Prisons Health and Social Oversight Group Meeting

3rd May 2022

12:00pm – 14:00pm

Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Welsh Government:

Tracey Breheny (Deputy Director, Mental Health, Substance Misuse and Vulnerable Groups – (Chair)

Michael Curties (Head of Substance Misuse Delivery),

Chris Gittins (Head of Substance Misuse Policy Unit),

Dr Liz Davies (Senior Medical Officer – Primary Care),

Andrew Evans (Chief Pharmaceutical Officer),

Lloyd Hambridge (Deputy Chief Pharmaceutical Officer),

Lara Bradfield (Substance Misuse Policy Unit – Secretariat)

HMPPS in Wales:

Sian Hibbs (Director for Strategic Support, Administration and Assurance.)

Laura Lewis (Senior Policy Manager),

Victoria Harries (Deputy Head of Probation Delivery),

Dr Bethan Roberts (HMP Cardiff GP), Ashley Thomas, Dep Gov HMP Cardiff.

Health Partners:

Elen Jones (Director for Wales Royal Pharmaceutical Society)

Dr Mignon French (NHS)

Dr Denise Farmer (Royal Pharmaceutical Society)

Dr Wing Tang (Royal Pharmaceutical Society)

Dr Stephanie Perrett (PHW),

Julie Denley (Cwm Taf Morgannwg LHB)

Apologies:

Chris Jennings – co Chair (HMPPS in Wales)

Amanda Corrigan (HMP Cardiff) and Beverley Morgan (Welsh Government),

David Clayton (Welsh Government),

Joanne Hopkins (NHS)

Item No.	Item	Lead
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and introductions were provided. Apologies were also noted.	Chair, WG
	The Chair highlighted that the main focus of the meeting would be on the work streams under the Partnership Agreement for Prison Health and included a presentation on the Medicines Management area. There would also be a presentation on Mental Health Treatment Requirements.	
2.	Update on minutes and actions from previous meeting held on 20 th October 2021	Chair, WG
	The minutes of the previous meeting held in October were agreed by members as a true and accurate record.	
	LL provided an update on the assurance work taking place that is based on the HMP Parc service specification. Work has also started at HMP Swansea, with the local surveys completed. The report for HMP Swansea is ongoing with the remaining prison surveys to take place in due course.	
3.	Delivered key findings presentation on the Medicines Management work stream	Denise Farmer, Wing Tang,
	ED raised concerns in relation to dispensing and the administration of medication whilst in police custody.	
	DF clarified that the above was out of scope of the current workstream.	
	ACTION : WG to review if work on dispensing and the administration of medication in police custody is taking place in other areas.	
	BR asked about registration at the point of entering prison. It was flagged that this can be	

an issue when people enter Welsh prisons from England residency.

Moving forward, the Chair raised if a shared action plan is needed between Welsh Government (Pharmacy and Offender Teams) and HMPPS.

JD stated that we would want to see the Prison Health Partnership Boards (PHPB) as key enablers for this work at an operational level and that it would be helpful if the reports are shared with the appropriate boards.

SH commented that this is a great piece of work. It has highlighted things we thought were there but did not yet have tangible evidence for. Some of the issues around consistency we have heard about but not been able to quantify.

AE said the work was an opportunity to understand what is happening in prison pharmacies across Wales. There was recognition that there are differences across some prisons and that we need to carefully balance what is locally driven and nationally going forward. There should be a focus on creating infrastructures within prisons that support the delivery of these services in a resilient way.

ACTION: WG to ensure each local team has a copy of the relevant report for their area.

ACTION: WG to discuss internally and with HMPPS the mechanism for taking this work forward at both a national and local level.

4. Updates were given on other work streams

- Substance Misuse
- Mental Health
- Prison Environment

On the Substance Misuse and Mental Health areas it was noted that the Welsh

Chris Gittins, WG

Laura Lewis (WG

Government would be issuing a joint consultation on the Mental Health Standards and the Substance Misuse Treatment Framework.

LL highlighted that work has been progressing on the Prison Environment work stream and that a variety of work had been undertaken during Covid-19. It was noted that the work stream could now be updated and this would be presented at the next meeting.

CG also referenced the fact that this linked to work being undertaken in response to the Committee recommendations on adult prison health and that an update on the progress being made here would be provided at the next meeting.

ACTION: Laura to present new environment workstream priorities at the next meeting.

ACTION: WG to provide members with an update on the progress of the Health and Social Committee Recommendations.

5. Presentation was delivered on the Mental Health Treatment Requirements

The Chair asked about onward referrals and access to services across health boards.

VH stated that health colleagues involved in discussions, and they attend the steering and strategic groups. They were initially concerned it would increase demand, but because this sentence and the wrap around support already exists they expect it to reduce demand, as the court assessors are already in post.

BR asked of the 15 who completed the requirement, was there subsequent reoffending?

VH stated that although it is a little early to be able to answer this question, there is anecdotal evidence of people under this Mignon French, NHS

Victoria Harries

	requirement avoiding a breach and the ones that have been tracked have received a reduced rate. However, we are waiting for the full results. MF commented that the group are high users of emergency services. We are seeing a picture of lower than national average breach rates. We are following the individuals for one year, so we will have feedback after this period on their mental health and the reoffending data. This work appears to be reducing the burden on out of hours services and the work ensures that people on the treatment are now registered with a GP. MC stated that we want to be able to articulate the impact on offending and other health areas. ACTION: MC and VH to discuss how to take this work forward and ensure the Area Planning Boards are aware and informed.	
6.	Issues for escalation None	Laura Lewis HMPPS
	ACTION: LL to reach out to PHPBs to highlight the role of the Prison Oversight group and advise that the group can be used as a mechanism to refer issues for escalation.	
7.	Out of Covid-19 update delivered.	Sian Hibbs,
	SH reported that the ongoing testing policy has stayed the same and is likely to for the next couple of weeks. SH also stated that although outbreaks have been reported in some prisons, the symptoms have been mild with most not having symptoms at all. All of our prisons are approved for at least stage two, but some have gone back to stage 3-4 in affected areas. Things have improved vastly, and we are taking all advised measures where cases may continue to rise.	HMPPS
8.	Any Other Business	Chair, WG
	SH: Outlined the prison processes for any Deaths in Custody.	

ACTION : SH to share what the practice is in relation to a Death in Custody in Welsh	
Prisons.	