



A very warm welcome to the February edition of the West Wales Regional Partnership Board Newsletter.

This newsletter highlights co-production and engagement developments within the West Wales Regional Partnership Board Team.



Shining a Light on Rare Diseases - February 28th



Did you know:

- Over 7,000 rare diseases have been identified.
- 1 in 17 people in the UK will be affected by a rare disease.
- 300 million people globally live with a rare disease.
- Only 5% of rare diseases have treatments.

Alan is a long term member of the West Wales Regional Partnership Board and is a key member of the team. Alan established Ataxia and Me to raise awareness of ataxia in Wales, the UK and around the world, living with Ataxia himself. Alan aims to raise awareness and offer support for those with Ataxia and those who care and support people with Ataxia.

Find out more about Ataxia and Me here: Ataxia and Me Home Page -



Citizen and Third Sector Engagement Board

We have now hosted 8 meetings of the Citizen and Third Sector Engagement Board!

These meetings are bi-monthly ,with over 45 engaged community members and organisations, it provides a platform to discuss and shape the future of local services. We present strategies, projects and services, and the group provides input to drive meaningful improvements.

On the 19th February, the board met at Parc Dewi Sant to chose the winner of the Citizen and Third Sector Choice Award for the West Wales Health and Social Care Awards. After much deliberation, it was incredibly tough to choose a winner from such an impressive pool of shortlisted candidates. We are, however, excited to reveal the results on the 11th March at the Awards!

The board was also briefed by Rebekah on the Population Needs Assessment and the Data Portal. The Population Needs Assessment (PNA) provides a high-level strategic analysis of data to inform the care and support needs of citizens across West Wales. The West Wales Regional Partnership Board (WWRPB) Team update the Population Needs Assessment every 5 years, although review it every 2.5 years. With the help of the Citizen and Third Sector Engagement Board and the workstreams within the WWRPB, we will be updating the assessment over the next 3 months.

The 2022 Population Needs Assessment can be found here: <u>Population Assessment 2022</u> - West Wales Regional Partnership Board

The data portal (which holds data about the population can be found here and you can use this data too): Home - West Wales Regional Partnership Board

We welcome new members to the board, our next meeting is on **Tuesday 22nd April 2025** and we would love to see you.

We will be gathering your thoughts on the Advocacy Strategy and the Population Needs Assessment for West Wales at this meeting. Beyond this meeting, you'll find numerous projects and opportunities to get involved with, such as attending Welsh Government events and contributing significantly to projects that align with your interests.

Interested in getting involved? Email us at wwrpb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk



















What happens at a blood test?



We love this video created by the Health Champs at Carmarthenshire People First.

This video shows all there is to expect at a blood test, so you know what to expect if you ever need to get one.

Please feel free to share this video with your network to show them what to expect when they go for a blood test.

Check it out here: <u>Taking Your Blood Test - YouTube</u>

West Wales Communication and Engagement Drop-In



This will be a monthly informal West Wales Communications and Engagement Drop-in. A meeting open to the public sector, private organisations, third sector organisations and support groups. The meeting will have a recurring agenda, with the aim to reduce duplication and improve comms and engagement across the region. The agenda will include:

- Introductions
- Any ongoing engagement work, its purpose and intended outcomes (e.g. surveys, consultations, workshops or marketing campaigns across the West Wales a space to discuss sharing resources and identifying relevant collaboration.)
- Any planned events ongoing across the region (e.g. target audience, purpose, who is supporting/ attending)
- Any research required (e.g. a space to share previously conducted research, engagement, consultation, etc. (following GDPR))
- AOB

Below is the link for the meeting on Wednesday 12th 10am to 11am, please share with your network who may be interested: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting NWZmNzY5YjltMjllNC00NTdhLWFmOWYtNjVjZDUwZmY4NjQ4%40thre https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting NWZmNzY5YjltMjllNC00NTdhLWFmOWYtNjVjZDUwZmY4NjQ4%40thre https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/1

WWRPB Neurodivergence Support Drop-In: 26th March 2025 at Parc Dewi Sant

Are you looking for neurodivergence support in West Wales?

We have a range of public sector, private and third sector organisations attending the event to showcase what support they have on offer across West Wales for neurodivergent individuals.

For more information on who is attending, please see here: <u>West Wales Neurodivergence</u> Support Event 2025 – West Wales Regional Partnership Board

Register your interest in attending here: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/west-wales-regional-partnership-board/e-aedmdm

Are you an organisation, team or support group that supports neurodivergence individuals?

You are invited to take part in our regional West Wales Neurodivergence Support Drop In Event. Taking place on the 26th March at Parc Dewi Sant, Carmarthen. We are planning to bring together as many services and support groups for neurodivergent individuals and their families. We welcome applications from support groups, third sector, social enterprises and private organisations.

Last year 400 individuals attended a similar event run by Carmarthenshire Council in March 2024. This year, we are aiming to build on the success, and develop a regional event.

Information we need from you:

- Your organisation name, audience and location
- What you would like to provide on the day e.g. information stand, activity, 1 -1 support/ advice, other.

Please contact us to express interest: wwrpb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Upcoming Events

National Social Prescribing Day!

Save the date to celebrate National Social Prescribing Day on Wednesday 19th March 2025.

Join Carmarthenshire County Council and Hywel Dda Health Board at the Living Well Centre in Carmarthen!

Registration opens at 9:30 AM for a 10:00 AM start, with the event running until 12:30 PM.

A light lunch will be provided.

Spaces are limited, so be sure to book early to secure your spot!

'Developing in partnership - holistic, community and asset based wellbeing interventions - that ask 'what matters to you? Instead of 'what's the matter with you?

Email: <u>Tracey.roberts5@wales.nhs.uk</u>

West Wales Neurodivergence Support Drop-In Event: 26th March 2025

For more information, click here: https://wwrpb.org.uk/en/neurodivergence-support-event-2025/

Register your interest in attending, click here: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/west-wales-regional-partnership-board/e-aedmdm

If you are interested in having an information stand, please contact us to express interest: wwrpb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Ageing Well Event - Llanelli

Organised by Carmarthenshire County Council:

We are pleased to be able to host the Carmarthenshire Ageing Well Event once again this year, on the 3rd of April 2025, at a brand-new venue of Y Ffwrnes, Llanelli.

This event is aimed at the 50+ community here in Carmarthenshire so that you can learn more about the local projects, services and activities that are going on throughout the county that can play a part in helping you to live and age well. We have arranged a variety of proceedings throughout the event. There will be information stalls to browse, demonstrations to view, workshops and talks to participate in, and guest speakers to watch.

More information and ticket sign-ups can be found here: <u>Heneddio'n Dda Sir Gâr /</u> Carmarthenshire Ageing Well at Theatrau Sir Gâr-Y Ffwrnes event tickets from TicketSource

Citizen and Third Sector Engagement Board

We welcome new members to the board, our next meeting is on **Tuesday 22nd April 2025** and we would love to see you.

Please message us at wwrpb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk.

Are you following us?

We have recently started a LinkedIn page, give us a follow and mention us in your posts when you get involved with the work we do. We would love to hear it!



Contact Us

If you have content you would like to share across our media channels, or any suggestions for future editions please do let us know at wwrpb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk. The team look forward to hearing from you and developing the newsletter into a useful and informative resource. Your feedback will help us to deliver that and ensures that the newsletter is getting out there and being read!

