

## Report of the Cabinet Member for Adults and Vulnerable People

Cabinet – 21 July 2016

### ESTABLISHMENT OF WESTERN BAY REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD AND UPDATE OF PROGRAMME OF WORK

<b>Purpose:</b>	To establish the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
<b>Consultation:</b>	Legal, Finance and Access to Services
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<p>It is recommended that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Consider and adopt the Terms of Reference and support the establishment of the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board</li><li>2) Delegate authority to the Chief Social Services Officer in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the S.151 Officer, to make such further amendments to the Terms of Reference as are deemed necessary and are agreed between the Partnership Bodies</li><li>3) Note the position statement that provides a summary of the Western Bay programme of work</li><li>4) Agree the nomination of the three Members to represent the City &amp; County of Swansea on the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board.</li><li>5) Delegate the appointment of remaining non local authority and non LHB members of the Regional Partnership Board to the Members nominated in accordance with recommendation 3, in conjunction with representatives of the other Local Authorities and the Local Health Board, such appointment to be reported back to Cabinet</li></ol>
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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Western Bay Regional Partnership Forum was established on a non statutory footing in 2014 to progress and oversee the Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme. It has also worked on the arrangements for implementing the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 (the Act).
- 1.2 The Act came into effect on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and this introduced a statutory role for a Regional Partnership Board and specific responsibilities.
- 1.3 In light of the new statutory requirements the Western Bay Regional Partnership Forum held two development workshops facilitated by the Institute of Public Care (Oxford Brooks University) in January and April this year to clarify, review and update the role of Regional Partnership Board going forward.
- 1.4 The Shadow Partnership Board met in April and considered objectives, priorities and terms of reference. The outcome of the workshops includes the Terms of Reference attached in Appendix A and a Position Statement summarising the work of the Shadow Partnership Board in Appendix B.

## **2. Requirements**

- 2.1 The Act introduces new requirements on local authorities and the Local Health Board (LHB) with regard to partnership and collaboration. This includes the need to establish Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) on LHB footprints to secure strategic planning and partnership working between local authorities and the LHB to ensure effective services, care and support are in place to best meet the needs of their population.
- 2.2 The objectives of the Regional Partnership Boards are to ensure the partnership bodies work effectively together with the following responsibilities to:
  - Respond to the population assessment carried out in accordance with section 14 of the Act;
  - Implement the plans for each of the local authority areas covered by the Regional Partnership Board which local authorities and local health boards are each required to prepare and publish;
  - Ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements;
  - Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate;
  - Ensure that services and resources are used in the most effective and efficient way to improve outcomes for people in their region;
  - Prepare an annual report for Welsh Ministers on the extent to which the board's objectives have been achieved;

- Provide strategic leadership to ensure that information is shared and used effectively to improve the delivery of services, care and support, using technology and common systems to underpin this.
- 2.3 More specifically RPBs will be responsible for prioritising 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.
  - Delivering a pooled budget arrangement for care homes by April 2018.
- 2.4 The statutory guidance requires the creation of 7 RPBs across Wales, including Western Bay.
- 2.5 Membership of the Regional Partnership Board is specified in the statutory guidance. The Regional Partnership Board may co-opt other persons to be members of the Board as appropriate. The regulations refer to the minimum membership of the boards but the number of representatives and range of people involved is a matter for local determination.
- 2.6 A Western Bay Regional Citizens Panel has been established drawing on existing local and regional engagement mechanisms which will inform the development and delivery of integrated services from an individual and service user perspective.
- 3. The Role and Function of the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board**
- 3.1 In Western Bay, partners wish to continue the good progress that has been made in the development of collaborative regional activity and design arrangements which build on this success, as well as meet the national requirements.
- 3.2 The main roles of the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board will be to:
- Ensure that there is an agreed shared vision and a clear direction of travel for service development and integration of health, care and wellbeing.
  - Ensure that there are shared plans in place (supported by appropriate business cases) for delivering on the vision
  - Ensure that the strategic plans are evaluated and reviewed against agreed and understood outcomes and performance indicators

- Lead a strategic approach to communicating and publicising the direction of travel and progress made
  - Maintain an effective overview of the resources allocated by the Regional Partnership Board
  - Ensure that an annual report on progress is prepared and delivered as required by Welsh Government.
- 3.3 Each Member of the Regional Partnership Board will be responsible for ensuring any strategic decisions and plans made by the Regional Partnership Board have Partner body support and are considered through their respective governance arrangements.
- 3.4 The Regional Partnership Board will be responsible for reporting on its statutory requirements and progress against strategic plans to the Welsh Government as required.
- 3.5 The functions of the Regional Partnership Board are set out in the Terms of Reference at **Appendix A**.

#### **4. Membership**

- 4.1 The proposed membership of the Regional Partnership Board is included in the Terms of Reference at **Appendix A**.

#### **5. Position Statement**

- 5.1 The implementation of the Act builds on considerable progress across Western Bay through projects and activities that have been prioritised by the partners such as safeguarding and the establishment of Regional Safeguarding Boards and a regional Adoption Service, to the prioritisation of integrated services for older people through the Community Services Programme. The implementation of the Act can be seen essentially in two stages:
- **Immediate** – ensuring partners’ compliance with key requirements of the Act by April 2016, and
  - **Medium term** – working across the partnership to develop and enhance arrangements and ensure that the spirit as well as the letter of the Act are reflected in how services are planned and delivered in the longer term from April 2016 onwards.
- 5.2 The second stage is seen as forming a logical basis for the forward Partnership Plan, which will also need to reflect the discrete duties identified for RPBs noted above and it needs to include the transformation priorities already underway across Western Bay.
- 5.3 The Position Statement at **Appendix B** identifies the Stage 1 and Stage 2 activities which will inform the Partnership Plan.

## **6. Equality and Engagement Implications**

- 6.1 An initial EIA screening (see **Appendix C**) has been undertaken and has concluded that a full EIA report is not required in relation to the setting up of the Regional Partnership Board.
- 6.2 With relation to the requirement that the Regional Partnership Board arrangements comply with Welsh Language Standards and specifically, consideration of how to maximise any benefits and minimise any adverse effects on:
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
  - treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English

It must be appreciated that each of the partnership bodies will be subject to their own specifically defined standards and so decisions made by the partnership must be in line with their individual needs.

Any decisions made by the partnership which affect service users will need to be subject to EIA procedures.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **8. Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 imposes an obligation on the Local Authorities of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend together with the Local Health Board to establish a Regional Partnership Board. The Terms of Reference at Appendix A comply with the statutory obligations and guidance issued by the Welsh Government.

**Background Papers:** Previous Cabinet Papers in relation to Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme: Western Bay Overview, January 2013; Youth Offending Service, January 2013 and March 2013; Joint Commitments for Learning Disability Services, Community Services and Mental Health Services, September 2013; Delivering Improved Community Services, April 2014; Managing Youth Offending Services, April 2014; Regional Adoption Service, April 2014; Establishment of Substance Misuse Area Planning Board, April 2014 and Western Bay and Intermediate Care Fund, June 2014.

**Background Papers:** None.

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix A** Western Bay Regional Partnership Board Terms of Reference  
**Appendix B** Western Bay Position Statement  
**Appendix C** EIA Screening Form