

# Prison Health and Social Care Oversight Group

## Minutes and Actions

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

Via Microsoft Teams

### In Attendance:

- Tracey Breheny, WG (Co-Chair)
- Michael Curties, WG
- Chris Gittins, WG
- Laura Lewis, WG
- Cerys Gage, WG
- David Clayton, WG
- Emily Warren, Swansea Health Board
- Chris Jennings, HMPPS (Co-Chair)
- Amanda Corrigan, HMP Cardiff
- Dr Bethan Roberts, GP representing British Medical Association
- Karen Gronert, HMP Swansea
- Brian Ward, HMP Swansea
- Marie Phillips, HMP Swansea

### Apologies –

- Steph Perrett, HMPPS
- Sian Hibbs, HMPPS
- Alun Jones, WG
- Joanne Hopkins, NHS

### 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair (TB) welcomed members to the meeting and introductions were provided. Apologies were also noted.

### 2. Update on minutes and actions from previous meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 were agreed by members as a true and accurate record. *(Note – it was recognised after the meeting that this was done in error as there was a previous meeting in July. Therefore, the minutes of the previous meeting held in July were circulated after the meeting and these were subsequently agreed as an accurate record).*

The Chair stated that during the last meeting there was a discussion around amending the representation of the group to ensure it was reflective of stakeholders. It was agreed that representatives from each Health Board and Prison Healthcare teams would be invited on a rotational basis, so there was a “Spotlight” on each area in turn. The Chair noted that this would start with His Majesty’s Prison (HMP) Swansea at this meeting to discuss the Health Inspectorate Wales (HIW) report and the progress being made in response to it.

### 3. Prison Spotlight – Swansea Bay

EW stated that since the report has been published multi agency work has been ongoing with a view to mobilise an action plan to action the recommendations made. A two year plan has been agreed with five key themes to be promoted.

EW introduced KG who stated they have established a primary care practice and a crisis care team. There is one recommendation in the HIW report in relation to nurses resources and the fact that there is not enough resource to meet the demand. KG asked that if there are any funding opportunities that are available to help us deliver the health delivery plan would be appreciated.

The Chair acknowledged Swansea responded to the report in a timely manner and progress made so far has been significant in terms of the recommendations. The Chair stated that in relation to additional funding, Welsh Government (WG) received letter from Swansea Bay Health Board around resources for the prison healthcare.

A discussion took place in relation to additional resources and WG agreed to see if any opportunities could be found. Questions were raised in relation to the funding assessments that are completed by prisons and how the funding is divided, it was stated that there are differences in funding where there are different arrangements and that although there are difficulties in local prisons it would be beneficial to have oversight of the Health Needs Assessments and clarity of what should be the position and outcome of these assessments.

The Chair highlighted that there were not funding opportunities within the Offender Health team as there is not a specific budget for Offender Health. She agreed to take this forward and engage with internal finance teams.

Action 1	LL to review health needs assessments and identify a way forward to execute the two-phased action to increase availability on funding.	Laura Lewis
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### 4. Update on Prison Partnership Agreement Workstreams

CG provided members with an update in terms of the Substance Misuse workstream and also informed members that the Substance Misuse Treatment Framework (SMTF) and new Mental Health Standards consultation ended on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

BM provided members with an update on the Mental Health workstream. The key point discussed was in relation to prison assessments and how the revised SMTF will support delivery from this.

LL updated members on the Prison Environment workstream and agreed to provide a full update at the next meeting when the ongoing assurance work within the prisons has been completed.

CG provided members with an update on the Medicines Management workstream. It was also agreed that colleagues from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) will be working with the local health boards to develop actions plans in response to the recommendations that the workstream identified. It was noted that AE will be writing to the health boards in due course outlining the support from RPS in terms of progressing the action plans.

In relation to the Medicines Management work BR stated that prescribing work is often reversed upon release, and it is common for patients to come back into the Prison system where prescribers have to start from scratch again for the individual as it is not clear for GPs to know what people are prescribed at the time of release.

CJ stated that colleagues are in the process of digitising people as they go through the system and a national piece of work is underway to enable them to improve record keeping of patients. This would impact upon the above issue and keen for offenders to be a part of this programme.

The Chair agreed to take the discussion forward as an action to review how we improved the discharge notice for offenders.

Action 2	LL to provide full update on the Prison Environment Workstream at the next meeting.	Laura Lewis
Action 3	Review how to improve the discharge notice for offenders	Laura Lewis

## **5. Update on the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee Recommendations**

CG updated members of our response and progress to the recent Health, Social Care and Sport (HSCS) Committee report and confirmed that the response has now been published on the WG website.

## **6. Issues for escalation**

CJ stated that one of the main issues in Wales is in relation to the first night prescribing when individuals arrive in prison, and they are unable to access the drugs they want/need which can sometimes be opioids that can only be prescribed by a certain contact, and this is especially worse if their first night is on a weekend.

## **7. Any Other Business**

MC stated that evidence has been sent to the Chief Medical Officer to provide Covid-19 vaccines alongside the flu vaccines in prisons.

In relation to the continuity of care, work is ongoing with the central team in HMPPS about drug recovery wings and substance free living wings as one key issue is that people are wanting to go to rehab directly from prison. Work is underway to identify people who may want this option on discharge and in turn this may reduce the cycle

of people going in and out of prison. The Chair requested that members contact MC or APB in the first instance. This will also apply to Welsh women who are in prison in England.