Who we are and what we do
The Welsh NHS Confederation is the only national membership organisation which represents the leadership of all the Local Health Boards and NHS Trusts that make up the NHS in Wales.

As the recognised voice of the NHS leadership in Wales, we champion the health and care system through the collective strength of our membership.

Our three priorities are to:

- support our members
- facilitate system leadership
- represent our members.

With the health and care system under considerable pressure, the Welsh NHS Confederation is uniquely placed to work at a national level with our members and our partners to help them address current challenges and shape the health and care system in Wales.

Our mission is to be the authentic voice of NHS leadership in Wales.

Our members are:

- Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board
- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
- Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Cwm Taf University Health Board
- Hywel Dda University Health Board
- Powys Teaching Health Board
- Public Health Wales NHS Trust
- Velindre NHS Trust
- Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
Supporting our members

As demand for healthcare increases and developments in technology expand the range of services and medicines available to patients, NHS organisations face significant challenges around finance, workforce and population health.

NHS leaders seek to drive continual improvement in operational performance, while also investing time and resources into transforming the system to become more sustainable.

We support a strong and united NHS leadership to work collectively to improve performance, to learn from each other, and together deliver system transformation.

How we support our members

Learning and development opportunities

- offering a strong events programme for members focusing on strategic and leadership development to build and enhance performance at the top level
- providing workshops for new board members to help them understand their role
- sharing international evidence-based learning across the membership so they know what is going on in health and care around the world

Policy and government relations

- providing comprehensive support to members when they attend National Assembly Committees, so they make the most of the opportunity to present their views to the Assembly
- developing the Confederation’s Policy Committee to support members’ collective thinking on whole-system policy issues
- maintaining active membership of the Cavendish coalition and Brexit Health Alliance to keep our members informed on Brexit developments

Engagement

- maintaining strategic engagement at a national level with key stakeholders
- providing in-depth briefings on key priorities, highlighting initiatives happening across the Welsh NHS
- through NHS Wales Employers engaging with workforce and organisational development professionals, Trade Union partners and Welsh Government to progress strategic workforce issues
- working with professional peer groups through a National Improvement Programme that aims to make the NHS in Wales more efficient and effective
How we facilitate system leadership

Identifying and promoting good practice

- sharing international evidence-based models of health and care to promote good practice that could offer system-wide application in Wales
- maintaining a system perspective in our policy work, evaluating fresh approaches to improve current thinking on health and care in Wales
- holding an annual conference with an engaging and challenging agenda that stretches the thinking on health and care in Wales

Engagement

- with our partners to understand and overcome obstacles to integration between health and social care
- with our Policy Forum on specific aspects of system improvement, such as reshaping the provision of primary care, to identify obstacles and potential solutions
- with Trade Unions and Royal Colleges to identify professional barriers to multi-disciplinary working and how these might be overcome
- across sectors with relevant stakeholders such as the Arts Council of Wales and Sport Wales to promote activities that support population health

Working with Government stakeholders

- providing an all-Wales perspective on health and social care policy
- responding to all relevant Government consultations and development of legislation
- aiming to create a regulatory and performance environment which supports system-wide improvement
- providing a specific events programme for Assembly Members to promote a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the NHS in Wales now and into the future

Facilitating system leadership

We work across the whole NHS system in Wales, both geographically and across services and specialities, and lead with an all-Wales voice. We present the big picture, maintaining a system-wide perspective when engaging with key stakeholders.

We aim to be part of an informed, inquiring NHS leadership which is open to challenge and committed to continuous improvement.
Representing our members

We are the only organisation that speaks for the whole of the NHS in Wales. We have the responsibility and opportunity to provide a clear and influential voice on behalf of our members.

Our mission is to be the authentic voice of the NHS Leadership in Wales and we seek to achieve this by effectively representing our members at a national level with politicians, national bodies and stakeholders. By actively engaging with our members to understand their views, we develop consensual positions that can be used to influence, inform and challenge discourse and debate.

We represent our members

With the National Assembly for Wales and Welsh Government

- providing high quality, all-Wales submissions and evidence to National Assembly for Wales’ Committees to advance the views of our members
- developing close working relationships with government Ministers and civil servants so that we can represent our members’ views and become co-producers in strategy and policy development
- attending relevant National Assembly for Wales Cross Party Groups and health and social care stakeholder events
- presenting a programme of events for Assembly Members and their staff to raise awareness and understanding of system issues and solutions

With UK Government

- strengthening our voice in representations on issues which affect the NHS in Wales such as cross-border issues and Brexit
- working with the NHS Confederation on whole of UK issues to ensure the Welsh voice is heard

In the media

- building our representational voice to become the go-to organisation for issues involving the Welsh healthcare and social service systems
- maximising opportunities to raise the positive profile of the NHS in Wales, share good practice, and communicate campaigns and messages to the public
- presenting a unified face of the NHS leadership in Wales to support effective communication of issues and challenges
We represent our members

With partner organisations

- **developing close working relationships with partners and stakeholders** so that we can work with them to overcome obstacles to system-wide solutions

- **continuing to work with the NHS Confederation, the Cavendish Coalition and the Brexit Health Alliance** on the implications for the NHS in Wales of leaving the European Union

- **representing the NHS in Wales on national working groups** including Cymru Well Wales, the Efficiency, Value and Improvement Board, the National Commissioning Board and the Advisory Boards of the General Medical Council and Health Inspectorate Wales, the Welsh Partnership Forum, the NHS Staff Council and the Workforce Partnership Council

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