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Iechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

Name of Meeting

Board

Date of Meeting

23 January 2020

Agenda item:

6.2.230120

Public Health Wales' EU Transition Preparedness Update.

Executive lead: Quentin Sandifer, Executive Director of Public Health Services

Author: Nathan Jones, Programme Manager

Approval/Scrutiny route: Business Executive Team meeting (13 January 2020)

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Board with an update in relation to the work Public Health Wales is undertaking as part of our Brexit preparedness.

Recommendation:

APPROVE

CONSIDER

RECOMMEND

ADOPT

ASSURANCE

The Public Health Wales Board is asked to:

- Receive **assurance** on Public Health Wales' Brexit preparedness progress and arrangements.

Link to Public Health Wales [Strategic Plan](#)

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities and well-being objectives.

This report contributes to the following:

Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	All Strategic Priorities/Well-being Objectives
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Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	N/A
Risk and Assurance	Risk identified on the Corporate Risk Register.
Health and Care Standards	This report supports and/or takes into account the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Quality Themes All themes
Financial implications	Financial implications are being actively managed through the programme management arrangements.
People implications	A key element of the Brexit Programme has been to ensure staff have been provided with relevant information and supported as required.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Board with an update in relation to the work Public Health Wales is undertaking as part of our Brexit preparedness.

2. Welsh Government Preparedness

Following the successful vote on the second reading of the Withdrawal Agreement Bill, the Prime Minister has agreed that Operation Yellowhammer should be halted with immediate effect, due to the decreased likelihood of the UK leaving the EU without a deal on 31 January 2020.

Consequently, Emergency Coordination Centre Wales (ECCW) and Local Resilience Forum arrangements in Wales have been 'stood down' with immediate effect.

It is anticipated that these arrangements will be 'stood up' in October 2020, in preparation for a potential 'no-deal' at the end of the transition period.

3. Public Health Wales Preparedness

3.1 31 January 2020

Public Health Wales have signed a contingency arrangements agreement with the Republic of Ireland for cooperation of health protection and health security. This agreement was put in place as part of our Brexit preparedness, but will also be used for normal operational business as required.

In light of decisions at a UK and Welsh Government level, and a reduction in the risk of a potential 'no-deal', Public Health Wales has deescalated its preparedness arrangements. Oversight will be maintained through the Brexit Programme SRO Group, which will allow arrangements to be 'stood up', should the risk assessment change.

3.2 End of Transition Period

Public Health Wales' Brexit Programme will undertake an end of phase review, post 31 January 2020. This is to effectively assess and capture the significant preparedness undertaken over the last 18 months and identify any further activity required.

It is anticipated that the Programme will continue, at a lower state of readiness through 2020, with arrangements being formally 'stood up' in September 2020.

4. Recommendation

The Public Health Wales Board is asked to note the significant progress made in relation to Public Health Wales Brexit preparedness, as set out in section 3, and receive **assurance** on the arrangements being put in place in advance of 31 October 2019.

The Public Health Wales Board is asked to:

- Receive **assurance** on Public Health Wales' Brexit preparedness progress and arrangements.