

# **Gwent Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee**

Committee Room 2/3, Civic Centre, Glantorfaen Road, Pontypool, NP4 6YB  
**09:30am – 13:00 pm April 28th 2017**

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

Alicja Zalesinska, Tai Pawb, Director  
Alyson Hoskins, Blaenau Gwent CBC, Head of Adult Services  
Chris Edmunds, ABUHB, In One Place Programme Co-ordinator  
Chris Humphrey, Newport CC, Head of Adult & Community Services  
Elke Winton, Torfaen CBC, Group Manager Housing  
Emma Hammonds, Torfaen & Blaenau Gwent MIND, Director, Support  
Provider Representative  
Julia Osmond, Public Health, Principal Public Health Practitioner  
Hugh Irwin, United Welsh, Landlord Representative  
Kath Deakin, MHA, Head of Sustainable Communities, Support Provider  
Representative  
Neil Taylor, Head of Performance & Partnerships, OPCC  
Nicola Needle, Monmouthshire CC, Changing Practice, Changing Lives Lead  
Richard Sheahan, Linc Cymru, Landlord Representative  
Sam Lewis, Llamau, Head of Support Services East, Provider Representative

## **Supporting Officers in attendance:**

Angela Lee, Gwent SP Regional Development Co-ordinator (Minutes)  
Chris Robinson, Monmouthshire CC, Lead Commissioner, Quality Assurance  
and Supporting People  
Michelle Church, Blaenau Gwent SP, Supporting People Manager  
Shelly Jones, Caerphilly SP, Supporting People Manager  
Nigel Stannard, Newport CC, Supporting People Manager  
Rachael Lewis, Supporting People Manager, Torfaen

## **Apologies:**

Darren Daniel, Wales Probation Trust, Team Manager  
Dave Congreve, Tackling Poverty Representative  
Diana Binding, Assistant Chief Executive, Gwent Probation Wales  
Donna Lemin, Welsh Government, SP Governance & Data Accreditation  
Viv Daye, Caerphilly CBC, Service Manager

	Item/Discussion	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and introductions</b> AH welcomed everyone to the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee meeting and introductions were given.</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received as noted above</p> <p><b>Declaration of Interests</b> EH declared an interest in agenda Item 10. JO declared an interest in agenda item 10</p>	
2.	<p><b>Presentation: Gwent Pathways, Regional Prolific Offender Scheme. Dafydd Davies</b></p> <p>DD gave apologies for being unable to attend the meeting to deliver the above presentation.</p> <p><b>Action: Gwent Pathways presentation to be re-arranged for July RCC meeting</b></p>	A
3.	<p><b>Supported Accommodation Review: Paul Webb</b></p> <p>An overview was provided to the RCC of the Supported Accommodation Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Gov decision to take cost of additional housing management out of HB system which is based on individual claims</li> <li>• HB budget growing significantly over recent years; it is anticipated that it will be turned to a cash limited fund which will be transferred to Wales</li> <li>• Introduction of Universal Credit funding for housing costs only up to LHA rate any top up will need to come from the new fund.</li> <li>• Short term services including refuge and hostel provision can take 6 weeks to process current claims; potential risk of ending up with voids in short term services, so likely that these types of schemes will be considered separately as part of the new funding model.</li> </ul> <p>Current timetable continues despite calling of general election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fixed amount of money / transfer from treasury to Wales</li> <li>• In England a top up fund to LAs is being introduced</li> <li>• Ministerial decisions will be made on how the money is spent once transferred to Wales.</li> <li>• Nov 2016 UK Gov consultation based on the research; it is not the intention to rely on this research to produce figures for Wales because the research was carried out in 2015. The research has been used to inform policy decisions, not to decide the amount of money coming into Wales</li> </ul>	

- Welsh review: Welsh Gov want to co-produce the policy advice in this area. WG Officials want to work with the sector to produce the advice that will be given to Ministers, e.g. preferred options etc
- Competing interests:
  - Landlords want security to continue building
  - Providers who want to be able to develop sustainable provision
  - Commissioners how do we continue to develop what is needed in the future
- Putting together a steering group to support the development of the Ministerial advice; contact currently being made with existing networks e.g. Cymorth, CHC.
  - Steering Group will consist of - CHC, Cymorth, WLGA, housing/ landlord reps, support provider reps, commissioner, WG rep
- Current Timetable:
  - End of May – provide Cabinet Secretary with advice around case for change describing and setting out what the current circumstances are. To include what the sector is good at delivering and what it's not good at. Ensuring value for money and being strategic/ options appraisal will be included within this update
  - End of August develop the options appraisal, get out and discuss this with the sector
  - End of Oct need to have developed preferred option advice to Cabinet Secretary
  - Up to Nov analysis of spend with announcement in the autumn statement about how the funding is distributed across Wales / each LA. This will inform decision making of how we go from current distribution to how monies are distributed from March 2019
  - November 2017 – prepare formal consultation
  - Consultation to run up to March 18
  - Ministerial agreement and decisions
  - 18-19 getting ready for when new fund will be payable
  - March 2019 implementation

Steering group – Jim McKirdle is looking to identify appropriate commissioner / LA rep

The following points were raised and discussed and agreed will need to be considered going forward:

- Should the ring fence be kept on SP? There are clear links to SP with this agenda
- Should the new fund also be ring fenced?
- There is the potential to end up with 4 pots money: OP Sheltered

	<p>Accommodation fund/ LD funding? SPPG/ Short term accommodation funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn from housing management experience of this money going into SRG</li> <li>• Important for work to not become too complex as strategic decisions are already being made about supported housing development</li> <li>• Health should be involved along with other interested stakeholders e.g Domestic Abuse and Substance Misuse</li> <li>• There is an opportunity to improve commissioning arrangements e.g. RCCs, this could help improve performance of RCCs</li> <li>• Opportunity to use review to look at impact on other policy areas e.g. Well-being agenda</li> <li>• There is growing demand OP / LD/ Aging LD population / preventing homelessness. Need to accept that there may not be increasing resources to deliver to these growing demands. How do we ensure that we are able to continue to meet demand?</li> <li>• Use SU perspective within the options appraisal so they have a voice.</li> <li>• Getting support should be as simple as possible for the person who needs it to get support and access it.</li> <li>• Short term accommodation – ensuring landlords can get money - Individual claims?</li> <li>• Consultation now closed, there was no overall consensus from the responses received</li> <li>• Administration: learn lessons from the overburden of SP administration</li> <li>• Homelessness reduction bill and impact</li> <li>• Stakeholder engagement plan due to be published shortly</li> </ul> <p>The Gwent RCC advised PW that they were able to help and willing to engage and inform the work of the Supported Accommodation Review going forward.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Housekeeping</b></p> <p>➤ Minutes/actions arising from previous meeting (25/01/2017)</p> <p>B3/C3 – Newport are still working with Kemp database and undertaking work with Families First to look at any potential overlap with support worker posts. So far there appear to be distinct differences between the programmes apart from a couple of family projects.</p> <p>There will be a report to Newport planning group and this can be shared once formally agreed and signed off</p> <p>D3 – on-going</p> <p>E3 – Chris E rep for health board but not rep for NCNs and communities – would require another health seat on the board. AH has met with Sian Miller and is meeting again with Sian – RCC happy for AH to continue making</p>	

	<p>progress in this area</p> <p>F3 – need to follow up after elections</p> <p>G3 – still to progress</p> <p>H3 – still to progress</p> <p>I3 – to progress. UC role out and going to full service/ 18-21 /LHA – invite Karl Thomas (job changing so may not be him to the next meeting)</p> <p>J3 – WG contacted after last meeting and raised concerns regarding RCC funding. A report was recently taken to the Heads of Social Services Group requesting an equal split and consensus across all five Gwent LAs. This has been agreed with a commitment of £1700 / LA to cover costs such as translation, website, user and provider events etc.</p> <p>L5 /M5 –Substance Misuse follow up at RDC network</p> <p>N6/O6 – FCA letter, conflicting advice being given to providers from the FCA and requests from Newport to register by September: further clarification to be circulated by the SP teams and to be raised at the RDC Network with WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Membership updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Deputy Provider Rep Election: no responses received yet to the advert, Cymorth are re-circulating the advert following the RPF</li> <li>○ Membership changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mal Topping recently retired from the Supporting People team; thanks were given to Mal from the Gwent RCC for all his hard work in Caerphilly SP for the Gwent RCC</li> <li>▪ Welcome extended to Shelly Jones who will replace MT as the Caerphilly SP Lead representative</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ MOU April 2017 – still to finalise</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Financial position against budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Final Quarter outturn 2016/2017: <i>Local and regional outturns to be submitted to WG by April 30<sup>th</sup> 2017</i></li> </ul> <p>The virement table was discussed and agreed.</p> <p>A query relating to how LA contribution is allocated was raised. SP Leads advised that they are allocating in accordance to WG instructions.</p> <p>Final Outturn agreed by the Gwent RCC in principle, agreed that going forward clarification as to how LA contributions are allocated on the spend plan needs to be agreed</p> <p>Donna Lemin had emailed some queries regarding spend allocation, these are to be followed up outside of the meeting, involving DL in these discussions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Commissioning and LA spend report 2017 – 2018</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Blaenau Gwent:</b> commissioning intentions are outlined within the paper, RCC advised that it is difficult to develop services when budgets are so uncertain. Services being developed are pilots and continuing with G&amp;T service is agreed. Spend – all monies committed and agreement reached through local planning processes.</p> <p><b>Caerphilly:</b> no questions raised</p> <p><b>Monmouthshire:</b> Decommissioning OP support contract with MHA extended to 30 September; £40k over commitment to manage due to this.</p> <p><b>Newport:</b> some new pilots starting mid-year, budget uncertainty is an issue. Fortunate to have no cuts this year and be able to carry on with some pilots. Some were stopped last year as when reviewed it was agreed that they were not strategically relevant. Virement money letter just received from WG. Doing more looking at other teams in council and where SP could pick up funding for those posts that are delivering housing related support e.g. YP Homelessness Officer</p> <p><b>Torfaen:</b> numerous pilots underway, working closely with TP groups, small pilot with Families First around HRS needs of that population</p> <p>Variances in approaches across LA commissioning were discussed with one LA decommissioning its OP service and one commissioning a specific OP service. Local strategic planning processes have been used to determine strategic priorities locally.</p> <p>RCC agreed the format for the Commissioning and LA spend report provided a useful and easy to navigate overview of budget comparisons and commissioning/ decommissioning intentions and agreed for it to be provided to the Gwent RCC meeting on an annual basis</p>	
6.	<p><b>WG update: <i>RCC Update March 1<sup>st</sup> Previously circulated: to note in the minutes</i></b></p> <p>No comments raised</p>	
7.	<p><b>LA updates: <i>papers provided to RCC Members with the agenda</i></b></p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent:</b> all OP services commissioned are now based on need and not tenure from April 2017.</p> <p><b>Caerphilly:</b> The Shared Lives Board has agreed to fund one regional worker through their boards under spend, releasing SP funding to spend on other priorities.</p> <p><b>Monmouthshire:</b> Continued discussions on SP team structure, resources to manage it and in which department the team should sit.</p> <p><b>Newport:</b> Demand on floating support increasing and complexity of needs that people are approaching services with is increasing. Have received some OPCC funding to research drinking habits. ICF bid with health recently submitted. OP services all based now on need and not tenure. Ty'r Eirlys opened April 2017 LD move on and community hub and day opportunities</p> <p><b>Torfaen:</b> OP tenure neutral service went live on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 providing one single point of contact for OP HRS service. SP have retained and are</p>	

	developing the Gateway for this service.	
8.	<p><b>Provider update: <i>verbal update</i></b></p> <p>➤ <b>Regional Provider Forum updates: 09/02/2017, Torfaen; 27/04/2017, Blaenau Gwent</b></p> <p>Two provider forums have been held since the last RCC meeting in January:</p> <p>09/02/2017: The RPF looked at the Research and Finance Groups policy paper and provided feedback</p> <p>27/04/2017: Naloxone and Gwent Connect presentation; review of WG priorities raised at the Cymorth Conference discussed with RPF agreeing their top 3 to feed into the RCCs workplan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homelessness prevention</li> <li>• Commissioning Principles</li> <li>• Supported Accommodation Review</li> </ul> <p>EH advised the group that the Gwent Wide health funded Mental Health service was now up and running.</p> <p><b>Action: Arrange meeting with Gwent Wide Mental Health service with SP Leads</b></p> <p><b>Landlord update: <i>verbal update</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions being held to align agendas for health and sheltered housing and use of stock looking at ways of working collaboratively together</li> <li>• Housing, Health &amp; Social Care forum: a short paper is being submitted to this group and terms of reference for a task and finish group. Mapping of accommodation, technology and alarms also being picked up under this agenda. <i>AH raised that some of this work was also being picked up by Heads of Service Group particularly around DToC – need to ensure no duplication of work.</i> Most older people now use mobiles so work progressing in schemes to for example ensure WIFI available.</li> <li>• National and regional work being undertaken to review care home provision and possible pooled budgets by 2018</li> <li>• EROSH Network chaired by RShe the network are aiming to influence the SAR work.</li> </ul>	C
9.	<p><b>Tackling Poverty update: <i>verbal update</i></b></p> <p>No update available for this meeting</p>	

10.	<p><b>RDC progress report: <i>to be noted in the minutes</i></b></p> <p><b>Reporting on the RCC work plan:</b></p> <p><b>Service User Sub Group: <i>website update</i></b>  RCC members were provided with an update on progress towards the launch of the Service User Engagement Website which will now be launched at the Service User Needs Planning event. A save the date has been sent to RCC Members as it is aimed as part of the event that SU's can "Meet their RCC Member".</p> <p><b>Mental Health services review: <i>draft report for discussion</i></b>  Overview of the report provided by AL to the Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Newport commissioned a hoarding and cluttering project and a project report is currently being drafted; the outcomes from the pilot suggest that work in this area is outside the eligibility criteria for SP; with Support Workers needing to pull in other services to support people who have issues with hoarding and cluttering</li> <li>➤ Age Cymru deliver some training in this area</li> <li>➤ An issue for landlords across Gwent; large costs to RSLs and lots of resources required; leads to fire safety issues</li> <li>➤ Hoarding and Cluttering are very different issues, one relates to personality disorder and one is a mental health issue</li> <li>➤ Need to map current services available and understand more about the needs</li> </ul> <p>RCC agreed that the report provided an excellent overview of the funding for mental health services and the recognised service needs from the Gwent Supporting People strategic planning frameworks; it was agreed that it should be circulated widely across relevant networks and forums, to help inform their work and should be tabled for discussions at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mental Health &amp; Social Care Forum: could a support pathway be developed and would this cover what was needed</li> <li>○ Share across OPCC networks and forums, currently high Police interest in Mental Health and on-going discussions with ABUHB</li> <li>○ Mental Health &amp; Learning Disabilities Partnership Board: report to be shared with this board who are currently considering priorities for training. Gofal are due to present to the board and this could link in with presentation of the SP MH report</li> <li>○ NCN Partnership Boards</li> <li>○ Share report with Karen Morgan who is leading on the MH and LD Strategy</li> </ul> <p>The RCC discussed the current priorities outlined in the RCP and Mental</p>	
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	<p>Health Services Review report and agreed that this would require review following feedback from the above the boards.</p> <p><b>Action(s):</b></p> <p><b>Circulate Newport Hoarding and Cluttering report when available</b></p> <p><b>Circulate the Mental Health Services review report widely across relevant strategic networks</b></p> <p><b>RCC Work plan 2017/2018</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Cymorth Cymru Conference Update</b></p> <p>An overview of the priorities highlighted at the Cymorth Conference had been provided to RCC Members and this had been considered by the Regional Provider Forum.</p> <p>It was agreed that there were a lot of areas that may need to be considered as part of this year's RCC work plan:</p> <p><b>Action: RCC Development Day to be arranged</b></p>	<p><b>D</b></p> <p><b>E</b></p> <p><b>F</b></p>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>➤ <b>RDC Shortfall funding</b></p> <p>Covered under actions from the last meeting</p> <p>It was agreed that SP is so interconnected to so many networks and strategic boards; ensuring influence on these agendas was of vital importance for the Programme.</p> <p><b>Action: Circulate RPB Governance Framework map</b></p>	<p><b>G</b></p>
	<p>Date/time of forthcoming meetings:</p> <p>6<sup>th</sup> July 2017, RCC Business meeting 9.30am</p> <p><b>Committee Room 2/3, Civic Centre, Glantorfaen Road, Pontypool, NP4 6YB</b></p>	

## Gwent RCC: Meeting Actions

9:30 am – 13:00 pm, April 28th 2017

ACTION	AGENDA ITEM NO	ACTION	TO BE COMPLETED BY
A	2	<b>Gwent Pathways presentation to be re-arranged for July RCC meeting</b>	AL
B	4	<b>Outstanding Actions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ensure that RCC rep is co-opted to the APB when membership is reviewed</b></li> <li>• <b>To be raised at the next RPB whether a co-opted RCC rep should attend.</b></li> <li>• <b>Contact YOS colleagues to discuss co-opted membership</b></li> <li>• <b>National Probation Service to be contacted to discuss representation</b></li> <li>• <b>Invite Karl / Alan Thomas to another RCC to discuss Welfare Reforms and implementation of Rent Smart Wales.</b></li> <li>• </li> </ul>	AL AL AH DD AL
C	8	<b>Arrange meeting with Gwent Wide Mental Health service with SP Leads</b>	AL
D	10	<b>Circulate Newport Hoarding and Cluttering report when available</b>	NS
E	10	<b>Circulate the Mental Health Services review report widely across relevant strategic networks</b>	RCC
F	10	<b>RCC Development Day to be arranged</b>	AL
G	11	<b>Circulate RPB Governance Framework map</b>	AL