Building a Healthier Wales
Board Update January 2020

1 Introduction

In meeting the challenges and opportunities facing our population in Wales, a proposal was developed, to galvanise action across public, private and voluntary sectors, based on evidence-based priorities to create a managed shift to prevention and transform health outcomes in Wales. The proposal, referred to as Building a Healthier Wales, forms the prevention element of A Healthier Wales - our plan for Health and Social Care and provides a means of implementing the population health aspects within it. The approach embodies the vision within A Healthier Wales and will help drive the implementation of the ambitious transformation outlined in Prosperity for All, the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the Social Services and Well-being Act.

Building a Healthier Wales contains five key priority areas that span the breadth of greatest impact to transform health and well-being in Wales through a focus on prevention and early intervention. These are:

1. Tackling the Wider Determinants
   With a multi-agency focus on health and housing, and employment and employability, with consideration given to planning infrastructure and the environment.

2. Ensuring the Best Start in Life: Optimising our Early Years

3. Enabling Healthy Behaviours
   With a multi-agency focus on reducing smoking prevalence, promoting a health weight and increasing physical activity.

4. Minimising the impact of Clinical Risk Factors and the Burden of Disease
   With a specific focus in the community, particularly primary care, with the Emphasis on normalising blood pressure, blood glucose, body mass index (BMI) and cholesterol.

5. Enabling Transformational Change
   With a multi-agency focus on supporting the cultural, leadership and behaviour change required to deliver this shift in ways of working, delivery models and partnership working.

These priorities were considered at a Health and Social Care Leadership event with cross sector partners in March 2019 and were agreed in principle by all partners.
2 Building a Healthier Wales Coordination Group and Project Group

In order to progress the implementation of Building a Healthier Wales, Vaughan Gething, Minister for Health and Social Services, has established a Building a Healthier Wales Coordination Group, which comprises multi-agency partners. Huw David, Health and Social Care Spokesperson for the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council, chairs the Coordination Group which has held two meetings and one workshop.

The purpose of the Group is to focus on the shift to prevention of the £8.5bn NHS spend, and that of wider partners, with the initial focus on supporting the implementation of these collective priorities at a local and regional level with the emphasis being through Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) and Public Services Boards (PSBs). In so doing, it will align the all-Wales mechanisms to ensure the system levers are organised to support their implementation, advise on policy changes that may arise and establish a model that tracks the shift in prevention cross sector. The terms of reference and membership of the Coordination Group are attached as appendix 1.

The initial actions set by the Group are to:

1. Review the resource allocation and spend for prevention and develop an economic model to track spend on prevention cross sector.
2. Reframe the outcomes, measurement and accountability mechanisms to incorporate, embed and drive the shift in prevention cross sector.
3. Actively engage and build relationships with RPBs, PSBs and partners.
4. Develop and implement a widespread communications and engagement plan (including branding and a core narrative) across sectors and the public for these priorities and the wider prevention agenda.
5. Provide support and guidance to organisations, RPBs and PSBs for the specific Building a Healthier Wales priority areas.

A Project Group has also been established to support the Coordination Group in delivering at pace.

3 Cymru Well Wales and its Relationship to Building a Healthier Wales

The role of Cymru Well Wales (CWW) has been given consideration within the context of the developing Building a Healthier Wales (BaHW) agenda. Analysis of the terms of reference of both groups revealed considerable overlap.
A workshop was held with CWW partners to consider the future role of the partnership in the context of BAHW. They noted that, whilst there was considerable overlap in the terms of reference, the membership of the two groups differed. The membership of the BAHW was seen as being predominantly statutory sector, whilst the membership of CWW has evolved over time to become more voluntary sector in its attendance. CWW partners were very keen to be engaged with the ongoing BAHW agenda and felt they had a role to play within it. The terms of reference for CWW are being revised to reflect their contribution to BAHW.

This proposed future relationship between CWW and BAHW has been accepted in principle by the BAHW Coordination Group. It has also been proposed that the two current CWW programmes: the First 1000 days Collaborative and the Adverse Childhood Experience Support Hub, could feasibly report directly to the BAHW Coordination Group. These changes are need to be subject to Ministerial approval.

4 Funding for Prevention and Early Years

One of the early successes of the Building a Healthier Wales partnership is the success in securing additional resources for prevention across the system. The Minister for Health and Social Services has confirmed that a total of £7.2m additional funding will be made directly available to health boards (and RPBs) (£6.120m) and Public Health Wales (£1.080m) in 2019-20 onwards, to support effective interventions in relation to the prevention of ill health and early years. The allocation letter, sent to health board and Public Health Wales Chief Executives and Chairs and Chairs of Regional Partnership Boards, states that “jointly agreed targeted prevention schemes will need to demonstrate clear alignment with the themes and priorities agreed by the Building a Healthier Wales Strategic Coordination Group”.

The letter also states that the Coordination Group will be responsible for maintaining system oversight for monitoring improvement in prevention on a regional and national scale. To that end the Chair of the Coordination Group has written to health board Chief Executives and RPB Chairs to ask for their plans for the use of the prevention allocation aligned to the Building a Healthier Wales agreed priorities. In this correspondence we also attached evidence resources for the priorities. A review of the plans will be used to support partners in implementing the priorities by identifying common themes, sharing learning and identifying areas for further development.

5 Next Steps

Work is continuing to build resources and a support structure for BAHW. Recruitment is currently underway for a Programme Manager and a Communications Officer to support the Coordination Group.
The Group intends to be in a position to provide advice to the Minister in relation to further transforming the shift to prevention from 2020/2021 and a meeting is being arranged in February with a number of members of the Group to discuss this with the Minister.

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to receive this information.
1 Background

In meeting the challenges and opportunities facing our population in Wales, a proposal to galvanise action across public, private and voluntary sectors, based on evidence-based priorities to create a managed shift to prevention and transform health outcomes in Wales, has been developed. The proposal, referred to as **Building a Healthier Wales**, will be the prevention element of **A Healthier Wales - our plan for Health and Social Care** and will provide a means of implementing the population health aspects within it. The approach will embody the vision within **A Healthier Wales** and help drive the implementation of the ambitious transformation outlined in **Prosperity for All**, the **Well-being of Future Generations Act** and the **Social Services and Well-being Act**.

**Building a Healthier Wales** contains five key priority areas that span the breadth of greatest impact to transform health and well-being in Wales through a focus on prevention and early intervention. These are:

1. **Tackling the Wider Determinants**
   With a multi-agency focus on health and housing, and employment and employability, with consideration given to planning infrastructure and the environment.

2. **Ensuring the Best Start in Life: Optimising our Early Years**

3. **Enabling Healthy Behaviours**
   (With a multi-agency focus on reducing smoking prevalence, promoting a health weight and increasing physical activity).

4. **Minimising the impact of Clinical Risk Factors and the Burden of Disease**
   (With a specific focus in the community, particularly primary care, with the Emphasis on normalising blood pressure, blood glucose, body mass index (BMI) and cholesterol).

5. **Enabling Transformational Change**
   (With a multi-agency focus on supporting the cultural, leadership and behaviour change required to deliver this shift in ways of working, delivery models and partnership working).

These priorities were considered at a Health and Social Care Leadership event with cross sector partners in March 2019 and were agreed in principle by all partners. It was recognised that in order to implement these
collective priorities, we would need to transform the way we work and plan together, how we make decisions together and how we track success to collectively improve health outcomes for our population together. It was also agreed that the current cross-sector governing structures that we have, in the form of the Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs) and the Public Services Boards (PSBs), will be the delivery mechanism in order to engage, involve and align collective action against these priority areas. Similarly, the relevant all-Wales mechanisms will need to be aligned and mobilised to provide support and resource – locally, regionally and nationally, in order to achieve the transformational shift to prevention that is required. Finally, it was recognised that this is just as much about hearts and minds as it is about purposeful and targeted action. Consequently, a social movement will be created to wrap around the momentum and drive to galvanise our staff and our public in order to create the healthiest generation(s) in Wales.

2 Purpose

The Building a Healthier Wales Coordination Group represents multi-agency partners. It has been established to develop the model to support the implementation of these collective priorities at a local and regional level (the emphasis being through RPBs and PSBs) and to align the all-Wales mechanisms to drive and support their implementation and the collective transformation of health and well-being in Wales that will result in measurable improvements in health outcomes.

3 Terms of Reference

The terms of reference for the Group are to:

3.1 Consider the outputs from the 12 March event and amend the priority areas accordingly.

3.2 Undertake an engagement process with partners through RPBs, PSBs and national organisations where applicable, in order to a) map current wellbeing objectives and governance arrangements, b) understand what support is required, c) map the skills and support that are available, d) how these will need to align and e) mobilise and share good practice.

3.3 Following 3.2 above, develop an outline plan to support the implementation of the shared priorities (including support, guidance, resource, capacity and capability building, behaviour change developments, knowledge sharing and an evaluation and outcomes framework) that reflects the implementation within the context of RPBs, PSBs and other governing mechanisms and co-design this with partners.
3.4 Develop an innovative communications and engagement approach as a social movement across sector and society to support the momentum and implementation of Building a Healthier Wales.

3.5 Consider any future all-Wales model required to build and maintain the required expertise to implement the Building a Healthier Wales priorities in coordination with the local and regional mechanisms. Such a model would include the provision of support, evaluation (and scale up), measurement, tracking of the shift to prevention and improvement in health equity and the building of momentum to transform health in Wales. The Group will outline how such a model will provide a complementary interface with the existing governing structures including RPBs and PSBs.

3.6 Oversee the commissioning of any work that supports the shift towards prevention such as evidence reviews, stakeholder engagement or models to track spend on prevention.

3.7 Provide advice, oversight and leadership for the managed and incremental shift to prevention within a) the existing budget allocations as applicable (with a particular focus on the £7bn NHS allocation), b) the £10m allocation fund for prevention and early years and c) identify and oversee any other relevant additional funding going into RPBs/PSBs focused on prevention, early intervention and transformation as appropriate.

3.8 Influence and advise Welsh Government, local government, RPBs, PSBs, the NHS and other partners on the mechanisms, decisions and policy areas to further drive the demonstrable shift towards prevention and a healthier and more sustainable society.

4 Membership

The Building a Healthier Wales Coordination Group will comprise multi-agency partners who represent the cross sector involvement in the movement and the collective responsibility for the implementation of the shared priorities. The members will include:

Huw David, Chair or the Coordination Group. Health and Social Care Spokesperson for the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council

Alison Ward, Health and Social Care Spokesperson for SOLACE and Chief Executive of Torfaen County Borough Council

Future Generations Commissioner or nominated representative

Mark Polin, Chairperson of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

Len Richards, Chief Executive of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Kelechi Nnoaham, Chair of the Public Health Directors Group, Director of Public Health Cwm Taf University Health Board

Stuart Ropke, Chief Executive of Community Housing Cymru

Matt Jukes, Chief Constable South Wales Police and Health Partnership lead for the Welsh Chief Officers Group

Chris Davies, Chief Fire Officer South, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue

President of the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSS) Cymru or nominated representative

Sue Evans, Chief Executive, Social Care Wales

Judith Stone, Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA)

Martin Mansfield, General Secretary, Wales TUC

Cari-Anne Quinn, Chief Executive Life Sciences Hub Wales

Frank Atherton, Chief Medical Officer, Welsh Government

Tracey Cooper, Chief Executive, Public Health Wales

Jyoti Atri, Interim Director of Health and Well-being, Public Health Wales

Bronia Bendall, Lead Specialist Advisor: Health and Wellbeing, Natural Resources Wales

Graham Williams, Director of Community Engagement, Sport Wales

Wales Lead, CBI (to be confirmed)

Joanne Moore, Education Manager, Denbighshire County Council

5 Meeting and Support

The Group will support the implementation of Building a Healthier Wales at pace. It will review its progress after six months with the view to proposing any longer term all-Wales model and the transition of the Coordination Group into that model at that time. The meeting frequency will be agreed at the first meeting.

The Group will consider the establishment of a small executive group from amongst the members to support the Chair in progressing the business, as appropriate, in between the meetings of the Group.

The Group will be supported by a small secretariat and project team from Public Health Wales and other partners as applicable.