



CYFARFOD BWRDD PRIFYSGOL IECHYD UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD MEETING

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:	26 September 2024
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:	Report of the Chair
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:	Dr Neil Wooding, Chair
SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:	Dr Neil Wooding, Chair

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas)

Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)

Ar Gyfer Penderfyniad/For Decision

ADRODDIAD SCAA

SBAR REPORT

Sefyllfa / Situation

To provide an update to the Board on relevant matters undertaken by the Chair of Hywel Dda University Health Board (the Health Board) since the previous Board meeting.

Cefndir / Background

This overarching report highlights the key areas of activity and strategic issues engaged in by the Chair and also details topical areas of interest to the Board.

Asesiad / Assessment

NHS Chair First Quarterly Review

On 25 September 2024, I held my first review meeting with Mark Drakeford MS, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care. All Chairs of NHS organisations participate in a performance and development review process which is consistent with the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA) recommendations and competency framework for non-officer members. As Chair I welcomed the opportunity to discuss how, as a Board, we are working towards achieving our organisational objectives.

CEO Recruitment

The Health Board is now seeking to appoint its new Chief Executive Officer and we have invited outstanding leaders to apply for the substantive Chief Executive post. The appointment of a Chief Executive Officer is an important part of discharging the role of Health Board Chair, and is critical for the future success of an organisation. Now that I have been in post for a few months and have come to understand the needs of the organisation, I am keen to progress quickly with the appointment to the pivotal role and ensure stable leadership, following a time of change at Board level. The closing date for applications is midnight on Tuesday 24 September 2024, with stakeholder panels and interviews being held on 16 and 18 October 2024.

Chair's Action

There may be circumstances where decisions 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, supported by the Director of Corporate Governance as appropriate, may deal with these matters on behalf of the Board.

There have been two such actions to report since the previous meeting of the Board (Appendix 1), as follows:

- **Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) Judicial Review**
At the Chair's Action Meeting on 8 August 2024, Members considered the proposal for action on litigation following receipt of an application for a Judicial Review relating to the decision made by the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) on the future of EMRTS.
- **Building 14, St David's Park (Ty Gorwel) New Lease Arrangement**
At the Chair's Action Meeting on 29 August 2024, Members considered the request to extend the lease for Building 14, St David's Park. The meeting agreed to APPROVE the new lease arrangement, subject to final agreement of the contract terms in order that the common seal can be applied.

Platinum Wedding Celebration - Amman Valley Hospital

Inpatients Clive and Pat Parcell celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on 12 September 2024, and to mark the occasion, Euryl Howells, Senior Chaplain, officiated at a ceremony in Amman Valley Hospital on 31 August 2024. During the ceremony, Mr Howells conveyed the good wishes of all colleagues and staff to Clive and Pat. The couple have been very pro-active members of the League of Friends, Glangwili Hospital (GGH), with Pat serving as Secretary and Chair of the League and now Life President, and is one of 3 members who have been awarded the League of Mercy for work in the League in various roles including Life President.

Baby Friendly Initiative Praises Local Health Visiting Service

The Health Visiting Service in the Health Board has maintained its accreditation as a 'Baby Friendly' facility, following an assessment by the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative. The UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative supports breastfeeding and parent infant relationships by working with public services to improve standards of care. The assessment process is overseen by a panel of impartial experts in the field of breastfeeding and neonatal care, including representatives from paediatrics, midwifery, health visiting and voluntary organisations. The team, who provide health visiting services across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, were commended for their work, achieving a 100% pass mark in many of the Initiative's national standards for infant feeding.

Willow Garden – Withybush Hospital (WGH)

On 27 August 2024, I officially opened the Willow Garden, a peaceful green space at Withybush Hospital, by planting a hawthorn tree to mark the occasion, attended by staff and patients. Funded by a Welsh Government grant and delivered by Pembrokeshire County Council, the garden spans 2,500 square meters. Given the recognised health benefits of nature, the garden's role is to provide a sanctuary for staff, patients, and visitors, and positively impact on health and wellbeing.

Shades of Green Project

With the support of the National Botanic Garden of Wales, work with our Shades of Green project is now well underway. This project aims to provide green spaces throughout our sites in Carmarthenshire and will provide tranquil areas of relaxation at Prince Philip (PPH) and Glangwili Hospitals (GGH). A team of willing volunteers have been working to clear spaces in areas of underutilised green space, and we aim to set up polytunnels on our sites to provide a dedicated space to undertake gardening activities on both sites. An altered mowing regime in

the area adjacent to Ty Brwngwyn at PPH has already seen an increase in biodiversity, which will hopefully improve year on year, following the planting of additional wildflower plug plants.

National Eisteddfod Rhondda Cynon Taf

At the National Eisteddfod Rhondda Cynon Taf on 9 August 2024, Dr Ian Rees, General Gastroenterologist at PPH was accepted to the following:

- **Orsedd Y Beirdd** - the green shirt is for those who have given a special service to their brother or the nation in the world of Law, Science, Sports, Journalism or the Media.
- **Gorsedd of the Bards** - the blue robes are given to those who have made an outstanding contribution to their community in the fields of the Law, Science, Sport, Journalism or the Media.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to congratulate Dr Rees.

Deaths in Service

I am very sad to report the death of respected colleague Dr George Eltom on 28 July 2024. George worked as a Locum Consultant in the Same Day Emergency Centre (SDEC), GGH. A service of appreciation and thanksgiving took place on 8 September 2024, in order for colleagues to come together and remember the life and contribution of George. I wish to express my sincere condolences on behalf of the Board and the organisation to his family, friends and colleagues.

Board Seminar 22 August 2024

Primary / Community Services Strategy Update

Members received the Primary Care and Community Services Strategy, recognising the need for a radical and innovative approach to healthcare in Hywel Dda and a refresh for the 'A Healthier Mid and West Wales' Strategy post-COVID-19, emphasising a shift from hospital beds to primary care and community services. Members discussed the need for creative thinking and strengthening relationships with local communities, with various workstreams and community engagement events planned. The Primary Care Model for Wales (PCMW) was explained, which aims to increase access to high-quality primary care and reduce demand on acute services. Group work sessions focused on seamless service delivery, stable primary care components, 24/7 service integration, and maximizing community resilience, with discussions also taking place relating to service-specific principles for General Practice, Community Pharmacy, Optometry, and Dental services. The importance of engaging with communities and reconsidering access to services was emphasised, with ongoing discussions and co-production with communities.

Joint / Regional Working with Swansea Bay UHB

Members recognised that the Health Board has had a long-standing relationship with Swansea Bay UHB, facilitated by the Regional Collaboration for Health (ARCH) platform, which includes Swansea University. Despite recognising the potential benefits of a regional approach to health and wellbeing, the effectiveness of these arrangements has been inconsistent. Significant patient flow between the two health boards has always existed, supported by Service Level Agreements (SLAs). While regional working is already extensive, there has been a shift in the services involved over the past 12-18 months, moving from smaller, more fragile services to larger, more stable ones. The potential benefits and opportunities of this collaboration are evident, offering a strategic perspective across west Wales. However, practical challenges remain, such as the difficulty in establishing these arrangements and the risk of services becoming non-viable due to population shifts. Both organisations are still defining the limits of regional working. In terms of next steps, Members noted that the Terms of Reference for the

Joint Committee were being developed, together with a baseline assessment of patient flow, which will be presented for discussion at the inaugural meeting on 17 October 2024.

Committee Effectiveness Feedback

Members noted the feedback from the 2023/24 Committee Effectiveness self-assessment process, which identified some areas of improvement including strengthening cross-committee collaboration. Feedback will inform the Board Development Programme and help to strengthen governance processes and meeting behaviours. Work is underway which includes the review of reporting templates and guidance documentation, training and improving meeting structures.

Behaviours Framework

Members were presented with the Quality, Safety and Experience Committee Behaviours Framework, which was developed following the Committee's self-assessment process, to strengthen focus on delivery, impacts, and outcomes, aligning with quality standards. It aims to help the Committee work cohesively, providing leadership to address challenges and foster a supportive culture. The framework emphasises the importance of embedding a culture of 'high support, high challenge' to pursue excellence and improve quality outcomes. Core principles include dignity, respect, fairness, integrity, and openness, focusing on safety, effectiveness, and person-centred care. It will encourage continuous improvement through learning, transparency, and systemic understanding to enhance quality, safety, and experience. The need for a balance between operational and strategic discussions was emphasised, with a focus on providing sufficient information for informed decision-making while avoiding unnecessary duplication.

Extraordinary Board Seminar 11 September 2024

We held an additional Board Seminar on 11 September 2024 to discuss the financial contingencies, as agreed at the previous Public Board meeting. The Financial Contingency Plan appears as a separate item on the agenda.

Key Meetings

I have attended the following meetings:

- Meeting with Judith Paget, Director General for Health and Social Services and the NHS Wales Chief Executive, to discuss the establishment of the Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) between the Health Board and Swansea Bay University Health Board
- CEO End of Year Review with Judith Paget
- Dyfed Powys Local Medical Committee meeting
- South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee
- Chairs' Peer Group
- Meeting with the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

In addition to the meetings above, I was:

- On the Interview Panel for the Chief Executive Officer for Swansea Bay University Health Board on 12 August 2024.
- In attendance at the Health Board's Medical Leadership Forum on 23 September 2024 to provide a presentation on Charting our Future Together – Sowing the Seeds of Change.
- On the Interview Panels for two remaining Lay Member appointments to the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee on 10 and 13 September 2024.

Events/Visits

- South West Wales Cancer Centre (SWWCC) and Neonatal Department Visits, Singleton Hospital
- Chair's Commendation Awards

Celebrating Success/Awards

Long Service Awards

In 2019, the Long Service Awards were introduced in recognition of staff who have given the most hours, days and years to serving the local NHS across different professions across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. The aim was to celebrate staff who have reached milestones working within the NHS. Our Independent Members have been privileged to meet the following individuals personally to present them with their award, listen to their experiences during their 40 years of service and to thank them on behalf of the Board.

Employee	Position/Location
Dawn Ferris	Acute Pain Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Anaesthetics Department, WGH
Drena Taylor	Acute Pain CNS, Anaesthetics Department WGH
Marion Fegan	Trauma Pathway Coordinator, WGH
Julie Hamer	Chronic Pain, CNS, Anaesthetics Department, WGH
Terry Richards	Healthcare Support Worker (HCSW), Theatre, PPH
Allyson Thomas	Grow Your Own Programme Nurse Manager, Workforce and Organisational Development, St David's Park, Carmarthen
Sarah Barratt	Chronic Pain CNS, GGH
Maureen John	Staff Nurse, Specialist Decisions Unit (SDU), WGH

Investors in Carers Awards

The Investors in Carers award helps health, social care, third sector and other organisations to focus on and improve their carer awareness and the help and support they give to carers. A carer is someone, of any age, who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems. Anyone can become a carer, and, in most cases, becoming a carer is not out of choice, it just happens. I would like to congratulate the following teams on their success in obtaining their Investors in Carers Bronze awards:

- Pulmonary Rehabilitation team
- Strategic Partnerships, Diversity and Inclusion team

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- **RATIFY** the actions undertaken by the Chair on behalf of the Board, detailed in Appendix 1.
- **SUPPORT** the work engaged in by the Chair since the previous meeting and note the topical areas of interest.

Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau) Objectives: (must be completed)	
Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:	Not Applicable
Parthau Ansawdd: Domains of Quality Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)	Not Applicable
Galluogwyr Ansawdd: Enablers of Quality: Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)	1. Leadership 2. Culture and valuing people
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	Not Applicable
Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives	Not Applicable
Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2021-2022	6. Contribute to global well-being through developing international networks and sharing of expertise 8. Transform our communities through collaboration with people, communities and partners

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:	
Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Chairman's Diary & Correspondence
Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms:	Included within the body of the Report
Partion / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Cyfarfod Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol: Parties / Committees consulted prior to University Health Board:	Chairman

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)	
Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	No impact
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	Ensuring the Board and its Committees make fully informed decisions is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of the information presented and considered by

	those making decisions. Informed decisions are more likely to impact favourably on the quality, safety and experience of patients and staff.
Gweithlu: Workforce:	No impact
Risg: Risk:	No impact
Cyfreithiol: Legal:	No impact
Enw Da: Reputational:	No impact
Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:	No impact
Cydraddoldeb: Equality:	No EqIA is considered necessary for a paper of this type.

Appendix 1 - Register of Chairman's Actions 2024/25

Serial No.	Requesting Department	Details of Request	Cost, where applicable	Date Issued	Date Signed by Chair
133	Governance Directorate	Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) Judicial Review (JR)	TBC	08.08.24	22.08.24
134	Strategy and Planning	Building 14 (Ty Gorwel) New Lease Arrangement	£141,000	29.08.24	18.09.24