GIG CYMRU NHS WALES | Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda University Health Board

CYFARFOD BWRDD PRIFYSGOL IECHYD
UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD MEETING

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: **DATE OF MEETING:**	28 May 2026
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: **TITLE OF REPORT:**	Statutory Partnerships Update
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: **LEAD DIRECTOR:**	Andrew Carruthers, Chief Operating Officer Dr Ardiana Gjini, Executive Director of Public Health
SWYDDOG ADRODD: **REPORTING OFFICER:**	Trina Nealon, Head of Population Health Improvement and Wellbeing/Principal Public Health Practitioner Linda Jones, Regional Partnership Programme Manager, West Wales Regional Partnership Board

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas) **Purpose of the Report** (select as appropriate)
Er Sicrwydd/For Assurance

ADRODDIAD SCAA
SBAR REPORT

Sefyllfa / Situation

Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB) is a statutory member of Public Services Boards (PSBs) in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire and the West Wales Regional Partnership Board (RPB).

Each PSB Well-Being Plan has four priority areas, with an over-arching theme of reducing inequalities, inequity and poverty. Delivery and Task and Finish Groups have been established to support specific programmes reflected in the Plans with governance arrangement in place to the PSB.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Board in respect of the recent work of the three PSBs and the RPB.

Cefndir / Background

PSBs were established under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFGA), with the purpose of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of populations within their geographic areas by strengthening joint working across all public services in Wales. The effective working of PSBs is subject to overview and scrutiny by the Well-being of Future Generations Commissioner and Audit Wales, as well as by designated Local Authority overview and scrutiny committees.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires each local authority area in Wales to establish a Public Services Board (PSB). HDdUHB is therefore a member of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire PSBs, and is represented on these strategic partnerships by the Executive Director of Public Health.

The WFGA places a collective well-being duty on each Board to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area though its contribution to meeting seven national Well-being Goals established by Welsh Government.

A PSB must produce a **"**Local Assessment of Well-being**"** which were last refreshed in 2022 and used to inform the production of "Well-being Plans" which contain "Well-being Objectives" that contribute to achieving the national Well-being Goals as laid out by WG. All three PSB Well-being Plans were published in 2023 for a three-year period.

Regional Partnership Boards, based on Local Health Board footprints, became a legislative requirement under Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBWA). Their core remit is to promote and drive the transformation and integration of health and social care within their areas, linking with PSB partners and established Delivery Groups.

Asesiad / Assessment

West Wales Regional Partnership Board (RPB) Update

The RPB met on 16 March 2026.

It was unanimously agreed that the current chair's position be extended by a year, to provide consistency through the Regional Integration Fund (RIF) transition. The RIF end of year budget was agreed, as was the Future Funding Process (FFP) gateway two report. There were updates on the Dementia programme, including key progress working with Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST).

Workshops for the third gateway panel for the FFP have been held, with a submission deadline of 29 May 2026. A timetable and panel process has been shared with the Integrated Executive Group (IEG) for approval. The outcome from gateway three will include recommendations for projects to be put forward for future (post-RIF) funding or for exit planning. Both these options have significant impact for partners, as the former will require a joint funding commitment; the latter potentially have workforce, financial and delivery implications. The final gateway (four) decisions are scheduled to be made by end of August 2026, and the RPB team will, with the support of IEG, identify panel members and facilitating arrangements.

Discussions around IEG and governance are ongoing, as the last meeting in April 2026 was cancelled. It is envisaged that final decisions will be made at the May 2026 meeting.

The Annual West Wales RPB Awards took place in Pentre Awel, Llanelli on 05 March 2026. The event was well attended, and feedback was extremely positive. Next year the event will take place in Pembrokeshire, and the RPB will be encouraging senior partners to attend and present awards.

PSB Well-being Plan Update

PSB Well-being Plans have agreed objectives (or 'themes') which reflect the findings from the Well-being Assessments and subsequent engagement exercises which took place with key stakeholders, communities and PSB partners prior to publication. All three PSBs have cross-cutting themes of reducing inequalities, inequity and poverty and these are reflected in the updates provided by each PSB to inform this report.

Ceredigion PSB

Ceredigion PSB met on 13 April 2026. Discussion took place on the following items:

i. Activity Tracker Review
It was noted that the activity tracker had been updated with current projects and is being used to prepare the 2025-2026 Annual Local Well-being Plan Report and joint interim Local Well-being Plan. The tracker records status, so will allow priority initiatives that are to be continued to be easily identified.

ii. Annual Report Update

An outline framework has been developed for the Local Well-being Plan Annual Report, with PSB members asked for additional suggestions for inclusion and feedback by the next PSB meeting.

iii. Regional PSB Merger Plan

This plan provided the main focus for the meeting. An outline of the identified workstreams for progressing the merger of Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire PSBs was discussed. The proposed Task and Finish Groups, plans for discharging statutory obligations during the merger and for the new Board (including the Assessment of local Well-being and Local Well-being Assessment) was presented. Three defined workstreams, to be led by specific groups (Governance, Well-being planning and Reporting and Assessment of Local Well-being preparation) were agreed, with nominations sought from members to take forward the work for delivery via five phases.

The first meeting of the Governance Task and Finish Group took place on 18 March 2026 with representatives from partner organisations. The primary role of the group is to examine governance and develop draft Terms of Reference (ToRs). Informed by examples of other merged PSBs, the draft ToRs – which had been agreed by Carmarthenshire PSB on 24 April 2026 - were examined in detail. The following were noted:

- Board membership/representation to be updated.
- Town and Community Councils and other identified Community groups maintain the opportunity to meet with the PSB at least once a year.
- A two-year extendable term of office was agreed for the Chair and Vice-chair, with a minimum of four meetings annually.
- PSB meetings would not be held in public with a proviso that a process would be established to allow questions to be submitted in advance of meetings, which may be raised during the meeting (at the discretion of the Chair). A limited public presence (up to three individuals) may be permitted, (at the Chair's discretion), to observe the question being raised.
- Board meetings will take place at least every three calendar months as a minimum. Each year, two of the Board meetings would be held on a face-to-face basis (alternating locations) between the two Counties.
- A single website for the merged PSB is being examined and the technical requirements for this are currently being investigated.
- For at least 12 months following the merger, each Local Authority will maintain its own PSB scrutiny arrangements. Each scrutiny committee will receive the same merged PSB report. This will ensure that the interests of both counties are fully represented.
- The financial impact is not yet identified and is dependent on the work taken on by the merged PSB
- Decision-making processes still require further clarification.
- A final decision on administrative support will be taken after the initial merged PSB meeting in September 2026

The next meeting of the Governance Task and Finish Group will be on 21 May 2026.

Reflecting the planned PSB merger, a streamlined Local Well-being Plan to govern work for the first eighteen months is being produced, led by a Task and Finish Group. Welsh Government are supportive of this approach, with a draft plan to be presented at the next PSB meeting.

iv. Assessment of Local Well-Being

The next Assessment of Local Well-being must be published by May 2027. Members endorsed the draft methodology and Engagement and Consultation Plan, an approach which establishes a group to design and run the Regional Well-being Survey and engagement campaign.

PSBs of Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire (with involvement from Pembrokeshire PSB) have formed an Engagement Group and a Writers Group. An initial engagement exercise will take place from 1 June 2026 to 8 August 2026. A regional Well-being Survey will take place, as well as engagement events.

It was noted that assessments need to be streamlined but comprehensive, with detail on needs and well-being elements reflecting evidence from other health needs assessments published. It was requested that all partners contribute towards the work of the Engagement and Consultation Group.

v. Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA)
A draft report, completed by Miller Research Ltd, commissioned by Natural Resources Wales, had been distributed to members. Key findings were presented:

- There are broad hazards in existence across the local authorities, with Ceredigion being especially vulnerable to flood events. There are interconnected risks to this such as infrastructure and service disruption, and ecosystem pressures.
- A risk assessment chart provided an overview of climate change risks, demonstrating a clear increase over time.
- Climate risks do not affect every community equally and depend on numerous factors including rurality, infrastructure redundancy and socio-economic vulnerabilities.
- Ceredigion is vulnerable to coastal, fluvial and surface water flood events, and a transport system that is vulnerable to disruption.
- There is fragmented data sharing and resource constraints, and the approach to hazards tends to be more reactive than proactive.
- Strengths were noted as emergency preparedness, risk management and community resilience.

Next steps were noted as integration between the PSBs, strengthening the climate risk and adaptation evidence base, and developing a joint Climate Adaptation Delivery Plan.

vi. Whole-System Approach (WSA) to Healthy Weight
An update was provided by the Senior Public Health Practitioner, WSA Healthy Weight team, Hywel Dda University Health Board, on the Roots of Change Workshop held on 04 March 2026. It was agreed that the main focus for future work would be public sector food procurement.

An updated vision of the food system based on feedback from the workshop will be produced, including regional challenges and work undertaken on its durability by the Dyfed-Powys Local Resilience Forum.

It was noted that the topic of food will be a proposed feature for the light-touch merged Well-being Plan.

Members were thanked for their contribution on the day.

Carmarthenshire PSB

Carmarthenshire PSB met on 24 March 2026.

The Board received an overview from Hwb Dyfodol, a Wales-wide futures thinking hub supporting long-term planning, resilience and anticipation, including emerging trends such as artificial intelligence. Members discussed how the Hub could support the forthcoming Well-being Assessment and Local Well-being Plan, including tailored training and the nomination of PSB Futures Champions, with an action to circulate further information.

The Board also considered the joint Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) for Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion.

The meeting discussed progress on the formal merger of the Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion PSBs, noting the established Governance Task and Finish Group and the planned, first merged PSB meeting to take place in September 2026.

Members reviewed the proposed approach for the joint Local Well-being Assessment, agreeing the overall methodology, use of a life-stages framework, engagement arrangements and the need for strong leadership and partner involvement throughout 2026-2027.

Updates were provided on engagement plans, alignment with other statutory assessments, and related workstreams such as the Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight.

Pembrokeshire PSB

Pembrokeshire PSB last met on 3 February 2026, as reported in the last update to Board on 26 March 2026. The next meeting will take place on 19 May 2026 and will be included in July's update.

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Board is asked to **TAKE ASSURANCE** that the Health Board is working effectively with Statutory Partners in order to meet the required obligations as laid out by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

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)	Not Applicable
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	All Strategic Objectives are applicable
Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives	10 Population health

Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2021-2022	3. Promote the natural environment and capacity to adapt to climate change 4. Improve Population Health through prevention and early intervention, supporting people to live happy and healthy lives 7. Plan and deliver services to enable people to particpate in social and green solutions for health 8. Transform our communities through collaboration with people, communities and partners

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:	
Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 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 Cyfarfod Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol: Parties / Committees consulted prior to University Health Board:	PSB Well-being Plan Update provided to the Strategy and Planning Committee, 24 April 2025

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)	
Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	HDdUHB staff time to support progression of PSB Assessments of Local Well-being as well as supporting project groups established to deliver existing Well-being Plans. The Regional Partnership Board is working collaboratively to deliver “A Healthier West Wales”. Health and Social Care Regional Integration Fund (RIF) funding will flow into the Health Board, but its use must be agreed through the RPB. Guidance issued in relation to the funding also identifies a requirement to identify an element of match-funding in order to be eligible for RIF funding.
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	Improving the well-being of the population is at the forefront of this legislation.
Gweithlu: Workforce:	Implementing the five ways of working required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 should lead to increased collaboration and integration between services, professionals and communities. “A Healthier West Wales: Transformation proposal by the West Wales Regional Partnership Board” includes a key programme of work focused on “an asset-based workforce”. This work will be refreshed as part of the development of new proposals to implement the requirements of the Regional Integration Fund.
Risg: Risk:	The UHB has a duty to work collaboratively to address the 7 Well-being Goals for Wales. Embedding the principles of the act into everyday business is therefore paramount and contributing to the project and delivery groups of

	PSBs needs to demonstrate the synergy with achieving the UHBs goals.
Cyfreithiol: **Legal:**	The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (the Act) provides that the UHB (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. An aim of the Act is to place communities at the heart of decision making. The public can use the Act to ensure that public bodies are taking the approach to decision making that utilises the 5 ways of working in line with the sustainable development principle when developing or making changes to services that impact upon them and their community. The UHB will need to ensure that all transformation and service change projects, including capital developments, take account of the new statutory requirements.
Enw Da: **Reputational:**	There is a statutory requirement for the UHB to contribute to the work of the PSBs.
Gyfrinachedd: **Privacy:**	Not Applicable
Cydraddoldeb: **Equality:**	The focus of equality runs throughout the work of the PSBs aligned to the Well-being goal: A More Equal Wales.