

# Supporting People National Advisory Board (SPNAB) Meeting

## Minutes

11 June 2019 – Conference Room A, National Assembly Building,  
Ty Hywel, Cardiff Bay

### Present:

Daniel Groves (DG)	Chair (Independent)
Katie Dalton (KD)	Cymorth Cymru
Nigel Stannard (NS)	SPIN Representative
Naomi Alleyne (NA)	WLGA
Michelle Church (MC)	Strategic Finance & Research Group Chair
Diana Binding (DB)	Probation
Angela Lee (AL)	RCC Representative
Frances Beecher (FB)	Governance Working Group
Martin Whatty (MW)	Housing Networks Steering Group
Sarah Rhodes (SR)	Welsh Government
Angharad Rogers (AR)	Welsh Government
Paul Webb (PW)	Welsh Government
Julie Llewellyn (JL)	Welsh Government

### Also in Attendance:

Julie James (JJ)	Minister for Housing and Local Government at the beginning of the meeting
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### Apologies:

Harry McKeown (HMK)	CHC Representative
Helen Northmore (HN)	Independent
Josie Smith (JS)	Public Health Wales
Emma Williams (EW)	Welsh Government
Claire Marchant (CM)	ADSS Representative
Andrea James (AJ)	Housing Networks Steering Group

Note	Action/s
<b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b>	
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
<b>Minister for Housing and Local Government</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Minister thanked the Board for all of their work and commitment to the EIPS pathfinder, and contributing to the Ministerial decision to create the Housing Support Grant.</li> <li>• The Minister is interested in understanding the effectiveness of programme delivery on the ground, and what can be improved and how.</li> <li>• The Minister is keen to see links made between the RCCs and Regional Partnership Boards and providing support to the new housing representative who now sit on the RPBs.</li> <li>• The Minister looks forward to receiving the Board's views and recommendations on the future of SPNAB and its priorities.</li> </ul>	
<b>2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minutes of the meeting 05/03/19 were accepted as an accurate record.</li> <li>• An update on actions from the previous meeting can be found at the end of the minutes.</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Welsh Government Update</b>	
<p><b>HSG Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW gave an update presentation on the HSG. The presentation covered the engagement that has taken place to date, the messages that have been received from stakeholders following engagement and next steps.</li> </ul> <p><b>HSG Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement event 19 June – test draft proposals.</li> <li>• Consultation on draft Guidance for the HSG Autumn 2019.</li> <li>• Final HSG Guidance by February 2020.</li> </ul>	
<b>4. SPNAB Future Priorities Discussion</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a discussion about the future of SPNAB and the fact that the Board needs to be providing advice to the Minister.</li> <li>• SR stated that the Board needs to be clear about its purpose, and should no longer have a governance oversight of the delivery of the HSG (as it previously did with the Supporting People programme).</li> <li>• The Board needs to be more responsive to what is happening across the sector.</li> <li>• To note that in order to establish a new long term Ministerial Advisory Board we would need to go through the correct Public Appointments process.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD suggested that the Board needs to be concentrating on policy and take a whole Housing Support programme approach. It could be combined with the Homelessness Task and Finish Group to become one Board but still have task and finish groups to deliver on time limited tasks.</li> <li>• KD added that the Board needs to be more joined up with other policy areas i.e. Health and substance misuse.</li> <li>• KD/MC suggested that key message could be produced after each meeting to go to the Minister.</li> <li>• AL added that there will still need to be a regional link as part of any new Board.</li> <li>• It was agreed that the main issues that the Board needs to consider around its future role are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Providing advice to the Minister</li> <li>- How does it relate to the Homelessness Task and Finish Group and wider homelessness agenda?</li> <li>- How does it relate to what is happening locally on the ground?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Chair stated that he would write to the Minister outlining the main points suggested in this meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>DG to write to the Minister with suggestions of future direction</p>
<b>5. Sub-group Feedback – Governance Working Group (GWG):</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD outlined the discussion that took place at the GWG meeting on 10 May, which was focused around the work carried out previously by the Group to co-produce the existing SP Guidance, and what lessons can be learnt. It was agreed that another GWG meeting to consider the HSG Guidance document was not required but that SPNAB would consider the formal consultation document at its next meeting in October.</li> <li>• AL asked what the plan was for the evaluation of the RCC Annual Reviews this year in light of all of the changes currently taking place. It has been agreed that RDCs to send completed RCC Annual Reviews to WG by 31st July. They will then be assessed by the SPNAB Board in October.</li> <li>• The current SPNAB sub-groups in their current form will not exist under any new Board arrangements. Sub-groups is one of the areas that will need to be reviewed.</li> </ul>	
<b>6. Sub-group Feedback – Strategic Finance &amp; Research Group (SF&amp;RG)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPNAB had tasked the SF&amp;RG to test and consider the options/proposals detailed in the draft Funding Alignment Outcomes Framework.</li> <li>• MC present a position paper from the Group which provided advice to SPNAB on the proposed Outcomes Framework. The paper includes the views and opinions of the SF&amp;RG as well as their proposals for several amendments to the Framework.</li> <li>• Under the National Wellbeing Goal – A more Equal Wales, the paper suggests that the outcome for disadvantaged groups</li> </ul>	<p>MC to amend the paper to reflect comments</p> <p>MC to submit to the WG Funding</p>

<p>should be across the board i.e. <i>should deliver positive outcomes for people with different protected characteristics for those living in poverty or greater experience of ACEs</i>. A few people wanted to make some amendments to this section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NS raised the issue of how will we know if families are receiving support from both CCG and HSG? How will this be captured how will this be co-ordinated?</li> <li>• It was agreed that the paper should be submitted to the WG Data Working Group for consideration.</li> </ul>	<p>Alignment Data Working Group</p>
<p><b>7. Cymorth Service User Events - Feedback</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD presented the findings from the Cymorth Service user events, which took place in January 2019, in order to listen to the views of people who use homelessness and housing-related support services. Cymorth spoke to approx 100 people at events in Carmarthen, Rhyl and Cardiff. The full report will be published soon.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. Updates</b></p>	
<p><b>Homelessness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Youth Homelessness:</b> The applications from Local Authorities and third sector partners for the £4,800,000 Youth Homelessness Innovation Fund have now been processed, with an announcement regarding successful projects to be issued in due course. The fund will also be covering an independent evaluation of all projects funded through the Innovation Fund. Officials are currently working with Knowledge and Analytical services to draw this together. Development of the pan Wales’s communication and engagement plan is progressing following consultation with stakeholders, and rollout is anticipated for autumn.</li> <li>• <b>Housing First:</b> There are now five Housing First Trailblazer projects where funding has been agreed. These are Conwy/Denbighshire, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Cardiff and Anglesey. Early feedback from the Cardiff project is positive. The Welsh Government has also funded a Housing First co-ordinator role, based within Cymorth Cymru, who will support organisations to develop Housing First proposals, identify and disseminate best practice as well as support the Housing First Network.</li> </ul> <p><b>SPIN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The All-Wales SPIN meeting on 9 April morning session considered progress on the implementation of HSG, the proposed single Outcomes Framework and the establishment of a multi-agency Data Group, which will underpin the work of the framework. There was a presentation on the local authority homelessness strategies, some of which are regional</li> </ul>	

strategies, and the importance of HSG contributing to local homelessness delivery plans.

- PW led a round-table discussion on procurement which will inform the forthcoming draft HSG guidance, in addition the group was updated on the project researching the HSG funding of learning disabilities schemes.
- A presentation from CIH Cymru on the Tyfu Tai Cymru project looking at the sustainability of tenancies in the private rented sector, concentrating on accommodation standards and increasing levels of mental ill health. The accompanying Report contains a number of recommendations for all parties which were discussed by the group, especially how HSG could work more closely with both tenants and landlords.
- The next meeting on 2 July is a joint meeting with the Homelessness Network and will be discussing re-distribution, the Outcomes Framework.

### **RCC**

- An update from each RCC is attached at Annex A.

### **Research & Evaluation Group**

- The group have not met since the last SPNAB meeting.

### **CHC**

- CHC's Strategic Delivery Groups are now fully resourced for Chairs and Vice-Chairs. They have recently met to agree a list of cross-cutting themes, which they will be working on to prioritise and agree action plans.
- Two new Head of Policy and External Affairs have been successfully recruited.

### **Cymorth Cymru**

- At the end of March 2019 Cymorth have delivered psychologically informed training to over 1,750 people from support providers, housing associations and local authorities. The independent evaluation is very positive and they are seeing the impact of changes within homelessness and housing-related support services.
- Cymorth are midway through a research project with Cardiff Met University into the human and financial impact of homelessness and housing-related support services in Wales.
- This year they will be undertaking work on developing tri-partite agreements for supported accommodation schemes in Wales, working with partners across the sector.
- They are developing guidance on substance use in supported accommodation.
- The work of the Housing First Wales Network is progressing well and there is a Housing First conference on 11<sup>th</sup> July in Cardiff.

<p><b>Probation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry of Justice Probation Consultation in the autumn 2018 included plans to terminate the current Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) contracts two years earlier than planned with the intention of working with the market to design new and improved arrangements.</li> <li>• In February 2019 it became necessary to appoint administrators for Working Links, owner of Wales CRC. The company is now being operated by Seetec, under their current contract for Kent, Surrey &amp; Sussex.</li> <li>• Wales CRC has been renamed Wales Probation Service. The decision has been made to bring forward the move of offender management to the NPS at the end of November. The Community Payback and Programme delivery will continue to be run by KSS until March 2021 when the contracts will be re-issued.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9. AOB – Discussion Future Meeting Dates</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dates for future SPNAB meeting was discussed. In light of the development of HSG and the HSG guidance document going out for formal consultation autumn 2019, it was decided that the next meeting should take place October 2019.</li> <li>• The meeting following that should be February 2020 by which time the guidance will have been published and proposed new arrangements for SPNAB should start to be implemented.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>10. Next Meeting</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at the WG Offices, Merthyr Tydfil.</li> </ul>	

## Action Log

### Supporting People National Advisory Board

Date Action Identified	Action Details	Responsible	Status
1. 5 March 2019	The Governance Working group will be consulted on proposed content of HSG guidance. JL to set up meeting of Governance Group.	Julie Llewellyn	Completed
2. 5 March 2019	Finance and research group to focus on single Outcomes Framework. PW to commission work for Finance & Research group.	Paul Webb	Completed
3. 5 March 2019	Current SPNAB membership needs to be wider to have representation from homelessness. Advice to be sent to the Minister on changes.	Julie Llewellyn	Completed
4. 5 March 2019	Research/review being carried out on Learning Disabilities services. The specification to be sent to the group.	Julie Llewellyn	Completed
5. 5 March 2019	Research/review being carried out on Distribution. The specification to be sent to the group.	Julie Llewellyn	Completed

## Annex A

Update from Regional Collaborative Committees June 2019

### Cardiff RCC

- Supporting People Regional Operational Group (**SPROG**) is now operating as a new sub-group of the RCC. This group discusses the potential to work regionally and a short term regional project / pilot was successfully orchestrated using ideas from the 'Off the Shelf' project proposals.
- **Prisoners Pathways** is not seen to be operating as well as it could, so the RCC is working with the Housing Networks Co-ordinator and interested parties in order to clarify the situation and provide recommendations for improvement.
- VAWDASV is keeping the RCC informed of the progress that they are making in providing resources for Male victim of Domestic Abuse and will shortly be presenting their new Commissioning plan to the RCC.
- Service Users have been consulted by the RPF and Cymorth in relation to their preferred methods of engagement. The RCC is setting up a task and finish group to consider any recommendations.

### Cwm Taf Morgannwg RCC:

- Progress towards the regionalisation of hostel provision is going well and work has begun on phase 2 – commissioning a new sub-regional model for Merthyr Tydfil and RCT, estimated delivery by April 2020.
- A sub-regional HRS scheme commissioned for people with dementia in RCT and Merthyr Tydfil.
- The inclusion of Bridgend in the regional footprint has been a smooth transition. A new Cwm Taf Morgannwg Supporting People Monitoring Officers Group (SPMOG) has been established to look at sharing of best practice, aligning monitoring where appropriate.
- A working group has also been established to share best practice and support the progress of the Housing First schemes in the three LA areas.

### Gwent RCC

- A development day to be arranged to consider how SP links to the strategic agenda/ /action plans across Gwent and actions to take forward as part of the regional strategic planning process.
- ABUHB recently commissioned a piece of work to consider the housing related support needs of the adult mental health population; a final report has been considered and well received by the RCC.
- RCC is well linked into the wide range of relevant strategic partnerships recent developments include formalisation of membership at APB sub groups including their strategic delivery group and MUP Alcohol group.
- Extension of a Caerphilly project to cover Torfaen as a pilot delivering HRS service to people who find themselves sleeping rough



### **Mid and West RCC:**

- Next RCC Meeting will consider how different LAs in the region progress Housing Support Grant.
- RCC reviewed the RCC 'Service User engagement framework. Key developments include:
  - Regional Workshop
  - Creating a subgroup that will focus on 'service user' engagement framework; key objective of the group is to draw (and monitor) a working plan that reflects the Guidance (2018) and RCC strategic plan.
- Driving stronger links with RPBs, VAWDASV, and APBs. The RCC is now looking at aligning our agenda with other regional boards, making sure that what we discuss in the RCC aligns with and supports the wider activities and priorities in the region (and vice-versa) e.g., Carers.

### **North Wales RCC:**

Last meeting was March 2019:

- The North Wales Online Service User Feedback Questionnaire – Analysis of the responses received to date was presented to the RCC, agreed to share this more widely. Powerful document that shows the value of the SP programme. This Questionnaire continues to be online and responses come in steadily all the time.
- Redistribution – the RCC has produced a letter outlining concerns for WG to address. Welsh Government provided a response stating this letter will go towards the evidence to present to the Minister.
- Membership – Each local authority has now invited their Homelessness Lead on to the RCC.
- All Prison Resettlement Officers are now in Post.
- Regional IDVA Service – pending sign off at one remaining SP Planning Group then this can go ahead.

### **West Glamorgan RCC:**

Last RCC 24th April 2019.

- Bridgend 'officially' left the region from 1st April 2019.
- The regional name has officially changed from Western Bay to West Glamorgan.
- Membership update:
  - The RCC has a new Vice Chair
  - Representatives from both homelessness and housing, Swansea & NPT now on the RCC as Co-opted members
- Committed member from the Health Board now on RCC.
- Strong links with the RPB being made, especially since the Health Board rep joined.
- An RCC Development Day was held on 14th May reviewing current regional priority areas.
- Regional review of all DA services (including male victims) currently underway.