
	Contributing to the safety/wellbeing of self and others	5506	881	2810	67%
2	Managing Accommodation	8334	1585	3229	58%
	Managing Relationships	5451	863	2579	63%
	Feeling Part of the Community	5196	734	2666	65%
3	Managing Money	7230	1294	3135	61%
	Engaging in Education/Learning	2658	446	1070	57%
	Engaging in Employment/Volunteering work	2437	318	966	53%
4	Physically Healthy	5526	813	2001	51%
	Mentally Healthy	6003	987	2195	53%
	Leading a Healthy, Active lifestyle	5172	720	2435	61%

Supporting People Outcomes Framework

Work is underway through the Supporting People Outcomes & Data Group (SPODG) to review the Supporting People Outcomes Framework to ensure that the framework continues to collect sufficient information that evidences and highlights the benefits of the programme for the people receiving services; it is anticipated that the updated framework will be launched during 2017-2018.

Consultation evidence

'Needs planning days' have been held in each Gwent local authority for many years; in order to streamline this consultation process it was agreed that one regional planning day would be held for 2015. The event was very successful and feedback from attendees was positive, so a further regional event was arranged for 2016.

Providers and stakeholders from across Gwent were invited to this event and the format for the day was a drop-in session; allowing individuals to provide information in an informal way.

Attendees were asked to think about the housing related support services available for the groups they are involved with and comment on the following questions against each of the Supporting People client categories on both a local and regional basis:

- 1) What you think the gaps in current housing related support provision are on both a local and regional basis?
- 2) Any suggestions for how the Supporting People Programme could work more closely with the other Tackling Poverty Programmes: Communities First, Families First and Flying Start to provide better outcomes for each client group.

Additionally this year delegates were asked to think about the housing related support services that are in place and:

- 3) What you think the gaps are in current homelessness service provision?

Comments received from support providers and partner agencies indicated that there was the greatest need to develop regional services for young people and young people experiencing mental health issues. Early intervention and prevention services responses featured highly on the day along with low level floating support and hoarding support services.

Responses to gaps in regional homelessness services provision:

- Seek alternatives and encourage development of houses of multiple occupation
- Assertive outreach workers, prevention and early intervention workers and tenancy training workshops to ensure people are tenancy ready
- Wet hostel for housing people with alcohol dependency
- Referrals to independent support agency when social tenancy is at risk.
- Support for deaf people who use British sign language
- Lack of non-priority homeless projects across the region
- LAs to work closely with housing support workers when deciding on priority need

Attendees at the event were also asked which client groups they would like to prioritise for Supporting People funding. Each person was given three £SP and asked to place them in their preferred client groups for the local authority in which they work and for regional priorities. The highlighted client categories received the highest three money votes across each local authority and regionally

Money table outcomes for Gwent

CLIENT CATEGORY	BLAENAU GWENT	CAERPHILLY	MONMOUTHSHIRE	NEWPORT	REGIONAL	TORFAEN	TOTALS
WOMEN EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE	3	10	11	14	13	8	59
MEN EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE	4	4	2	2	16	8	36
PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES	2	3	4	7	11	3	30
PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	6	17	12	21	46	12	114
PEOPLE WITH SM ISSUES (ALCOHOL)	4	6	3	9	15	4	41
PEOPLE WITH REFUGEE STATUS	2	5	1	4	8	3	23
PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL/SENSORY DISABILITIES	1	3	2	8	8	2	24
YOUNG PEOPLE 16 TO 24	9	8	10	11	28	10	76
SINGLE PEOPLE 25 TO 54	4	7	4	0	15	9	39
YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE CARE LEAVERS	4	5	5	9	13	13	49
CRIMINAL OFFENDING	0	2	0	7	13	2	24
PEOPLE WITH SM ISSUES (DRUGS)	2	11	0	7	16	4	40
CHRONIC ILLNESS	1	0	2	1	4	0	8
FAMILIES	3	3	10	7	11	7	41
PEOPLE OVER 55	13	13	9	14	21	16	86
GENERIC	2	11	7	7	24	7	58
SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES	2	1	1	5	7	6	22
DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS	1	4	6	2	13	1	27
ALARM SERVICES	1	1	4	4	6	2	18
TOTALS	64	114	93	139	288	117	815

Regional Project Proposal Form

Each year a regional project proposal form is widely distributed to service providers, partnership agencies, commissioning bodies and stakeholders in the Supporting People Programme to gather information relating to regional and/or cross authority project

proposals. It is also requested that partners use the form to suggest any efficiency savings that could be made to current services delivered.

This mechanism enables a directory of potential regional services to be maintained which can be commissioned at short notice and on a pilot basis should funding from the review, remodelling or decommissioning of services become available.

Service User consultation

In conjunction with the Regional Collaborative Committee, the Regional Provider Forum and the people who receive Supporting People funded services, a Service User Involvement Plan has been developed to ensure meaningful consultation processes continue to be developed; providing people with a wide range of options to get involved. The Plan captures and promotes the current range of involvement opportunities available to service users and also highlights the new ways of getting involved that are being developed as a result of the introduction of the Plan.

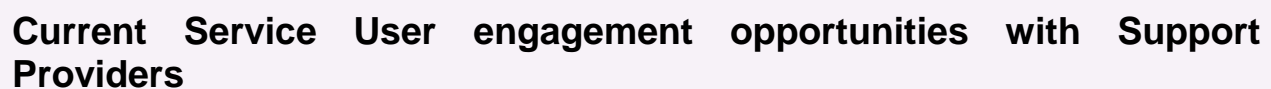
People receiving services are currently consulted on the Programme through a wide range of mechanisms including service evaluations, needs evidence events, quality audit questionnaires, commissioning and procurement processes and membership at project boards for new developments.

During 2016 members of the RCC Service User sub group continued to progress the development of the Service User Engagement Website, which will provide another avenue for services users to comment and provide feedback on the service they are receiving and will also provide a mechanism for the services users' voice to be heard strategically at the RCC. The website was extensively reviewed by Service Users at engagement events during 2016 and it is anticipated that it will be launched during 2017.

This year again local Supporting People teams used different methods to engage with Service Users within their locality in order to ensure Service Users were able to feed their views into Gwent's inclusive strategic needs planning framework. Some Supporting People teams held events and others engaged directly by meeting Service Users at their own project. This proved successful again with more Service Users engaged in this process than in previous years. Service Users were able to comment on the support they have received and it is clear to see the positive impact that floating support services and accommodation based services have on their well-being and quality of life. Suggestions to improve services were also received and this will further drive service developments across the region.

Developing Social Media was identified by Service Users as a priority within the Service User Involvement Plan and the Gwent RCC Communications Strategy. The Gwent

Current Service User engagement opportunities with Supporting People teams



Additional Consultation

Service Users and potential Service Users complete the GNME form which provides information about their accommodation and housing related support needs. GNME analysis is provided under Section 4 of this plan. Service Users are consulted about the service they receive during initial and ongoing service reviews using questionnaires and face-to-face interviews.

Support provider consultation includes the dissemination of any new documentation, forms and guidance, through the regional and local provider forums and the local Supporting People teams. The regional provider forum is fully engaged with and works in partnership with the RCC via the RCC reps they have nominated.

Further opportunities have arisen during 2016 to engage with the national Supporting People working groups including the Data Sub Group, the Governance Group, the Strategic Finance Group and the Research and Evaluation Group and Gwent is well represented across all of these national policy work groups.

This plan is subject to a four week consultation period during November/ December with a wide range of stakeholders, support providers and Service Users prior to approval and formal sign off by the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee in January 2017.

Gwent Supporting People Teams

The main functions of the local Supporting Peoples teams are to identify gaps in the current provision of housing related support services and develop an evidence base that provides a comprehensive rationale for the review, development, remodelling and decommissioning of housing related support services.

This is achieved by collating and analysing various needs data information from a number of sources and by confirming the supply of housing related support services in the locality. The evidence collated through this process shapes future service commissioning developments. The Local Supporting People Planning Groups prioritise service development for vulnerable client groups based on this evidence.

Local plans are developed and updated annually by each local authority in Gwent highlighting their local priorities and commissioning intentions for the following year.



Copies of the local plans can be accessed using the links under Section 6 of this Regional Strategic Plan or in the Gwent Supporting People publications library:

<http://fliphtml5.com/homepage/ezex>

Priorities for Service Development

In order to prioritise projects it is necessary to firstly prioritise service user groups. The primary considerations for the development of cross authority Supporting People services are to provide services for service user groups where:

- There is no supply or the supply is limited for the client group.
- The number of units of support is low compared to the identified need.
- There is a risk to users and others if services are not provided.
- The client group has complex or multiple needs.
- There is not a great enough need to justify a single authority service.
- Restricted funding prevents single authority services.
- Savings can be gained by delivering on a cross authority or regional basis.

Regional priorities are identified and prioritised by the local Supporting People Planning Groups. Plus key regional themes are also identified by the RCC. The development of the prioritisation matrix during 2013 has assisted the Gwent RCC to agree which projects should be prioritised. The prioritisation matrix tool ensures that a consistent methodology is applied to prioritising new services; new project proposals that are identified under this section of this plan will need to be prioritised alongside other proposals carried forward from previous years.

The matrix provides a framework for potential projects to be assessed against the agreed criteria that have been determined to be important. The matrix comprises of two sections for consideration:

Stage 1: Identifying Need & Prioritising Services

- D. Level of current provision**
- E. Level of identified need for the service provision**
- F. Will the project only be viable if funded on a regional basis**
- G. Strategic contribution and added value (for external partners)**
- H. Potential for meeting transient, complex or multiple needs and small client groups**

Stage 2 Deliverability

- A. Capital funding available**
- B. Revenue funding available**
- C. Deliverability (short, medium, long term)**



**The above diagram illustrates Gwent's Inclusive Strategic Planning Framework*

Regional Service Development

An update on progress of the regional commissioning priorities and an overview of the proposed service developments is provided under this section the plan.

Welsh Government announced during quarter 3 their intention to protect the Supporting People Programme budget from funding reductions for the financial year 2017-2018. Supporting People teams have been advised to plan for reductions to the budget in the following years; funding for regional projects is therefore allocated by the Local Supporting People teams towards pilot projects that can be delivered within the same financial year.

Regional Contracts

During 2016/17 funding was again granted to the following regional pilot projects:

- Extension of the Domestic Abuse Project for Ethnic Minority Women, this project has been able to provide support to women across Gwent – lead authority Newport.
- Extension of Gwent Pathways, this project was remodelled and renamed during 2015/2016 (previously called the Gwent Prolific and Persistent Offenders Scheme, PPOS) to provide better referral pathways – lead authority Torfaen.
- Continuation of funding towards the Prison Release Empowerment Project (PREP) workers whose remit is to prepare potentially homeless prisoners for their release

from prison and also support those released to access appropriate housing if they are deemed as not having priority need.

The Gwent Supporting People Teams commissioned a pilot Regional Gypsy & Traveller floating support service from April 2016 to meet the specific housing related support needs of people from this community, which are often complex. Initial outcomes from the project are positive and further consideration is being given to funding an additional worker due to the amount of referrals being received.

RCC Work Plan Priorities

Further scrutiny and mapping of the services provided across the various client groups continues to be undertaken as part of the Gwent RCCs work plan which will enable further opportunities for regional service remodelling and development.

The RCC prioritised the following client categories for scrutiny and review as part of its 2016-2017 work plan:

- People with Mental Health Issues
- Young People with Support Needs (16-24) / Young People who are Care Leavers

Specific gaps in services for these client categories will be highlighted from this review process providing an opportunity to develop services that continue to meet future needs of these client groups and commission services if gaps are identified.

The following two client categories are still prioritised as part of the RCC work plan:

People with Learning Disabilities

During 2015 the task and finish group agreed a set of principles in regard to delivery of services to this client group which were agreed with Social Services departments across all Gwent Local Authorities. Regular reports are provided to the RCC to provide updates of local progress against the principles.

Older Persons Services

Services provided to older people were prioritised for scrutiny by the Gwent RCC as part of their 2014/2015 work plan; and this prioritisation by the Gwent RCC has helped to ensure that work has continued to be undertaken locally to advance the recommendations made in the Aylward Review 2010.

Remodelling of older persons services has been progressed in all Gwent local authorities and in some areas all services are now provided on the basis of need. Remodelling discussions are still underway with providers in some areas and it is currently anticipated that all older person's services in Gwent will be provided on the basis of need within 2016; with all Local Authorities working towards providing services which are also tenure neutral within this timescale.

Domestic Abuse Modernisation Project Recommendations 2012

The project was set up as the result of a piece of research that evaluated the experiences of over 70 service users who accessed statutory and support services. Outstanding recommendations to improve services included the following:

Accommodation based services

Additional refuge units to be made available in Gwent; an additional 'specialist refuge' providing 24 hour on-site support is prioritised for development in the South/East of the region to accommodate individuals with complex needs. Progress is being made to develop a specialist refuge in the South of the region, a potential site is being considered and planning applications are underway. Further information can be found under this section of the plan.

It was also recommended that commissioners continue to ensure that refuge and emergency/direct access should remain open to all service users in need regardless of their geographical origin and that local connection restrictions should not be imposed; all domestic abuse units within Gwent now operate on this basis. Since the recommendations of the report were published in 2012; an additional £235,839 has been allocated to further increase and develop services for this client group.

The following project proposals have been submitted as potential regional service development opportunities, providing the RCC with on the shelf service proposals that could be commissioned should funding become available

Client Category	Service Proposal	Brief Description	Progress
Generic Floating Support	Rough Sleeper Intervention Project (Floating Support)	Floating support providing intensive "assertive outreach" support to rough sleepers across Gwent.	Project proposal submitted Sept 2015
People with Mental Health issues	Dual diagnosis mental health and substance misuse issues and complex needs	Increasingly being highlighted that people are approaching services with very complex needs particularly mental health and substance misuse issues	Not progressed during 2015 – 2016. Meeting the needs of people with substance misuse and mental health issues continues to be a priority both locally and regionally
People with Mental Health issues	Forensic Mental Health Service (Floating Support and Accommodation based) (Need also identified via Mental Health Project Board)	Self contained supported accommodation and floating support for individuals affected by mental health issues.	It was agreed that funding should be made available for this client group at the July 2014 RCC meeting; a further joint scoping exercise between Health and Supporting People is required to identify the needs of this group and the long term funding
People with Mental Health issues	Housing Crisis Intervention	Working in partnership with health services to provide crisis intervention floating support to respond immediately to referrals from mental health professionals	Project proposal submitted Sept 2015
Physical / Sensory disability	Sensory Impairment (floating support)	Expansion of the Caerphilly specialist floating support project which provides support to people who are blind, partially sighted deaf or deaf blind to enable them to remain living independently and safely in their own homes to a regional provision	Project proposal submitted Sept 2015
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	Specialist Supported Accommodation for families fleeing Domestic Abuse with additional needs (brought forward from SPOP 2011/2012 and from Gwent Modernisation of Domestic Abuse Project 2012).	An additional 'specialist refuge' providing 24 hour on-site support is prioritised for development in the South/East of the region to accommodate individuals with complex needs.	The potential location and site has been identified and commitment of funding has been agreed across the local Supporting People teams.
Young People with Support Needs (16-24)	Intensive Floating Support for very vulnerable young people with complex needs	There are a number of young people across Gwent for who supported housing is not suitable. The project would provide high level floating support to young people with complex needs	Project proposal submitted September 2016
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	Regional IDVA Service	Contribute to the development of a regional IDVA service	Project Proposal submitted November 2016

Efficiencies to Improve Service Delivery

Supporting People budget 2017/2018 and beyond

The Gwent RCC and Supporting People Local Planning Groups continue to consider how potential cuts to the Supporting People budget in future years can be best managed across the region to ensure cost effective quality services continue to be delivered to best meet the needs of citizens in Gwent. This Plan sets the strategic direction for the Supporting People Programme in Gwent; highlighting the regional priorities and the direction of travel for the Supporting People Programme.

The following table provides an overview of funding received by Supporting People teams since the new Supporting People Programme grant was introduced in 2013.

The figures highlight a fluctuating and more recently a static but uncertain budget that is extremely difficult to strategically plan and commission against. At the time of writing this plan, notification has been received that indicative Supporting People budget for 2017/ 2018 had been protected and will remain the same as the budget for 2016/2017.

Local Authority	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018 (indicative)
Blaenau Gwent	£2,617,930	£2,699,341	£2,552,176	£2,552,176	£2,552,176
Caerphilly	£6,542,558	£6,592,001	£6,232,790	£6,232,790	£6,232,790
Monmouthshire	£2,171,631	£2,156,785	£2,039,174	£2,039,175	£2,039,175
Newport	£6,670,273	£6,734,211	£6,367,255	£6,367,256	£6,367,256
Torfaen	£3,650,868	£3,636,022	£3,437,833	£3,437,834	£3,437,834
Gwent	£21,653,260	£21,818,360	£20,629,230	£20,629,231	£20,629,231
Wales	£136,333,000	£134,359,000	£124,409,000	£124,409,000	£124,409,000

The following overarching Gwent principles agreed in 2014 for managing cuts to the Supporting People budget are still in place and considered as part of the local and regional strategic planning process:

- *Each Gwent Local Authority will consider their local strategic priorities.*
- *Each Gwent Local Authority will identify potential savings following service evaluations.*
- *Each Gwent Local Authority will identify savings from pilot schemes which are due to end.*

During 2015 the “Gwent Allowable Activities” document was updated. Effective housing related support services will be delivered which are in line with the criteria outlined in the Gwent Supporting People Allowable Activities and Definitions of Housing Related Support Guidance (2015). The guidance is not intended to restrict innovation but to assist organisations and individuals to manage expectations and understand the purpose, scope and boundaries of housing related support.

The RCCs role in scrutinising the local decision making processes ensures that decisions taken locally are transparent and fair, whilst ensuring that projects continue to meet the terms and requirements of the Supporting People Programme Grant Guidance.

The Gwent RCC and the Local Supporting People Planning Groups will need to make some difficult decisions in implementing future budget reductions and strategic priorities along with efficiency savings will need to be considered and agreed. Closer working with the other Tackling Poverty Programmes is well established to ensure that there is no duplication of service delivery across the Programmes in each of the Gwent Local Authorities. Awareness raising and training sessions continue to be delivered to staff working across the Programmes to increase understanding and develop networking opportunities.

The RCC has recognised within its work plan that working closely with investments streams such as those delivered by the Tackling Poverty Programmes and others such as Social Housing Grant and the Intermediate Care Fund delivered by the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) will be increasingly important in the future as budgets are stretched to deliver services to the increasing numbers of people who require support.

Closer working between the Tackling Poverty Programmes in Gwent and developments and initiatives that support providers and social landlords continue to introduce ensures that Service Users are provided with opportunities to access skills, learning and educational based courses and activities and with the closer links being made between the Tackling Poverty Programmes more of these opportunities will be community based providing Service Users with the skills to increase their confidence and build their social networks within the communities that they are living. Access to initiatives to some of the newer Welsh Government programmes, such as the Communities for Work and the LIFT Programme which is delivered in some Gwent local authority areas also provides Service Users with the support to access work and work placement opportunities and to move out of the cycle of poverty.

These initiatives are promoted to Supporting People funded providers through the local and regional support provider forums, networking events and through communication tools such as email, the Gwent Supporting People twice yearly newsletter and the Twitter feed.

Ensuring that support workers are skilled enough to be able to deal with the increasingly complex and difficult money situations that people are finding themselves in will also need to be monitored going forward and this will require monitoring in line with the Financial Conduct Authority registration requirements. Support workers in Gwent currently have on-going access to an E Learning tool which was developed and delivered by the Gwent Money Advice Project during 2014.



The Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee recognised during 2014 that coordinating its communications to ensure that the benefits of the Supporting People Programme continue to be understood by all stakeholders was a priority for the Committee. The Communications Task and Finish group focused on developing a case study booklet highlighting the benefits of the Programme to those who receive services, the wide range of services funded and some of the potential cost benefit savings to other statutory stakeholders.

The booklet continues to be used as a tool to increase understanding of the types of services funded.

A copy of the booklet ***“Supporting People: Improving Lives, Preventing Costs”*** is available to view through the on-line link:

<http://online.fliphtml5.com/jtyt/ssff/> or to download from the Gwent RCC web pages:

Section 6 Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is a tool that helps public authorities make sure their policies, and the way they carry out their functions do what they are intended to do and for everybody. Carrying out an EIA involves systematically assessing the likely (or actual) effects of policies on people in respect of disability, gender, including gender identity and race equality and where chosen wider equality issues. If any negative or adverse impacts amount to unlawful discrimination, they must be removed.

Equality Impact Assessments have been completed for each local authority within Gwent, forming part of the Local Commissioning Plan process. Arrangements have been made to screen these for adverse impacts on groups defined under the Equality Act 2010, as per the corporate requirements of each local authority and little unfavourable impact has been identified for these groups.

The full Equality Impact Assessment for each Local Commissioning Plan can be viewed in the Local Commissioning Plans on the Local Authority websites:

Blaenau Gwent: <http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/17499.asp>

Caerphilly: <http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/supportingpeople/commissioning-plan/local-commissioning-plan>

Monmouthshire: *Currently unavailable; Please contact the Supporting People team for a copy of the equality impact assessment.*

Newport:
http://www.newport.gov.uk/_dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=socialcare.supportingpeople&contentid=CONT335154

Torfaen:
<http://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/Housing/SupportedandShelteredHousing/Supportingpeople/Information-for-Professionals/Commissioning-Plans.aspx>

Regional Spend Plan 2017/2018

Spend Plan collection period			RCC Spend Plan 2017-18 - Gwent															
Regional Collaborative Committee:		Gwent																
SPPG Annual Allocation:		20,629,231.00																
			Service Type												Local Authority contribution	Other Income	Total Units (exc LA cont)	Total (exc LA cont)
			Fixed Site (Accommodation Based)						Floating (Community Based)									
			Client Units	Less than 6 Months	Client Units	6 to 24 Months	Client Units	24 Months plus	Client Units	Less than 6 Months	Client Units	6 to 24 Months	Client Units	24 Months plus				
Client Spend Category (The category to which the service is primarily focused)	Previous year Total units from spend plan	Previous year Total cost from spend plan	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	£	£	Numbers	£
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	218	1,834,524.50	45	694,940.44	23	362,763.56	0	0.00	73	270,831.18	110	507,767.93	0	0.00	5,000.00		251	1,836,303.11
Men experiencing Domestic Abuse	8	39,201.53	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	39,089.62	0	0.00	0.00		8	39,089.62
People with Learning Disabilities	406	2,627,667.05	0	0.00	4	50,000.00	306	1,327,474.24	0	0.00	43	168,682.87	203	565,886.66	0.00		556	2,112,043.77
People with Mental health Issues	662	3,003,570.35	0	0.00	19	309,865.00	113	819,923.82	43	119,268.86	484	1,615,100.31	81	202,495.04	0.00		740	3,066,653.03
People with Substance Misuse Issues (Alcohol)	14	48,126.47	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	18	64,816.47	0	0.00	0.00		18	64,816.47
People with Substance Misuse Issues (Drugs and Volatile substances)	127	915,249.54	0	0.00	48	610,154.72	0	0.00	0	0.00	70	242,183.84	15	55,642.63	0.00		133	907,981.19
People with Criminal Offending History	78	390,538.51	0	0.00	10	113,573.95	0	0.00	18	46,089.00	60	253,033.23	0	0.00	0.00		88	412,696.18
People with Refugee Status	10	37,854.50	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	17	59,454.78	0	0.00	0.00		17	59,454.78
People with Physical and/or Sensory Disabilities	73	249,625.02	0	0.00	0	0.00	9	63,352.00	11	5,000.00	136	188,262.93	0	0.00	0.00		156	256,614.93
People with Developmental Disorders (I.e. Autism.)	22	167,628.86	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	35	167,628.86	0.00		35	167,628.86
People with Chronic Illnesses (including HIV, Aids)	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00
Young People who are Care Leavers	35	144,774.49	0	0.00	4	42,724.66	0	0.00	12	28,349.92	16	52,836.55	0	0.00	0.00		32	123,911.13
Young People with Support Needs (16-24)	216	1,979,168.54	44	457,451.00	63	1,177,885.56	2	60,000.00	85	183,087.04	137	384,224.20	0	0.00	0.00		331	2,262,647.80
Single parent Families with Support needs	26	144,798.51	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	47,676.30	0	0.00	0.00		8	47,676.30
Families with Support Needs	149	873,070.00	13	225,000.00	2	32,482.00	0	0.00	13	25,000.00	199	710,305.34	0	0.00	0.00		227	992,787.34
Single people with Support Needs not listed above (25-54)	188	1,413,583.95	18	182,318.44	76	979,175.24	26	80,398.00	0	0.00	40	122,839.44	0	0.00	0.00		160	1,364,731.12
People over 55 years of age with Support needs (this category must be exclusive of alarm services)	1,966	2,173,234.94	0	0.00	0	0.00	660	359,322.84	587	267,459.00	143	255,498.05	713	1,073,431.45	0.00		2,103	1,955,711.34
Generic Floating support to prevent homelessness (tennacy support services which cover a range of user needs but which must be exclusive of fixed site support)	1,185	4,028,042.20	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,595	1,347,319.51	886	2,690,328.45	74	291,350.51	0.00		2,555	4,328,998.47
Alarm Services (including in sheltered/extra care)	9,648	362,119.04	0	0.00	0	0.00	5,486	301,762.02	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,952	51,973.16	0.00		7,438	353,735.18
Expenditure which does not directly link to the spend plan categories above. (Explanation required in accompanying email)	22	196,453.00	22	275,750.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00		22	275,750.00
TOTALS	15,053	20,629,231.00	142	1,835,459.88	249	3,678,624.69	6,602	3,012,232.92	2,437	2,292,404.51	2,375	7,402,100.31	3,073	2,408,408.31	5,000.00	0.00	14,878	20,629,230.62

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