

# **Gwent Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee Meeting (Quarterly)**

1.00pm – 3.30pm, Tuesday 07 July 2015

Melin Boardroom, Ty'r Efail, Lower Mill Field, Pontypool, NP4 0XJ

## **Present (RCC members):**

Chris Edmunds, ABUHB, In One Place Programme Co-ordinator  
Chris Robinson, Monmouthshire CC, Lead Commissioner – Quality Assurance and Supporting People  
Darren Daniel, Wales Probation Trust, Team Manager  
Elke Winton, Torfaen CBC, Group Manager Housing (Chair)  
Julia Osmond, Public Health, Principal Public Health Practitioner  
Kath Moore, Gwalia, Regional Manager, Deputy Provider Representative  
Neil Binnell, MHA, Housing Support Manager, Provider Representative  
Neil Taylor, OPCC, Head of Performance & Partnerships  
Nigel Stannard, Newport CC, Supporting People Manager  
Rhian Stone, Solas, Corporate Director, Provider Representative (Vice Chair)  
Richard Sheahan, Linc Cymru, CHC Representative  
Sam Lewis, Llamau, Head of Support Services East, Provider Representative

## **Supporting Officers in attendance:**

Angela Lee, Gwent SP Regional Development Co-ordinator (Minutes)  
Beth Covill, Torfaen SP, Acting Supporting People Manager  
Steve Lynch, Welsh Government, Supporting People Governance Manager  
Malcolm Topping, Caerphilly SP, Supporting People Manager  
Michelle Church, Blaenau Gwent SP, Supporting People Manager  
Trudy Griffin, Monmouthshire SP, Senior Commissioning Officer

## **Apologies:**

Alyson Hoskins, Blaenau Gwent CBC, Service Manager  
Chris Rutson, United Welsh, CHC Representative  
Donna Lemin, Welsh Government, SP Governance & Accreditation Manager  
Simon Rose, Newport SP, Housing Needs Manager  
Viv Daye, Caerphilly CBC, Service Manager

	Item/Discussion	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and introductions</b> Elke Winton welcomed everyone to the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee meeting and introductions were given. EW welcomed Chris Edmunds to the meeting who will be replacing Bobby Bolt as the ABUHB Health Representative on the Committee.</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from Alyson Hoskins, Chris Rutson, Donna Lemin, Simon Rose and Viv Daye.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Housekeeping</b></p> <p><b>Minutes / Actions arising from the previous meeting (21/04/2015)</b> The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed. Outstanding actions from previous minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minutes/Matters Arising from (24/04/2014) meeting:</b> Item 6 – DL to give a presentation to the Gwent RCC on the outcomes data later in the year: DL advised the Committee that they need to consider the information they would like presented and this could be delivered to a future meeting: <i>How Gwent outcomes compared to other regions and local authority areas was discussed as an option for an update and overview of the outcomes data returned to WG</i></li> <li>• <b>Minutes / Matters arising from (21/04/15) meeting:</b> Item 8 – Outcomes: Information from providers. Provider reps to submit the report to the Outcomes Data Group: <i>Action: WG to confirm that the submitted report has been forwarded to the data group</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Declaration of any conflicts of interest</b> EW reminded members of the need to declare any conflicts of interest in relation to the agenda. No conflicts of interests were declared.</p> <p>EW reminded the group that the annual declaration of interest forms needed to be completed by each member of the RCC and held on file by the RDC.</p> <p><b>Action: AL to circulate an electronic copy for members not present at the meeting to complete</b></p> <p><b>Chair &amp; Vice Chair Elections</b> At the previous meeting in April the Committee had agreed to hold the elections when the MOU was in place. SL advised that the MOU was still with Welsh Government legal department and he was unable to advise when it would be ready. It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair elections needed to be held to provide other members with the opportunity and it was agreed that the elections for Chair and Vice Chair would be held after the RCC meeting in October to allow some additional time for the MOU to be finalised.</p> <p><b>Action: Agenda this item for the October meeting of the RCC</b></p>	<p>A</p> <p>B</p> <p>C</p> <p>D</p>



	<p>(Wales) Act 2014.</p> <p><b>Action: MC is attending the Homeless Strategy working group on July 8<sup>th</sup> and will raise this issue with the group.</b></p>	I
5.	<p><b>Welsh Government RCP Feedback report</b></p> <p>Positive feedback has been received from Welsh Government for the Gwent Regional Commissioning Plan and the hard work undertaken by the Committee and the RDC was acknowledged by EW and is noted in these minutes.</p> <p>It was agreed that the weakest section was around consultation evidence and it is hoped that the development of the website will help to strengthen the consultation options available to the RCC.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Provider Update</b></p> <p>The Gwent Regional Provider Forum (RPF) was held last week. An overview was provided to the forum on the work of the SP Outcomes Data Group (SPODG). Contact details of the provider reps who sit on the data group were provided to the forum to improve feed in of provider views to SPODG.</p> <p>The removal of 48 hr temporary exclusion for supported housing from the Renting Homes Bill was also discussed and noted as a concern by members of the forum.</p> <p>The “Lets Keep on Supporting People” Senedd event was well attended by stakeholders from Gwent. There is a further Cymorth event being held in South Wales this week looking at strength based assets.</p> <p>The RPF was provided with an update on the regionalisation of the strategic co-ordination of domestic abuse from Rebecca Haycock the Domestic Abuse Regional Advisor.</p> <p>It was noted that the loss of the local domestic abuse forums means it is now difficult for providers to meet to discuss domestic abuse issues and it is hoped that once the regional team is fully appointed and embedded that local meetings will be set up again.</p> <p>NT then updated the Committee on the work of the Safer Gwent Partnership – a partnership of stakeholders in the Community Safety field who meet on a quarterly basis to consider the regional programmes and provision that are in place across Gwent. Consideration is given to pooling funding to improve local delivery and regionalisation of domestic abuse is one of the partnerships considerations. SP is represented on the partnership by the attendance of the RCC Chair and DD and HH.</p> <p><b>Landlord Update</b></p> <p>No further meetings have been held with private landlords; but as RCC landlord reps these will continue to be held as required.</p> <p>The report on the Renting Homes Bill advising removal of the temporary 48 hr</p>	

	<p>exclusion is of concern as this is currently used by landlords to protect the safety of other tenants within supported housing and their concerns have been fed into the Renting Homes Bill consultation.</p> <p>The affects of the introduction of welfare reforms are also of concern.</p> <p>The Supported Housing Service Forum is being held on July 15<sup>th</sup>. RCC updates are provided by the reps at this meeting. Support Solutions are attending the next meeting.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Local Authority Update</b></p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent</b>  Developments: Our current supported housing scheme for people with mental health issues has recently been relocated from Ebbw Vale to a new build in Blaina. The scheme has been renamed Garfield House (after a previous service user). Gofal are the support provider and visits to the project are welcome.</p> <p>The relocation of the supported housing scheme for people with mental health issues has meant that the original building (for the scheme) has become available. Blaenau Gwent is working in partnership with Gwalia and UWHA to relocate our young person's supported housing scheme to this building which is in a more central location meaning that young people at the project will have better access to transport and education facilities.</p> <p>The local Supporting People planning group met two weeks ago and the focus of the meeting was on budget cuts and managing these over the next two years. Principles have been agreed in line with those agreed at the RCC last year. The recently updated "Gwent Allowable Activities" document has been utilised as a useful commissioning tool. They will be working on a 10% cut to the budget to plan for future cuts and are considering various options including retendering, remodelling and recommissioning as applicable.</p> <p>Older Persons services: three of the four providers in Blaenau Gwent are now providing services based on need and not tenure. It is envisaged that all four providers will be meeting the recommendations of Aylward by April 2016. Two of these providers have now been issued with regional contracts.</p> <p>Feedback from Blaenau Gwent stakeholders was very positive about the recently held regional needs mapping event. Providers were able to meet, discuss and also share best practice.</p> <p><b>Torfaen</b>  Two large service reviews are currently underway.</p> <p>Feedback for the regional needs mapping was also really positive from providers working in Torfaen. The Service User needs mapping day was also recently held and responses and feedback is currently being collated.</p> <p>The local Supporting People planning group are holding an extended planning day on July 14<sup>th</sup>.</p>	

	<p>The recently commissioned research project with Gofal to look at the needs of people with Mental health issues and alcohol dependency and current provision in this area has been published and the recommendations will be discussed with the planning group and the RCC.</p> <p>BC is working closely with Emma Davies in TCBC to map the tackling poverty funding streams across Torfaen and this work has been shared with colleagues at the Supporting People Information Network (SPIN). It has been agreed that the template used in Torfaen will be used to map all the tackling poverty funding streams across Gwent.</p> <p>Financial modelling options of up to 10% budget reduction are being considered.</p> <p>The huge emphasis on the links and synergies between the four tackling poverty initiatives: Supporting People, Communities First, Families First and Flying Start were discussed by the Committee and the progress being made across Gwent to build closer links to these other funding streams.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <p><b>It was agreed that colleagues should be invited to attend a future RCC meeting to present an overview of the funding stream they represent.</b></p> <p><b>Co-opting a representative from Communities First /Families First to the Committee was also agreed.</b></p> <p><b>Caerphilly</b></p> <p>Budget reduction savings are agreed, with the majority coming from LD and Alarm services. Discussions are ongoing for identifying savings for 2016/17</p> <p>Developments: a new 18 unit project has recently opened in Ystrad Mynach and a further 13 unit scheme in Rhymney is planned. There are currently only 4 people now residing in B&amp;B the lowest numbers for many years and it is hoped that these new projects will meet the needs of those facing homelessness reducing the need to use B&amp;B accommodation in the future.</p> <p>The regional domestic abuse complex needs project for South Gwent is progressing and land purchase negotiations are currently underway.</p> <p>Three Floating support services have recently been re-tendered due to contracts ending. MT advised that this process resulted in additional costs for the new services highlighting that re-tendering does not always result in a reduced contract price.</p> <p>Joint tender with Families First for a debt and money advice project; the first joint tender in Wales is demonstrating the benefits of working together. A two year contract has been issued, in addition a Families First Domestic Abuse project has been incorporated within a Supporting People floating support contract</p>	<p>J</p> <p>K</p>
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**Action: best practice from these projects to be shared with the RCC**

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RCC members were provided with a DVD of the film "Unusual Suspects" which was developed with prize money of £1000 from an award which the Supporting People team recently won. The film highlights the effects that loan sharks can have on communities; with Caerphilly having the second highest number of incidents in Wales. The film was recently launched in Blackwood at a film premier and was well attended by officials from Welsh Government, The Wales Illegal Money Lending Unit and by AM's, the Mayor and other local officials and officers as well as the Caerphilly Supporting People team.

The film can also be viewed on you tube using the following link:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=caerphilly+unusual++suspects](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=caerphilly+unusual++suspects)

**Monmouthshire**

Are currently considering the budget reduction strategy and are looking at rationalising contracts and services.

A support worker forum has recently been set up to share best practice across workers on the ground. Feedback was very positive and it was agreed that the forum should continue and be managed in the future by those attending the meeting.

The comprehensive spending review is nearly complete and the final report is due shortly. The recommendations from this report will be used to draft the LCP for next year.

Mon Talks (follows a similar format to TED talks – short films which are streamed on Youtube) is being utilised across the authority and is being considered as a format to highlight the benefits of the Supporting People Programme.

The tackling poverty agenda is being considered across Monmouthshire and where Supporting People should sit is being reviewed – should Supporting People sit under Tackling Poverty rather than within Social Care or Housing departments of the local authority.

A full audit has been completed of the quarter 4 outturns for Supporting People budget April 2014 – April 2015 in Monmouthshire.

Additional support for the team is likely to be provided shortly to help with the monitoring function.

New developments: a Young Persons transition worker has been commissioned and will be starting in August.

Women's Aid Monmouthshire and Torfaen Women's Aid have recently merged and from this a domestic abuse crisis worker will now be covering Monmouthshire.

Local planning group is considering the tackling poverty agenda for the autumn

meeting.

## **Newport**

Welsh Government high level review has been completed. It was a positive experience and a report with recommendations is due shortly.

Budget reduction modelling options are being considered for 5%, 7.5% and 10% replicating similar process as undertaken last year.

A couple of service reviews are underway with a programme to complete nine schemes this financial year and follow up 14 other schemes' action plans.

Four to six week partnership meetings have been set up with providers to look at referrals, waiting lists, refusals, utilisation rates, turnover figures, voids, staffing issues, support provider developments which will help to address potential issues early on rather than accumulating into more intractable problems. It will also mean that full service evaluations will be less time-consuming for providers and SP team staff as a result of having these targeted contract compliance meetings.

Three new schemes have been commissioned with homelessness new burdens money including a PREP worker to work with prison leavers, an additional family intervention worker with the existing Gwent FIP Project and a homelessness & gateway support officer.

LCP development has started with an emphasis towards the tackling poverty agenda.

Gypsy and Traveller part funded cross authority worker (funded with Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen and Newport) is utilising the accommodation needs assessment that is taking place in local authorities to also assess the support needs of Gypsies and Travellers.

Service user consultation day held and attended by 20+ service users, good feedback was received which is currently being collated, alongside information from the Gwent provider consultation event, to inform commissioning priorities contained in the LCP.

Mental health review of private landlord support providers who provide accommodation for 65 people with enduring mental health problems is near to completion. It is estimated that at least 75% of those supported by the project would not be able to cope living independently and many would be accessing St Cadocs (Mental Health) Hospital if these projects were not available. All referrals to the project houses come from the Community Mental Health Team

CE advised the committee that there was pressure now on health services to assess in much more detail the accommodations and support needs; with a view to establishing a more robust pathway. It was acknowledged the CEs attendance at the RCC should aid with discussions and brokerage between the RCC and the In One Place Programme and progressing joint funding opportunities is something that both should consider in the future.



	<p><b>Actions:</b></p> <p><b>NS and CE to meet to discuss links to develop between SP services and health particularly for mental health and learning disabilities</b></p> <p><b>In On Place programme report to be circulated to the RCC</b></p> <p>DD advised the Committee and SP Leads that the following people from Probation would now attend each of the local planning group meetings:</p> <p>Rob Nicholls – Blaenau Gwent  Lucy Jones - Caerphilly  Darren Daniel - Newport/Torfaen and RCC  Michelle Allford/Alan Davies - Monmouthshire  Diana Binding - SPNAB</p> <p>The committee discussed the impact that future cuts could have on the destabilisation of services and it was agreed that this should be the main RCC agenda focus for the October meeting.</p> <p><b>Action: agenda budget cuts for the October meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Needs mapping event report</b></p> <p>The committee were provided with a report providing an overview of the regional needs mapping event held in June to note in the minutes. Information gathered from the event will feed into the inclusive strategic planning framework to inform the local and regional commissioning plans for 2016/2017.</p>	M  N      O
8.	<p><b>RDC Progress report</b></p> <p><b>To be noted in the minutes.</b></p> <p>It was acknowledged that the RCC provided a detailed response to the SPNAB cuts paper with real concern that the current options being considered for future budget cuts lacked fairness and strategic planning. The option currently considered and outlined in the report proposes a flat rate cut to local authorities across Wales and a stop to redistribution of the Supporting People Programme grant.</p> <p>EW thanked the committee for their input and comments.</p>	
9.	<p><b>RCC work plan progress 2014 – 2015</b></p> <p><b>RCC updated work plan 2015 – 2016</b></p> <p>The committee were provided with an updated work plan for the previous year highlighting progress made against the actions.</p> <p>An updated work plan has been drafted using information from the recent development sessions. It was agreed that members should consider what is in the work plan and feedback comments to AL.</p>	

	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <p><b>AL to circulate the papers from the development sessions</b></p> <p><b>Comments and amendments to be forwarded to AL to update and finalise this year's plan.</b></p> <p>CRob highlighted the Building Resilient Communities Annual Report that has been published</p> <p><b>Action: AL to circulate</b></p>	<p>P</p> <p>Q</p> <p>R</p>
10.	<p><b>RCC Annual Review</b></p> <p>Members of the Governance Group will be reviewing all the RCC Annual Reviews and will be providing a paper to the SPNAB meeting. Feedback on the Annual Review is expected later in the year.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Providing evidence of the benefits of the Supporting People programme in Gwent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Communications Group – service user case study.</b> The Committee were provided with an outline draft of the case study and the text for the booklet. Members are asked to feed any comments back to the Communications group. It is noted that the cost benefits will need to be clearly referenced and to highlight that any cost benefits detailed within the case studies are estimated costs of the prevention costs to other statutory services.</li> <li><b>Action: All five case studies and text to be circulated to members for comment</b></li> <li>➤ Income maximisation / debt reduction spreadsheet</li> <li><b>Action: Update to be provided to the next meeting</b></li> </ul>	<p>S</p> <p>T</p>
12.	<p><b>Reporting on the RCC work plan sub groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Learning Disabilities:</b> Members were provided with a copy of the recently updated Gwent Allowable Activities document. The document was highlighted as a useful commissioning tool. It is also useful to provide an overview of the types of services that Supporting People funds to other stakeholders. The learning disabilities report is currently being finalised.</li> <li>➤ <b>Service User sub group:</b> the service user engagement website development is progressing. The Arts Factory are working on some drafts and it is envisaged that a group of service users will be brought together to agree the web site content and to test run and review the site.</li> </ul>	
13.	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Workshop to help implement the health action plan for homeless and other vulnerable groups:</b> will be taking place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Dental healthcare provision for HaVGHAP clients has been set up in Newport; with a similar provision anticipated for Tredegar.</li> <li>➤ Public Health have been working closely with The Voice service users from GDAS to produce an Oral Health Information Leaflet.</li> <li>➤ A homeless health pathway will be developed for Gwent and other models including the model currently in place in Swansea are being considered.</li> <li>➤ GDAS Consortium for Substance Misuse services launched</li> <li>➤ An update on the opiate antagonist Naloxone which can prevent opiate users from overdosing was given with advice that a national training programme was now available in Wales which allows anyone once trained to give Naloxone for the purpose of saving a life. Further details available from JO.</li> </ul>	
	<p>Date/time of forthcoming meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015 1.00pm</p> <p><b><u>Melin Boardroom, Ty'r Efail, Lower Mill Field, Pontypool, NP4 0XJ</u></b></p>	

# Gwent Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee Meeting (Quarterly)

1.00pm – 3.30pm, Tuesday 7 July 2015

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## Meeting Actions

ACTION	AGENDA ITEM No	ACTION	TO BE COMPLETED BY
A	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Minutes/Matters Arising from (24/04/2014) meeting:</b> Item 6 – DL to give a presentation to the Gwent RCC on the outcomes data later in the year: DL advised the Committee that they need to consider the information they would like presented and this could be delivered to a future meeting: <i>How Gwent outcomes compared to other regions and local authority areas was discussed as an option for an update and overview of the outcomes data returned to WG</i></li> </ul>	DL
B	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Minutes / Matters arising from (21/04/15) meeting:</b> Item 8 – Outcomes: Information from providers. Provider reps to submit the report to the Outcomes Data Group: <i>Action: WG to confirm that the submitted report has been forwarded to the data group</i></li> </ul>	DL
C	2	AL to circulate an electronic copy of the Declaration of Interest form for members not present at the meeting to complete	AL
D	2	Agenda chair & vice chair elections for the October meeting.	AL
E	3	RCC Voting members to approve the quarter 4 outturns	RCC Voting members
F	3	Forward first quarter outturns April 2015 – June 2015 to RCC voting members for information	AL
G	4	Reconvene Older Persons task and finish group when the report is published.	AL/ OP T&F Group
H	4	Outcomes training requirements for providers to be raised with Donna Lemin in Welsh Government as part of the timeline to implement the new outcomes framework in April 2016	SL

I	4	Variance in LA interpretation of the definition of vulnerability to be raised at the Homeless Strategy working group on July 8 <sup>th</sup> .	MC
J	4	It was agreed that colleagues should be invited to attend future RCC meetings to present an overview of the funding stream they represent.	SP Leads/AL
K	4	Co-opting a representative from Communities First and Families First to the Committee to be discussed with colleagues from these areas.	SP Leads/AL
L	4	Best practice from the jointly funded Caerphilly and Families First projects to be shared with the RCC	MT
M	4	NS and CE to meet to discuss links to develop between SP services and health particularly for mental health and learning disabilities	NS/CE
N	4	In On Place programme report to be circulated to the RCC	CE
O	4	Agenda budget cuts for the October meeting	AL
P	9	AL to circulate the papers from the development sessions	AL
Q	9	Comments and amendments to the work plan to be forwarded to AL	AL
R	9	Building Resilient Communities Annual Report to be circulated to RCC	AL
S	11	All five case studies and text to be circulated to members for comment	AL
T	11	Income maximisation / debt reduction spreadsheet update to be provided to the next meeting	MT / SP Leads