

**PWYLLGOR STRATEGAETH A CHYNLLUNIO  
STRATEGY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

<b>DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:</b>	25 June 2026
<b>TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	Partnership Assurance Report
<b>CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:</b>	Dr Ardiana Gjini, Executive Director of Public Health
<b>SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Trina Nealon, Head of Population Health Improvement and Wellbeing/Principal Public Health Practitioner

**Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas)**

**Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)**

Er Sicrwydd/For Assurance

**ADRODDIAD SCAA  
SBAR REPORT**

**Sefyllfa / Situation**

This report provides the Strategy and Planning Committee (SPC) with assurance on the Health Board's engagement in key statutory and strategic partnerships that support population health improvement, service integration and innovation. It highlights the main developments, risks and opportunities currently requiring oversight, particularly:

- The Regional Partnership Board's post-Regional Integration Fund (RIF) process,
- The Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire Public Service Board (PSB) merger,
- Regional partnership climate adaptation planning,
- The Tier 2 substance use service procurement process,
- Emerging opportunities through university partnerships, the Centre for Social Innovation and Macmillan Cancer Support.

**Cefndir / Background**

The Health Board works through a range of statutory and strategic partnerships to improve population health, support service integration and develop innovation. These arrangements also provide an important route for assurance on delivery against wider well-being, prevention and partnership objectives.

This section summarises the main partnership arrangements covered by this report and the basis on which assurance is provided to the Committee.

**West Wales Regional Partnership Board**

The West Wales Regional Partnership Board (RPB) is a statutory partnership under Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. It provides regional leadership for the integration and transformation of health and social care and is therefore a key source of assurance on collaborative planning and delivery.

**Public Service Boards**

Public Service Boards are statutory partnerships under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Health Board is a member of the Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire PSBs and must work with partners to improve local well-being, contribute to well-being plans and support the related assessment and scrutiny arrangements.

### **Dyfed Area Planning Board**

The Dyfed Area Planning Board (APB) is the regional multi-agency partnership responsible for the planning, commissioning and performance management of substance use services. It provides the main partnership framework for assurance on strategic leadership, service development and delivery against national substance misuse requirements.

### **University partnerships and the Centre for Social Innovation**

University partnerships support evaluation, evidence generation, workforce development and service innovation, and provide an important route for developing and testing new approaches aligned with Health Board priorities.

The Centre for Social Innovation (CfSI) is a partnership between the Health Board and the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. It supports innovation, prevention and the Social Model for Health and Wellbeing, and provides assurance on the development of new partnership-led approaches.

## **Asesiad / Assessment**

### **West Wales Regional Partnership Board**

The RPB has agreed the RIF year-end budget and considered the Gateway two report for the Future Funding Process.

The Future Funding Process remains the main strategic issue for the RPB. Gateway three submissions have been completed and will inform which projects may require future joint funding and which may need exit planning. This has potentially significant workforce, financial and service implications for the Health Board and partners, and will require continued oversight as final Gateway four decisions are prepared for August 2026. The RPB also continues to support wider regional priorities, including, at the most recent May 2026 meeting, dementia and urgent and emergency care.

### **Public Sector Boards**

Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire PSBs have agreed a Merger Plan to establish a combined PSB, while Pembrokeshire PSB will remain separate. This is a significant governance change for the Health Board and requires effective transition arrangements to ensure statutory duties continue to be met, local scrutiny remains robust, and partnership activity stays aligned with local population need.

Work is underway through governance, planning and reporting workstreams to prepare for implementation of the merger. Key priorities include maintaining effective scrutiny and reporting arrangements, agreeing interim planning arrangements, and preparing the next Assessment of Local Well-being by May 2027.

A Climate Change Risk Assessment presented to the PSBs highlighted growing risks across the region, including flooding, infrastructure disruption and unequal impacts on communities. The PSBs have agreed that closer joint working, stronger shared evidence on climate risk and adaptation, and development of a joint Climate Adaptation Delivery Plan, are priority next steps.

For the Health Board, this is strategically important because climate risk has implications for population health, infrastructure resilience and future service planning.

PSBs also continue to support the Whole-System Approach to Healthy Weight, with regional work now focused on public sector food procurement following the Pembrokeshire Roots of Change workshop in March 2026.

### **Dyfed Area Planning Board**

Substance use remains a major public health issue and continues to require coordinated multi-agency action across prevention, treatment and harm reduction. Current APB priorities include strengthening early intervention and prevention, improving access to screening and support, responding to emerging substance use issues, and sustaining effective harm reduction services across the region.

The tender for the Tier 2 Substance Use service from 2027 onwards is now open. The contract will run for five years, with bids due by the end of June 2026. This service is a key part of the regional response to substance use, providing a single point of contact for people needing support and helping to reduce substance-related harm. The procurement process is therefore strategically important for service continuity, future delivery models and effective access, including at the interface between criminal justice clients and the wider client group.

The APB is also leading work on co-occurring mental health and substance use, with a focus on improving joint working between services and embedding more integrated practice. This includes county-based Clinical Liaison Groups, staff training across services, launch of the Children and Young People's Framework in June 2027, and ongoing revision of the Adult Framework.

The APB is also developing a complex needs approach spanning mental health, housing and substance use, supported by newly established county-based panels to coordinate support for people with overlapping needs.

Following successful implementation of a Health Coaching service pilot, the APB is supporting further work to inform future spread and scale of the service, pending associated Health Board funding availability.

### **University Partnerships and the Centre for Social Innovation**

University partnerships continue to support public health learning, evaluation and innovation. Current work includes collaboration with Aberystwyth, Swansea, Cardiff, Bangor and the University of South Wales on areas such as regional health economy, housing and health, cancer outcomes and social prescribing.

The CfSI workplan for 2026–2027 has been agreed through the joint University Wales Trinity St David (UWTSD) and Health Board Oversight Group, reporting to the Research and Innovation Sub-Committee, with the annual report due in July 2026.

The main assurance issue for SPC is that emerging opportunities continue to align with Health Board priorities and capacity. Current priorities include the Community Health and Wellbeing Workers pathfinder, work on neurodiversity, development of an international comparative research opportunity, and consideration of a Welsh Government innovation stream pilot.

The CfSI has recently been invited to pilot an innovation stream for Welsh Government. This is currently being considered, as it would add a new action to the 2026–2027 workplan. If agreed,

it would strengthen the strategic role of the CfSI and help position it at the centre of the Prevention Strategy being developed by the new Welsh Government.

### Macmillan Cancer Support

A new partnership opportunity with Macmillan Cancer Support is being scoped to support the development of a Community Health and Wellbeing Worker pathfinder in west Wales, among other initiatives, through a potential three-year social investment partnership model.

Early discussions indicate a strong strategic fit with the Health Board's prevention, neighbourhood and inequalities agenda, particularly in addressing the wider determinants of health that disproportionately affect people living with or beyond cancer. Current work is focused on refining the proposed outcomes, measures, financial model and governance route, so that the opportunity can be assessed fully for strategic fit, deliverability and value.

### Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

- **RECEIVE ASSURANCE** that the Health Board continues to meet its statutory obligations through its engagement in key partnerships
- **NOTE** the main strategic risks and opportunities arising from current developments, particularly the post-RIF funding process, the Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire PSB merger, climate adaptation planning, the Tier 2 substance use service procurement process, and emerging CfSI and Macmillan Cancer Support partnership opportunities.

### Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau)

#### Objectives: (must be completed)

<p>Committee ToR Reference: Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor:</p>	<p>3.1.3. That, wherever possible, Health Board plans are aligned with partnership plans developed with Joint Committees, Local Authorities, Universities, Collaboratives, Alliances and other key partners, such as the Transformation Group who form part of A Regional Collaboration for Health (ARCH).</p> <p>3.1.6. Consider the development of strategies and plans developed in partnership with key strategic partners and monitor work undertaken with partner organisations and stakeholders to influence the provision of services to meet current and future population need.</p> <p>3.1.7. Seek assurance that partnership governance and partnership working is effective and successful.</p>
<p>Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p>Parthau Ansawdd: Domains of Quality <a href="#">Quality and Engagement Act</a> (<a href="#">sharepoint.com</a>)</p>	<p>5. Equitable</p>

Galluogwyr Ansawdd: Enablers of Quality: <a href="#">Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)</a>	6. All Apply
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	2. Healthier communities
Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives	10 Population health
Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: <a href="#">Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2021-2022</a>	9. All HDdUHB Well-being Objectives apply

<b>Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:</b>	
Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 A Healthier Mid and West Wales: Our Future Generations Living Well (HDdUHB, 2019). Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Substance Misuse Strategy Working Together to Reduce Harm 2008-18' (Welsh Government, 2008) and 'Delivery Plan for 2013 to 2016'.
Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms:	Contained within the body of report.
Partion / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Strategaeth a Chynllunio Parties / Committees consulted prior to Strategy and Planning Committee:	Previous related papers: Strategy and Planning Committee 26 February 2026 Statutory Partnership Update Report, Board Meeting 28 May 2026

<b>Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)</b>	
<b>Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:</b>	As the APB is a multi-agency partnership. Funding for commissioned services is made up from a range of sources, with the Substance Misuse Action Fund (SMAT) and the Health Board's substance use ringfenced budget being the main budget sources. Others include partnership funding into contracts such as the Tier 2 contract – funding from which is provided by (in addition to the above) – His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), Ceredigion and

	Pembrokeshire Local Authorities and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).
<b>Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:</b>	Evidence of improving the well-being of the population is at the forefront of this legislation.
<b>Gweithlu: Workforce:</b>	Implementing the five ways of working required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 should lead to evidence of increased collaboration and integration between services, professionals and communities
<b>Risg: Risk:</b>	Key risks include loss of strategic momentum or oversight across partnerships, funding and service sustainability risks arising from the post-RIF transition and commissioned service procurement, governance and accountability risks during the PSB merger transition, and the risk that emerging partnership opportunities are not aligned clearly enough with Health Board priorities and capacity.
<b>Cyfreithiol: Legal:</b>	<p>The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (the Act) provides that HDdUHB (as a designated public body) must publish a Well-being Statement, Well-being Objectives and provide an Annual Report on progress towards meeting these objectives.</p> <p>The APB is a statutory body and operates under a statutory guidance and framework to deliver regional services (such as the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, they function as partnership bodies rather than traditional statutory authorities.</p>
<b>Enw Da: Reputational:</b>	There is a statutory requirement for HDdUHB to contribute to the work of the APB and report against Welsh Government smoking cessation Tier 1 targets.
<b>Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:</b>	Not Applicable

**Cydraddoldeb:  
Equality:**

A More Equal Wales is a key national goal under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act