

COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT/ ADRODDIAD DIWEDDARU'R

Regional Joint Committee

Date of last meeting/ Dyddiad y cyfarfod diwethaf: 7 May 2025

Quoracy/ Cworwm: Met

Report by/ Adroddiad gan: Dr Neil Wooding CBE & Jan Williams CBE, Co-Chairs

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS AND MATTERS FROM THE DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING/ PWYNTIAU TRAFOD ALLWEDDOL A MATERION I'W HUWCHGYFEIRIO O'R DRAFODAETH YN Y CYFARFOD:

Alert¹ (may require discussion)/ **Rhybuddio** (efallai y bydd angen trafodaeth)

- The Regional Joint Committee (RJC) did not identify any items to alert Hywel Dda UHB and Swansea Bay UHB Public Boards.

Advise² (to monitor)/ **Cynghori** (i fonitro)

The RJC agreed to advise members of Hywel Dda UHB and Swansea Bay UHB Public Boards that:

- The RJC approved the proposed governance arrangements, including the revised Terms of Reference, covering the establishment of the committee, leadership, work programme, and transitioning arrangements.
- The RJC endorsed the proposed work programme, focusing on regional population health and wellbeing challenges. The programme included objectives for the regional health economy, clinical services planning, workforce and organisational development, digital and data, research, development and innovation, and finance and contracting. A resource analysis would assist in understanding existing resources and any required additional resources to support delivery of the work programme. The RJC would receive an updated work programme and development of collaborative models for regional working in August 2025.
- Public Health Wales led a presentation on establishing a Southwest Wales Regional Health Economy. The discussion highlighted the need for regional collaboration and the importance and benefits of a well-being economy for population health. The August 2025 RJC meeting will receive a Southwest Wales Regional Health Economy Action Plan.
- The RJC received a presentation on the work programme for the Clinical Services Plan, covering regional performance expectations for eye care, orthopaedics, diagnostics, endoscopy, radiology, pathology, and cancer

¹ There is a lack of confidence that any action in place is sufficient to address the issue satisfactorily and/or within the scope of the operational team or executive to resolve. Engagement, action or intervention required.

² There are areas of concern where assurance has been taken on actions in place but requires close monitoring. An early warning of an emerging and potentially serious concern.

services. RJC members endorsed the areas identified for progression and agreed to receive detailed plans at its meeting in August 2025. Further work included: exploring regional opportunities to optimise existing capacity and engaging professional support for alternative service delivery methods.

- The RJC received outline plans to improve urgent and emergency care services, proposing a regional workstream to transform the operating model. RJC members endorsed the proposal for an exploratory workshop and agreed to receive an update on the outcomes.
- A presentation on Digital initiatives for 2025/26 included information on the enablement of regional pathology and ophthalmology models. Acknowledging the barriers to the production of a more ambitious and further-thinking work programme, RJC members reflected on the time constraints and demanding existing agenda and requested the design of a revised Data and Digital work programme, in time for consideration at the August 2025 meeting.
- RJC members received a presentation on updated plans for a learning event to support regional working and endorsed the proposal, agreeing to allocate staffing resources and to factor in financial resource requirements in the budget plans for both Health Boards for 2026/27. RJC members agreed that subject to this agreement, the Chair of Hywel Dda University Health Board should chair the work group designing the event and to receive an update at the August 2025 meeting.
- A presentation on the regional approach to research, development, and innovation proposed the appointment of a shared, Regional Research and Development Director. The RJC agreed the appointment in principle only and remitted to the Chief Executives to lead further discussions at executive level on the scope and level of the role, to ensure due process in the appointment process.

Assure³ (to note)/ Sicrhau (i nodi)

The RJC agreed to **assure** members of Swansea Bay UHB and Hywel Dda UHB Boards on the proper application of governance principles underpinning:

- The approval and adoption of RJC Governance arrangements, ensuring a robust framework for leadership and transitioning.
- The endorsement of the RJC 2025/26 work programme, focusing on regional population health and wellbeing challenges.
- The progress in scoping a Southwest Wales Regional Health Economy, with agreement to develop a strategic action plan.
- The endorsement of key areas identified for progression in the Clinical Services Plan, including eye care, orthopaedics, diagnostics, endoscopy, radiology, pathology, and cancer services.

³ *There is confidence that actions are robust and will be sufficient to address the issue or generally operating effectively. Routine monitoring.*

- The endorsement of a proposal to establish a regional workstream to transform urgent and emergency care services, aiming to improve patient quality, safety, and experience.
- The endorsement of the Digital initiatives for 2025/26, including the establishment of a Joint Digital Steering Committee. RJC members also requested a further work programme report at its August 2025 meeting, setting out the level of ambition for coming years.
- The endorsement of plans for a major learning event to support regional working, scheduled for Spring or early Summer 2026.

Review of Risks/ Adolygiad o Risgiau

- Not applicable

Sharing of learning/ Rhannu dysgu

- Not applicable

Recommendation/ Argymhelliad

That Swansea Bay UHB and Hywel Dda UHB Boards:

- **Consider** the report of the RJC meeting held on 7 May 2025, recognising the progress made in establishing the governance arrangements and the endorsement of the 2025/26 work programme.
- **Ratify** the approval and adoption of the RJC governance arrangements, including the RJC revised Terms of Reference, leadership, membership, and transitioning arrangements, effective from 7 May 2025.