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Addysg a Gwella Iechyd
Cymru (AaGIC)
Health Education and
Improvement Wales (HEIW)

This is a monthly update for partners and stakeholders on progress with Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) from its Chief Executive, Alex Howells.

Please help to spread the word about Health Education and Improvement Wales by circulating these bulletins to all staff.

Happy New Year, Everyone!

It is now three months since we launched the organisation, and as the new arrangements begin to settle down, we are really looking forward to the

opportunities that lie ahead in 2019.

I would like to thank colleagues from partner organisations for their advice and guidance as we have continued through the transition process; this has been invaluable, and has helped immensely to ease and speed up the process.

2019 will be a critical year in implementing *A Healthier Wales*, the long-term plan for health and social care, and Regional Partnership Boards are in various stages of submitting proposals for transformational funding to deliver its recommendations.

HEIW is looking forward to supporting partners with this work, in particular to recognise the implications for training and workforce development necessary to deliver on these exciting opportunities.

This bulletin gives you a flavour of what we have been doing in the last quarter, and what lies ahead in early 2019 to support this and other work.

Operational Readiness

In order to ensure we can deliver all of the functions of the new organisation, we have been continuing to recruit to vacant and new roles, and we anticipate this will be largely complete by the end of 18/19.

We have also been spending time ensuring all our staff who have transferred into the organisation are equipped with the knowledge and information needed to operate in an NHS body through an induction process, and the implementation of new policies, procedures, and systems.

Thanks to the dedication of our staff, and a lot of external support, the focus on business continuity has ensured that, to date, there have been no

significant issues despite the TUPE process, the move to a new location, and new IT and information systems.

Annual Plan 2019/20

Since the launch of the new organisation, we have been operating under a remit letter from Welsh Government, as well as the plans and work programmes we have inherited from predecessor organisations.

For 19/20, our remit letter requires us to produce an annual plan by 2019. We will share this plan widely with stakeholders and partners to ensure there is widespread understanding of our initial priorities.

For 20/21 onwards, we will need to develop a three-year Integrated Medium Term Plan in the same way as other NHS bodies, and we will ensure there is scope to involve stakeholders and partners in the early stages of that process.

Primary Care

One of the priorities for 2019/20 will be the development of the workforce to support the new primary care model.

We were pleased to welcome Sue Morgan (National Director and Strategic Programme Lead for Primary and Community Care) and Sian Millar (Director of Primary and Community Services, Aneurin Bevan Health Board) to discuss the Strategic Programme for Primary Care at our Senior Leadership Team meeting in December.

This was really helpful in shaping and integrating the work we need to take forward, particularly around developing the multidisciplinary team.

Workforce Strategy for Health and Social Care

A Healthier Wales requires HEIW and Social Care Wales to work together to develop a workforce strategy for health and social care in Wales by November 2019.

A small joint steering group has been set up to oversee this process, and the Institute of Public Care has been secured via tender to support the project.

Our vision for the strategy is that it will span the whole health and social care system – not just the “integrated” part – and it will provide a clear direction and framework for all workforce plans, whether these relate to professions, services, sectors, or geographical areas.

Whilst we will be building the strategy based on the principles and ambitions set out in *A Healthier Wales*, we are also planning a comprehensive engagement exercise over the next few months to help us shape the priorities for the strategy, and to draw on the ideas and expertise that exist across the system.

If you would like to contribute to this work as part of the engagement and/or consultation exercises, please email: HEIW-Comms@wales.nhs.uk.

We will then be undertaking a joint consultation with Social Care Wales on the draft strategy later in the summer.

Education Commissioning for 19/20

The Minister for Health and Social Services has agreed recommendations to invest £114m in support of a range of education and training programmes for healthcare professionals in Wales in 19/20, which is £7m more than in 2018/19, and the fifth consecutive yearly increase.

The funding will be used for education and training places to support a range of roles, including:

- Continued investment in maintaining the numbers of undergraduate places across all health professions;
- Additional investment in advanced practice, health care support workers, pharmacy professions, paramedic education, and audiology;
- Additional investment in doctors in emergency medicine, trauma and orthopaedics, and radiology, and;
- Further investment in the role of physician associates, increasing from 32 places to 42 places.

Over the next few months, we will be establishing a new process for developing the 20/21 commissioning numbers to ensure we have the appropriate professional and service advice.

In addition, we will be undertaking a tendering exercise for the renewal of our health professional undergraduate contracts from 21/22, and will be inviting stakeholders and partners to influence this over the next few months.

E-Resources: Supporting Education, Development and Best Practice

As you may be aware, the establishment of HEIW has led to significant investment in the NHS Wales e-Library for Health to maintain and improve access for all NHS Wales staff, contract holders (e.g. general practitioners, optometrists, dentists, community pharmacists and social workers), trainees, trainers, and students on placement, to a wide range of online resources.

Please help us to continue to raise awareness of these fantastic resources, which include:

- 2,300+ e-journals;

- 4 point-of-care tools;
- 18+ databases;
- Guidelines including *iRefer* and *Royal Marsden Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures*, and;
- A range of other resources, such as publications from Royal Societies and institutions, research, and freely-available guidelines.

Access to all resources is free of charge, and available via the e-Library [intranet site](#) using any NHS Wales networked device.

For accessing e-resources from home or public Wi-Fi, please use the e-Library [internet site](#).

(Please note: to access e-resources from home or public Wi-Fi, you will need an OpenAthens account and an NHS Wales LibrarySearch account. If you don't already have these you can sign up for an OpenAthens account [here](#) and contact the [Health Library](#) here for an NHS Wales LibrarySearch account.)

A First for Wales and the UK

Trainers are a key part of our extended workforce, and one of our roles is to ensure we support them to do the best possible job.

In December, we launched the [All Wales Medical Trainer Agreement \(Secondary Care and Undergraduate Education\)](#) in partnership with Cardiff University School of Medicine and Swansea University Medical School.

This agreement aims to enhance standards of patient care and safety by raising the visibility of medical trainers, and recognising their crucial role in supporting students and trainees.

The Agreement clearly defines the role, responsibilities and rights of individual medical trainers, HEIW, medical schools, and NHS Wales health boards and trusts, contributing to greater consistency and transparency in the provision of education and training across Wales – and across undergraduate and postgraduate care.

Wales is the first place in the UK to adopt this approach to medical training, and it is seen as an important contribution to the campaign encouraging trainees to Wales.

Contact Us

If you would like to get in touch with us, we can be contacted at:

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We look forward to working with you in 2019.

Best wishes,

Alex Howells

Chief Executive





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