

WEST WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD NEWSLETTER

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

This newsletter highlights what the team and wider partners have been up to over the past month.

To navigate through the different sections, click the Navigation Menu button (bottom-right of the screen):



Meet our new team members!



Lauran Lau

Hi, I'm Lauran Lau and I joined WWRPB as a Capital Project Lead in April-2025. My background includes working on multiple Clinical trials, with a speciality in Pharmacovigilance and Patient Safety within the Research and Development (R&D) sector. Most recently, I was the Research and Product Development Project Manager for Pentre Awel with a key focus on Research, Innovation and governance within the life-sciences sector,

collaborating with several academics/academia, health board and key stakeholders and partners.

Laura Edwards

I'm Laura Edwards and I joined WWRPB as a Capital Project Lead in April-2025. I have worked in Carmarthenshire County Council for over 15 years in various roles, most recently within Economic Development delivering grants and projects including the UK Governments Levelling up funding and UK Government Shared prosperity fund. The grant offered a mix of capital and revenue funding designed to meet local need in communities and supporting local businesses. I am looking forward to working regionally in my new role as capital lead and using my skills to support the WWRPB delivery and priorities.

Claire Williams

I was previously the Coordinator of the Regional Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership, and I'm very much looking forward to the challenge of my new role as the Nyth/Nest Project Manager with the RPB, and driving forward the implementation of the Nyth/Nest Framework, to support babies, children, young people and their families across West Wales.

Recruitment and Retention Workshops



A message from We Care Wales:

A free series of workshops for social care managers. These workshops will focus on identifying and finding solutions to social care recruitment and retention challenges. These half day workshops will be delivered online through Teams. They will include active participation and activities for shared learning opportunities. Each session follows on from the previous, so we advise attending each session in the right order, to make the most of them.

Session 1 – Friday 6 June, 2025 9:15am-12:30pm:Understanding the role of shared qualities and values in the recruitment and retention process.

Session 2 – Friday 20 June, 9:15am - 1pm: Understanding your target audience and their needs in social care recruitment.

Session 3 – Friday 4 July, 9:15am-12:30pm: Identifying and removing barriers to employment in social care.

Session 4 – Friday 18 July, 9:15am- 1pm A values-based approach to recruitment.

Please register here.

Clinical Services Plan Consultation



A message from one of our partners:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (the Health Board) provides health services for people across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, and Pembrokeshire and also for nearby communities. We are now consulting on possible changes to nine clinical services, and this may impact on which hospitals they are delivered from. The nine services are Critical Care, Dermatology, Emergency General Surgery, Endoscopy, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, Radiology, Stroke, and Urology. We welcome feedback from the public, our staff, stakeholders and groups impacted / affected by our proposals.

We have recognised for several years that some of our hospital services are fragile. This is mainly because our clinical teams are spread across multiple sites, and sometimes we rely on individual staff. Also, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to affect us. It has left us with long waiting lists, gaps in staffing (made worse by shortages nationally for some healthcare staff), social care pressures, and more demand for health services. Some of our services have not been able to return to pre-pandemic activity levels. This means patients are waiting longer than we would like for some planned care.

Given the challenges, we have developed a Clinical Services Plan, with options to change nine services. This is in a timeframe of up to four years from decision and also considering what further changes could be made in more than four years. In summary, the plan seeks to:

- respond to the fragility of the critical care and emergency general surgery services
- improve standards and outcomes, and address staffing challenges in the stroke service
- improve access to and reduce waiting times for planned care patients (ophthalmology, dermatology, urology and orthopaedics) and diagnostics (endoscopy and radiology).

In this consultation, we want you to tell us:

- which proposed options you think are best able to address fragilities in our services, improve standards or reduce waiting times
- concerns you may have about any of the options, or impacts you think they may have
- thoughts you may have on the future role of our hospitals
- anything else you think we need to consider, including alternative options or ideas you may have.
- For information about the consultation, please read our consultation document that accompanies this and supporting questionnaire and / or go online to: hduhb.nhs.wales/clinical-services-consultation

Members of the public can also join us at public drop-in events to have a cup of tea or coffee and ask Health Board staff, including clinicians, any questions about the options, or to offer new ideas.

Events will be held on:

- 2pm to 7pm, 17 June 2025, Selwyn Samuel Centre Llanelli, SA15 3AE
- 2pm to 7pm, 20 June 2025, Ammanford Pensioners Hall, Ammanford, SA18 3EN
- 2pm to 7pm, 25 June 2025, Ivy Bush Hotel, Carmarthen, SA31 1LG
- 2pm to 7pm, 27 June 2025, HaverHub, Haverfordwest, SA61 1BG
- 2pm to 7pm, 30 June 2025, Morlan Centre, Aberystwyth SY23 2HH
- 2pm to 7pm, 4 July 2025, Tenby Leisure Centre, Tenby SA70 8DU
- 2pm-7pm, 7 July 2025, Y Plas, Machynlleth SY20 8ER
- 2pm-7pm, 8 July 2025, The Guildhall, Cardigan SA43 1JL
- 3pm-6pm, 10 July 2025, Pater Hall, Pembroke Dock SA72 6DD
- 3pm-6pm, 14 July 2025, Aberaeron Memorial Hall, Aberaeron SA46 0DP
- 3pm-6pm, 17 July 2025, The Castle Hotel, Llandovery SA20 0AP

Or join us online!

To register for an online event or for more information:

visit our website hduhb.nhs.wales/clinical-services-consultation or call 0300 303 8322 (option 5)

If you wish to receive paper copies or you need a more accessible format, please call us on 0300 303 8322 (local call rates) and select option 5 'other services'.

Please share your views by Sunday 31 August 2025.

A poster to share about advocacy!

Advocacy West Wales is offering an all age mental health advocacy service across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire!

More information on https://advocacywestwales.org.uk/



West Wales Communication and Engagement Drop-In

This is 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 (with over 100 members!). The meeting has a recurring agenda, with the aim to reduce duplication and improve communication and engagement across the region. The agenda includes:

- 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

The next meeting is on June 3rd, message us for the diary marker and please share with your network who may be interested.

Get up to 30 hours of funded child care! - Check if you're eligible.



A message from one of our partners:

The Welsh Government's Childcare Offer for Wales means that many parents of 3 to 4 year olds can receive help with childcare costs.

This means 30 hours of early education (also referred to as nursery education) and childcare in Wales for eligible parents. The 30 hours is made up of a minimum of 10 hours of early education a week and a maximum of 20 hours a week of childcare.

This is usually from the term after the child's third birthday, until they are eligible to receive a full-time education (school) place - usually the September after their fourth birthday

Find out more about the Childcare Offer for Wales.

Its Volunteers Week from June 2nd to June 8th!

Volunteers' Week is an annual UK-wide campaign held from the first Monday in June to celebrate and recognise the contributions of volunteers. We have over 50 Citizen and Third Sector Engagement members who are apart of the work that the West Wales Regional Partnership Board does and we just want to use this opportunity to say thank you for everything that you do!

Click this link to see the different ways there are to get involved in the work of the West Wales Regional Partnership Board: https://wwrpb.org.uk/get-involved/



What is on for Volunteers Week?



2 - A message from Connecting Carmarthenshire



Its Carers Week from June 9th to June 15th!

Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution of carers. It also helps people who may not recognise themselves as being a carer to identify as carers to access support.

More information on Carers Week here: https://www.carersweek.org/

What's on in Carmarthenshire for Carers Week?



What's on in Pembrokeshire for Carers Week?















HaverHUB: The old Post Office, SA61 1BG

The event will include information stands from local organisations from 11am and











11:30am Money Matters Talk

12:30 - 3:00pm Complementary Therapy **Tasters**

VR Manual Handling Sessions

No need to book









Pembrokeshire Directory of Micro Care & Support Services



Find support including: Home Help Companionship Personal care

An online directory of 'micro care & support services' small, independent services (most are self-employed) that support people to live independently and enjoy life. These services have been supported by 'Catalysts for Care' - a not-for-profit project - to set up legally and professionally.

Browse the directory, make an enquiry, and find out more: planed.org.uk/projects/catalysts-for-care/

Contact Lee James on: lee.james@planed.org.uk / 07535 810003







Information stands around the Health Board before and during Carers Week!



4 - A pdf is available, please contact <u>wwrpb@carmarthenshire.qov.uk</u> to be forwarded on this information.

Upcoming Events

Citizen and Third Sector Engagement Board

We welcome new members to the board, our next meeting is on **Tuesday 17th June 2025** and we would love to see you. Dr Becca Stillwell Clinical Psychologist will be attending to discuss Dementia services in Hywel Dda.

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

What's on in June?

02.06.25 Open Day at Adferiad Mental Health Preventative Services, Carmarthenshire Carers Information and Support Service and The Carmarthenshire Sanctuary

05.06.25 - Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Neuadd Tysul Hall, New Road, Llandysul SA44 4QL.

10.06.25 - Keeping Well Roadshow Pembrokeshire 10am to 3pm at the VC Gallery, Pembroke Dock.

10.06.25 - Carers Week Wellbeing and Information Day 11am to 3pm at the Living Well Centre, Parc Dewi Sant, Carmarthen, SA31 3HG

11.06.25 - Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Our Lady Queen of Peace RC Church, Castle Street, Newcastle Emlyn SA38 9AF.

13.06.25 - Employment Support Drop 11am to 1pm at the Carmarthen Excel Foodbank, Old Llansteffan Road, Carmarthen SA31 3BP.

13.06.25 - Carers Week Wellbeing and Information Day 11am to 1pm at the Haverhub, Quat Street, Haverfordwest, SA61 1BG.

14.06.25 - Aberystwyth Show, SY23 3HP

14.06.25 - Wellbeing and Empowerment Festival, Parc Dewi Sant, Carmarthen, 11am onwards.

- 14.06.25 Carmarthenshire Therapy Dogs Family Doggy Fun Day, Parc Dewi Sant, Carmarthen. 11am onwards.
- 16.06.25 Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Llandovery Youth & Community Centre, Gerwyn House, 19th Market Square, Llandovery SA20 0AB.
- 17.06.25 Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Llandeilo Civic Hall, 17 Crescent Road, Llandeilo SA19 6HW.
- 17.06.25 Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Capel Hen, Pencader, SA39 9BP
- 20.06.25 Parc Dewi Sant Open Day 10am to 3pm.
- 20.06.25 Trinity St David Open Day, Cardiff, 10am to 3pm.
- 27.06.25 Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Whitland Memorial Hall, Kind Edward Street, Whitland SA34 0AA
- 27.06.25 Organisation Support Drop in 11am to 1pm ran by NACRO at Whitland Memorial Hall, Kind Edward Street, Whitland SA34 0AA
- 27.06.25 Employment Support Drop 10am to 12pm at the Ammanford Foodbank, Y Llusern, Wind Street, Ammanford 3DR.
- 01.07.25 West Wales Dementia Conference Invite Only Please contact wwrpb@carmarthenshire.gov.uk for more information if this would be of interest to you.









Pembrokeshire Keeping Well Roadshow!

Please share with your network.



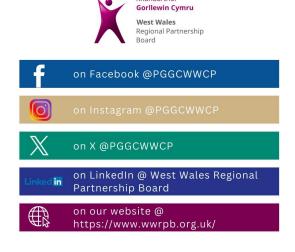
The Wallich - Drop In for Housing Support

Please share with your network.



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!



Bwrdd Partneriaeth

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!

