



Board Meeting: 19 July 2013

AGENDA ITEM: 5

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| Title of paper: | Driving Forward Integrated Care |
| Purpose of paper: | To update the Board on the progress toward integration between health and social services as set out in 'Together for Health' and 'Sustainable Social Services'. |
| Action required by the Board: | This paper is provided as a basis for discussion. |
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1. Background

- 1.1. Demographic trends in Wales have led to an increased demand for both acute and community services for older people, particularly those aged 85 plus. Frailty, dementia and the effects of multiple chronic conditions are more prevalent in this age group. The associated pressures this puts on our health and social care system drives the need to change how we deliver health and social care services in Wales in the future. The Welsh Government's commitment to integrated health and social services is set out in 'Setting the Direction, Together for Health'; the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill; and 'Sustainable Social Services'.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1 Integrated services require all the partners across social services, the NHS, the third and independent sectors to work within a collaborative framework. Integrated services are defined and constructed by reference to the needs of the individual rather than the organisation or professional.
- 2.2 The benefits of integrated services are wide ranging. They provide unified assessment, a single care plan, a streamlined arrangement for delivery and a common set of outcome expectations. In essence better care experience and better care quality. They also avoid waste and enable better value for money.
- 2.3 There has been a long history of joint working across Wales. For example, good progress has been made in putting together integrated support services for families with complex needs. In addition, there has been substantial development of "frailty" services in Wales—in Gwent, Hywel Dda and Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan—all of which are funded through the Invest to Save programme from the Welsh Government.
- 2.4 In Wales we need to move with greater pace and scale to achieve fully integrated health and social care services. On the 25 June the Minister for Health and Social Services published '*Delivering Local Health Care*'. This calls on Health Boards and their partners to take rapid action to develop and mature locality networks across Wales, to support integrated and locally led service planning.
- 2.5 Much better partnership working arrangements are needed. These include stronger shared leadership and vision, locality networks, a more rapid shift in resources from acute healthcare to primary and community care, greater use of pooled budgets, shared information, a more central role for GPs, and smarter use of technology.
- 2.6 Given demographic change, a key priority has been the development of a Framework of integrated health and social services for older people with complex needs. This Framework has been co-produced with Local Government, the NHS and the Third Sector. It is intended

that there will be a Written Statement to announce consultation on this Framework before Recess. This will set out the Welsh Government's expectations regarding collaborative working across all partners to shape and deliver integration.

- 2.7 It is clear from the evidence from other countries that integration of health and social services is not a "quick fix". Therefore, as a first step, Local Health Boards and Local Authorities will be required to produce agreed "Statements of Intent" for the integration of services for older people with complex needs by the end of 2013 as a basis for implementation from 2014.

3. Resource implications

- 3.1 Better, more targeted use of existing resources is needed to achieve the necessary pace and scale of change. Welsh Government has invested in models of Integrated Health and Social Services through the Invest to Save programme, the Regional Collaborative Fund and in the implementation across Wales of the Integrated Family Support Teams (for children in complex families).
- 3.2 The forthcoming Ministerial announcement will set out an expectation that the proportion of resources that are included in pooled budget arrangements across health and social care partnerships will be increased year on year. LHBs and Councils will be required to agree a specific local target.

4. Risks

- 4.1 This paper identifies no specific risk at this point. 'Together for Health', the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill and 'Sustainable Social Services' each have risk registers within their programme management frameworks that apply to the substance of this work.

5. Communication

- 5.1 Following completion of the consultation process for each of the main integration policy documents, further consideration will be given to the communication requirements for the next stage of implementation.

6. General Compliance Issues

- 6.1 There are currently no compliance issues.

7. Publication

- 7.1 This paper should be published in full as none of the exemptions in the Code of Practice on Public Access to Information apply.

Date submitted to Secretariat: 9 July 2013