The voice of NHS Leadership in Wales

www.welshconfed.org

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Who are we?
The Welsh NHS Confederation is a membership body representing all the organisations making up the NHS in Wales: seven Local Health Boards and three NHS Trusts.

Our vision is for the NHS in Wales to provide a continually improving comprehensive health service that is available to all and based on clinical need, not an individual’s ability to pay.

What do we do?
We support our members by acting as a driving force for positive change through strong representation and our policy, influencing, communications and engagement work.

“We support our members by acting as a driving force for positive change.”

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How do we do it?

• Building relationships and working in partnership with other organisations;
• Engaging with Ministers, Assembly Members and officials;
• Responding to consultations, inquiries and reviews and appearing at or supporting members to attend Committees;
• Helping people understand the challenges facing NHS Wales and the need for change;
• Sharing good practice;
• Building relationships with the media and communication teams across Wales;
• Organising and hosting events and meetings to bring key NHS Wales staff and stakeholders together;
• Representing our members at conferences and external events;
• Producing briefing documents and reports to help inform and shape debate.

“...working in partnership with other organisations.”
Policy and Public Affairs

By engaging with political parties and stakeholders, publishing regular briefings and responding to consultations and inquiries, we outline the challenges facing Local Health Boards and NHS Trusts, share good practice, build relationships and provide context to help inform, lead and shape debate.

A key element to this work is the Welsh NHS Confederation Policy Forum – a group made up of more than 40 health and social care organisations across Wales. The Forum provides an environment to come together to discuss policy and identify areas of joint-working.

Key achievements in 2016:

• Our work around the National Assembly Election including our Challenge 2016 briefing which highlighted our key calls for party manifestos; our cross-party hustings event and our engagement work with new AMs.
• The work of the Policy Forum in producing a document on key priorities for the National Assembly Election and one on workforce.
• Our responses to the National Assembly’s consultations and inquiries into the priorities for the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, winter preparedness and the Welsh Government draft budget, which received positive feedback from AMs, National Assembly Staff and Members.

Key priorities for 2017:

• Work with members to respond to and influence the forthcoming Parliamentary Review.
• Increase awareness of the Policy Forum and be seen as an expert group which informs health and social care policy.
• Increase the number of briefings we provide for AMs and for National Assembly debates.

“...share good practice, build relationships and provide context to help inform, lead and shape debate.”
Key achievements in 2016:
• NHS Wales themes – We have been implementing a programme of monthly communications work around the key priorities for NHS Wales; highlighting the challenges, the key calls around them and sharing good practice.
• We have worked hard to significantly increase our presence across the media and make sure our members’ views are represented in news stories and features on NHS Wales. We have also increased the number of blogs we have published across a range of platforms, supported by social media, as part of our influencing work.
• For the NHS’ birthday in July, we produced a video project featuring interviews with a range of patients and staff about what the NHS means to them.

Key priorities for 2017:
• Use our publications for more news stories and blogs to highlight our messages and calls around key policy areas.
• Highlight more good practice case studies.
• Increase our reach by further developing our presence on social media.

Communications
Our communications work varies widely and sees us building relationships with the media and working closely with heads of communications within NHS Wales and communications teams outside of the health service.

We regularly issue statements on behalf of our members in NHS Wales and make use of social media and blogs to promote our key messages and good practice.

“...promote our key messages and good practice.”
Events

Every year, our events programme aims to equip our members with the information and training they need to support them in their work. Our events also provide a valuable networking opportunity for those working across health and social care. This includes our Annual Conference, which sets the tone and shapes the debate for the coming year.

Key achievements in 2016:
• Increased attendance and profile for our Annual Conference and Exhibition.
• A successful programme of A View From… Events, providing opportunities for networking, learning and sharing good practice.
• A number of AM engagement events, designed to help inform and shape the debate around the challenges for NHS Wales and provide an opportunity for AMs to meet with health service leaders.

Key priorities for 2017:
• Build on the success of last year’s Annual Conference and Exhibition.
• Develop and implement another successful programme of A View From…Events.
• Conduct a series of development events for our members including an All Wales induction for new Independent members.

“...equip our members with the information and training they need to support them in their work.”
Key achievements in 2016:
• Supporting the NHS Wales Awards, including the sponsorship of the Working Seamlessly Across Boundaries Award.
• Encouraging the integration of health and social care, as well as housing through our partnerships with ADSS Cymru, WLGA, WVCA and Community Housing Cymru.
• Showcasing and sharing good practice case studies of integration at events and our Annual Conference.

Key priorities for 2017:
• Broaden understanding of the need for change through our annual YouGov survey to identify public views on health care and develop communications and policy work from this.
• Continue to build and strengthen relationships with key partners and identify the work that needs to take place to meet the shared challenges we face.
• Continue the coordination of all Wales Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Chief Executives’ collective working and support them with the development of all-Wales initiatives and policy positions.

Joint-working and engagement
Securing people’s health and wellbeing is too important to be seen as a standalone issue. Therefore building relationships with colleagues across sectors as well as increasing public understanding of their role as individuals is vital. We have continued our close working with partners to continue the strategic shift towards person-centred services which revolve around the needs of the individual.

“...encouraging the integration of health and social care.”

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**Key achievements in 2016:**

- Provided comprehensive support to the Directors of Workforce and OD peer group network and the two associated Assistant Director networks. Activity has been focused on providing overarching support for the development, implementation and reporting of the Directors of Workforce and OD work programme.

- Developed the service’s position on the future direction for NHS Contracts and Terms and Conditions of Service for submission to Welsh Government.

- Supported the development and implementation of the NHS Wales Core Principles, including communicating the principles and explaining their relationship with organisational values and behaviours.

**Key priorities for 2017:**

- Providing support to employers on key issues and representing them on the UK NHS Staff Council, the NHS Pensions Scheme Advisory Board and the UK Working Longer Group.

- Continuing the partnership working between employers and trade unions in developing employment policies.

- Supporting Health Boards and Trusts to secure and maintain NHS Contracts and Terms and Conditions of Service which provide an appropriate balance between recruitment, retention, reward and resource effectiveness.

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**NHS Wales Employers**

NHS Wales Employers is the voice of employers in the NHS in Wales. The organisation works to support and represent NHS organisations on workforce related issues, including negotiating terms and conditions of service and the Welsh NHS Workforce and Organisational Development (OD) policy and strategy.

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“The organisation works to support and represent NHS organisations on workforce related issues...”

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