

**PWYLLGOR ARCHWILIO A SICRWYDD RISG
AUDIT AND RISK ASSURANCE COMMITTEE**

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:	25 February 2020
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:	WAO Integrated Care Fund (ICF) Review Update
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:	Sarah Jennings, Director of Partnerships and Corporate Services
SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:	Anna Bird, Head of Strategic Partnerships, Diversity and Inclusion Martyn Palfreman, Head of Regional Collaboration

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas)

Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)

Er Sicrwydd/For Assurance

**ADRODDIAD SCAA
SBAR REPORT**

Sefyllfa / Situation

In August 2019, the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) received a [report](#) from the Wales Audit Office on the use of the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) in West Wales which identified a number of areas for improvement. This report advises on actions that have already been taken to address these areas and outlines further improvements which are planned over the coming year.

Cefndir / Background

During 2017-18 the Wales Audit Office (WAO) undertook a review of the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) to assess the extent to which the fund is being used effectively to deliver sustainable services that achieve better outcomes for service users. Fieldwork was conducted across Wales including with partners in West Wales and the [national report](#) published in July 2019. Key findings included:

- That the fund overall was having a positive impact, supporting improved partnership working and better integrated health and social care services
- That the fund has helped bring organisations together to plan and provide services
- That there is limited evidence of successful projects being mainstreamed and funded as part of public bodies' core service delivery
- That changing expectations and conditions from Welsh Government and the annual nature of the fund have to some extent limited its impact
- That Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) experience difficulty in balancing Welsh Government's indicative allocations for specific population groups with identified local need
- That governance of the fund needs to be strengthened at national and regional level
- That partner organisations are not sufficiently scrutinising the use of the fund
- That there is limited evidence of successful projects being mainstreamed into core service delivery

Asesiad / Assessment

In addition to the national report, WAO also produced an accompanying report with findings for the West Wales RPB. This was discussed at the ARAC meeting in August 2019, with the Committee requesting assurance that the highlighted areas for improvement were being addressed.

The RPB has acted on the recommendations and strengthened its governance arrangements; with Karen Miles, Director of Planning, Performance and Commissioning having joined the RPB ICF Capital group to ensure that all partnership decisions relating to ICF align with the UHB capital programme.

The areas for improvement outlined in the WAO report have been summarised below, along with details of how these areas are already being addressed, and where further improvements are planned.

Area for improvement	Comments
Use of fund	
Take a more regional approach to using the Integrated Care Fund and ensuring that projects support strategic objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2019-20 the proportion of ICF funding that is retained at regional level was significantly increased, particularly in relation to the Learning Disability, carers and dementia elements• Where money has been allocated to local authority areas on a population basis (predominantly for older people), there is commonality of approach and local arrangements reflect regional models of delivery, for example in relation to front of hospital and home from hospital services• For 2020-21 the RPB is looking to further align local programmes, improve consistency and ensure that as far as possible, regional models of care are being implemented• The process and format for providing Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) for all funded projects has been improved to provide clarity on alignment between projects and strategic objectives set at national and regional level. There is still room for improvement in relation to this and reporting on delivery. Hence arrangements are being strengthened further for 2020-21 to ensure that comprehensive information is available for all projects and that robust quarterly reporting on all projects is in place. These strengthened arrangements will be set out in a revised Partner Agreement, signed by statutory and third sector partners and endorsed by the RPB at their meeting in March 2020.
Align the use of the Integrated Care Fund with other funding (e.g. the transformation fund, dementia monies, and core funding, etc.) to maximise their combined impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The RPB has sought as far as practicable this year to identify links across programmes in 2019-20.• Such alignment will be facilitated in the future through our enhanced regional governance, with thematic programme groups having oversight of all funding streams and working to ensure coherence and that projects complement each other.

Area for improvement	Comments
Look for ways to ensure fair access to the Integrated Care Fund for the third sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RPB is confident that the third sector has appropriate access to ICF funding at local level and regionally (for example, development of the Learning Disabilities Charter through People First organisations). • Third sector representation in local and regional governance structures will help ensure this continues and is built upon.
Governance arrangements	
Building on the work to date, make more effective links with all three Public Service Boards (PSBs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is ongoing to align the work and programmes of the RPB and PSBs. A number of shared priorities have been approved by all boards and will drive collective areas of work over the coming period.
Strengthen project management arrangements across all Integrated Care Fund projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management of projects is improving, with PIDs submitted to all projects as part of the process of finalising the revenue investment plan – see above for further improvements being introduced for 2020-21. • Programme management of capital projects will be enhanced further through the appointment of a Capital Programme Manager.
Develop mechanisms for reporting back to individual organisations in a more consistent way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Health Board receives updates on the work of the RPB via the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee, Business Planning & Performance Assurance Committee and through a standing item at Board – Strategic Partnerships Update.
Outcomes for service users	
Rollout the use of the regional outcomes framework to all projects if the pilot is successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new outcomes and benefits framework is being developed at regional level, for application initially against transformation fund projects and extension thereafter to cover the ICF programme.
Develop exit strategies for all Integrated Care Fund projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be a key focus for the 2020-21 programme of work which the RPB are finalising. This will be undertaken within the context of national discussions on future funding.
Learn from good practice in other regions beyond Swansea Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional emphasis will be placed on learning from other regions and within the region, supported by the new Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub which will be funded through the Transformation Fund.

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Audit & Risk Assurance Committee is asked to note this update report as assurance that governance arrangements are in place and that the West Wales RPB is monitoring implementation of the recommended areas for improvement.

Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau) Objectives: (must be completed)	
Committee ToR Reference Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor	5.3 In carrying out this work, the Committee will primarily utilise the work of Internal Audit, Clinical Audit, External Audit and other assurance functions, but will not be limited to these audit functions.
Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:	Not applicable
Safon(au) Gofal ac Iechyd: Health and Care Standard(s):	Governance, Leadership and Accountability 3. Effective Care 5. Timely Care 6.3 Listening and Learning from Feedback
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	All Strategic Objectives are applicable
Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Statement	Improve Population Health through prevention and early intervention Support people to live active, happy and healthy lives

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:	
Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Implementing the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.
Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms:	Contained within the body of the report.
Partïon / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Archwilio a Sicrwydd Risg: Parties / Committees consulted prior to Audit and Risk Assurance Committee:	Not applicable

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)	
Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	Actions taken to address the areas of improvement will strengthen the governance arrangements for the Integrated Care Fund.
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	The WAO recommendations have the potential to improve quality and patient care.
Gweithlu: Workforce:	Not applicable
Risg: Risk:	Not applicable
Cyfreithiol: Legal:	Not applicable

Enw Da: Reputational:	WAO will expect to see progress with implementation and action taken against the areas of improvement highlighted within their report.
Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:	Not applicable
Cydraddoldeb: Equality:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has EqlA screening been undertaken? No as this is a report for assurance only.