



Report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Health Services

Cabinet – 17 February 2022

West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Governance Framework

Purpose:	To approve the adoption of a Governance Framework for the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership.
Policy Framework:	Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 and the Terms of Reference for the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board
Consultation:	West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board, Access to Services, Finance, Legal
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that Cabinet 1) Approve the Governance Framework attached at Appendix 1 to the report.
Report Author:	Kelly Gillings
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Catherine Window

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Governance Framework has been developed to support the governance of the partnership arrangements for the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board.
- 1.2 This Framework strives to address many of the problems and questions that often arise in regards to the governance arrangements of the Regional Partnership Board.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 require Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and the Health Board as the Partnership Bodies to form a Regional Partnership Board (RPB) to implement requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. The Regulations prescribe the RPB membership and its functions.
- 2.2 The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership is a collaborative Health and Social Care initiative comprising:
- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
 - The Council of the City and County of Swansea
 - Swansea Bay University Health Board
 - Organisations in the third and independent Sectors
 - Citizen and carer representatives.
- 2.3 The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership focuses on four key strategic areas with associated projects and work streams being delivered in the context of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

These are:

- **Stabilisation and Reconstruction:** Work with (and invest in) communities, third sector and volunteers in maintaining and strengthening an asset and strengths based approach to safely supporting vulnerable individuals within their communities without unnecessary recourse to critical/essential health & social care services, building upon the Our Neighbourhood Approach model - making sure there is a particular focus on support for carers.
- **Remodelling Acute Health and Community Services:** Continue remodelling (& shifting the balance of funding between) acute health and community health/ social care services, to maximise outcomes for individuals and their carers.
- **Transforming Complex Care:** Establish fit for purpose joint funding arrangements to support the provision or commissioning of integrated/ collaborative health/ social care services to support children and adults with complex needs. This is intended to:
 - Safely support regional looked after children (LAC) reduction anywhere on the continuum of need.
 - Safely support adults with complex needs to remain or return to living as independently as possible within their families or local communities within the region rather than within more institutional health or care settings.
 - Ensure seamless transition between services across all services including young people into adulthood.
 - **Transforming Mental Health Services;** Develop a continuum of support for the population who require Mental Health and Well Being Services.

- Safely support children and young people with emotional mental health and wellbeing needs to receive the support they need to live as fulfilled a life as possible with the minimum levels of intervention and receiving integrated care in a timely manner when they do.

3. Governance Framework

3.1 This Governance Framework provides clarity on the remit of the Regional Partnership Board and sets out the expectations of the required governance to ensure that the Partnership Bodies discharge their duties in accordance with Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations (2015).

3.2 Although this Governance Framework will be subject to regular, annual review by the Partnership Bodies, there may, exceptionally, be an occasion where it is necessary to vary or amend the Framework during the year. For example, changes to the funding model for the Regional Partnership Board will require an updating of the framework.

3.3 Cabinet is asked to consider the West Glamorgan Governance Framework in Appendix 1

3.4 Key areas to highlight are:

Regional Partnership Board Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Regional Partnership Board, which have been approved by the Statutory Bodies should be amended to align with the governance framework, the specific areas of change are highlighted in yellow in Appendix 1 - Annex A.

The terms of reference for the transformation board are available at Appendix 1 - Annex A

Appointment and Tenure of Board Members

The Chair and Vice Chair will be appointed from one of the Partnership Bodies as defined in Clause 2.1 of the Terms of Reference, through nominations from the Board and agreed by a majority vote of Partnership Bodies. It is agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair will not be drawn from the same statutory group.

The maximum tenure of appointment for the Chair and Vice Chair will be for four years, and these appointments will be reviewed on an annual basis and elections undertaken to confirm the Chair and Vice Chair or to seek new post holders if required.

The term of office of Local Authority elected members shall run until the next general election of local authority members or the dissolution of those local authorities by effect of statute.

The term of office for Stakeholder Members will be for a maximum of four years.

Action required in between meetings

There may, occasionally, be circumstances where courses of action which would normally be made by the Board need to be taken between scheduled

meetings, and it is not practicable to call a meeting of the Board. In these circumstances, the Chair and the Vice Chair supported by the West Glamorgan Regional Transformation Programme Director as appropriate, may deal with the matter on behalf of the Board - after first consulting all Members.

The West Glamorgan Regional Transformation Programme Director must ensure that any such action is formally recorded and reported to the next meeting of the Board for consideration and ratification.

Declaration of Interests

It is a requirement that all Board members must declare any personal or business interests they may have which may affect, or be perceived to affect the conduct of their role as a Board member. This includes any interests that may influence or be perceived to influence their judgement in the course of conducting the Board's business. Board members must also declare any interests held by family members or persons or bodies with which they are connected.

Approval of Funding

The following table provides the level of authority to approve the allocation of funding received through grants and/or Integrated Care Funds.

Level	Approval Body	Maximum Financial Limit(exclusive of VAT) £000
1	Regional Partnership Board	Schemes Over £1,000,000
2	Transformation Boards	Schemes up to £1,000,000
3	Programme Boards (The programmes that support the Transformation Boards)	Schemes up to £75,000
4	West Glamorgan Director of Transformation / Deputy Director	Schemes up to £25,000

The Regional Partnership Board is not a formal decision-making body and has no executive powers. Courses of action will be agreed by consensus among the full members. Partners will need to take issues agreed by the Board through their own local policy and decision-making for ratification as required.

Board Etiquette

The ways in which Board members behave towards each other, and conduct Board and sub group business, are core to the way in which staff and stakeholders view Board effectiveness. .

General Principles

- adhere to the [Nolan Principles of Public Life](#), and relevant Codes of Conduct of their respective authorities
- declare any potential conflicts of interest at the beginning of a meeting (or when these arise if it becomes evident part way through) and if the

interest could be prejudicial to any issues that the meeting will consider not take part in the meeting

- be respectful of, and courteous to others, recognising that all contributions have value and not use bullying behaviour or harass any person
- ensure that you have due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people, regardless of their gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, age or religion
- listen actively and challenge constructively
- manage conflict objectively, explore differences fully and look for resolutions. Respect any ultimate divergence of view
- commit and demonstrate throughout to openness, transparency and candour
- not to do anything that will or may bring the Board into disrepute
- not misuse any resources that maybe provided
- keep any information marked as confidential private and not disclose to anyone outside of the Board unless consent has been obtained

The Board Etiquette is available at Appendix 1 - Annex D.

4. Key Risks

- 4.1 The introduction of the formal Governance Framework will reduce any risks in terms of understanding how the Regional Partnership Board operates and therefore ensure that courses of action taken by the Board will be in line with a governance framework which has been agreed by the Partnership Bodies.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are asked to approve The Governance Framework attached at Appendix 1.

6. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 6.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage

- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

6.1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.

6.1.2 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

6.2 There are no Integrated Assessments Implications associated with this report

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 The adoption of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Governance Framework, will support the Council to comply with its duties under the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Governance Framework

Appendix 2 IIA