



The Voice of NHS Leadership in Wales

Annual Review 2018/19

THE WELSH NHS CONFEDERATION
CONFFEDERASIWN GIG CYMRU



Who are we?

The Welsh NHS Confederation is the only national membership body representing all the organisations making up the NHS in Wales: seven Local Health Boards, three NHS Trusts and Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW). We are also part of the NHS Confederation.

Our mission is to be the authentic voice of the NHS leadership in Wales. We aim to support our members in improving the health of the population and the planning and delivery of high-quality health care.

What do we do?

We support our members by acting as a driving force for positive change through strong representation, facilitating system leadership and our policy, influencing, communications and engagement work.

How do we do it?

Our work includes:

- 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 National Assembly Committees
- Helping people understand the challenges facing NHS Wales and the need for change
- Sharing good practice from Wales and the rest of the world
- Building relationships with the media and communication teams across Wales
- Organising and hosting events and meetings to bring key NHS Wales employees and stakeholders together
- Representing our members at conferences and external events
- Producing briefing documents and reports to help inform and shape debate
- Working with colleagues in the NHS confederation to share learning and policy thinking

@welshconfed

A Year in the Welsh NHS Confederation

During 2018/19 we have supported our members through a programme of work covering a wide range of topics and activities.

Policy and Public Affairs

Brexit

Members... wanted us to be at the centre of all Brexit developments and support the NHS in Wales to prepare for March 2019 and beyond.

We... are a member of the Cavendish Coalition, Brexit Health Alliance, the Welsh Government Health & Social Care EU Transition Leadership Group and provide secretariat support for the Health & Social Care Brexit Ministerial Stakeholder Advisory Forum. In June 2018 our Policy Forum published a briefing highlighting the key issues for health and social care organisations which was endorsed by over 20 organisations.

We have provided evidence to the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee on how the Welsh NHS is preparing for Brexit. At our Brexit roundtable event in October 2018 we called for the establishment of the Ministerial Stakeholder Advisory Forum which now meets on a regular basis.

Policy Forum

Members... wanted us to work with stakeholders to drive forward health care system improvement and to identify obstacles and potential solutions.

We... continue to work with stakeholders through our Policy Forum and established sub groups on key priority areas. We have published briefings on Brexit, the key priorities for carers and the key priorities to prevent and tackle loneliness and social isolation.

Assembly Committees

Members... asked us to continue to provide support to members providing evidence to all relevant National Assembly Committee inquiries.

We... used information and comments from our members to submit responses to 10 Assembly inquiries and two Welsh Government consultations. We have supported over 30 representatives from the NHS to provide evidence to over 10 inquiries.

The evidence we provided has influenced several Assembly Committee reports, providing our members views on a range of issues which has led to being mentioned nearly 40 times.

NHS Confederation

Members... asked us to maintain strong relationships with the NHS Confederation.

We... provided speakers to the NHS Confederations Annual Conference and we are currently developing a UK forum with NHS Confederation colleagues which will facilitate the sharing of good practice across the four countries.

NHS Wales Employers

Members... asked for our help in making sure NHS staff understood the relationship between the core principles for NHS Wales and individual NHS organisation's values.

We... commissioned and led on the development of a comprehensive toolkit of bespoke materials to support organisations. The toolkit includes visuals for each individual organisation explaining the link between the Core Principles and the individual organisation's values.

Members... wanted our help in securing the three year pay deal for NHS staff.

We... led on the development of the framework agreement for NHS Wales and undertook a significant role in delivering key aspects of the agreement. We supported the delivery of a new approach to managing attendance within the service and the development of a new menopause policy for NHS Wales.



Joint-working and engagement

Members... asked us to work with stakeholders to influence the content of the Welsh Government's long-term plan for health and social care.

We... brought together leaders from across the whole health and care system to work in virtual groups on content for the plan. This work had a significant impact on the content and the sectors support for *A Healthier Wales*.

Members... wanted us to build strong relationships with leaders across all of Wales' local authorities.

We... met regularly through the Welsh Local Government Association and organised a dinner where Chief Executives and ministers had the opportunity to network and discuss the Welsh Government's long term plan for health and social care: *A Healthier Wales*.

Members... asked us to develop, in partnership with BMA Cymru, a series of local medical engagement events in NHS organisations as a result of the Medical Engagement Survey conducted in 2016.

We... supported a diverse range of events which led to organisations having a greater understanding of clinical staff's needs, allowing people to build connections their senior management team and senior Welsh Government representatives. The events were a catalyst to develop richer conversations on improving medical engagement.

Members... wanted us to work with partners to drive forward integration and to understand and overcome obstacles to system-wide solutions.

We... worked with ADSS Cymru on a joint briefing evidencing how seamless services improve outcomes for people. To support the publication's content, we presented a joint workshop to raise the need for people to be at the centre of service development at the Social Care conference.

Signed a three-year memorandum of understanding with Community Housing Cymru to encourage partnerships across different sectors and published a joint briefing on why housing matters to health and care for the National Community Housing Cymru Conference.

We have worked to provide our partners with a greater understanding of the challenges and opportunities for seamless health, social care and housing services which can help improve the wellbeing of individuals and in communities.

Members... wanted us to work with the Arts Council of Wales to raise awareness of the benefits the arts can bring to health and wellbeing.

We... published two briefings looking at the arts and how it can make a powerful contribution to a person's mental health and wellbeing. We're an active member of the National Assembly Cross Party Group on Arts and Health and linked with the Arts Council as part of NHS 70 events.

National Improvement Programme

Members... asked us to support Executive Peer Groups project manage and deliver the National Improvement Programme 2018-19.

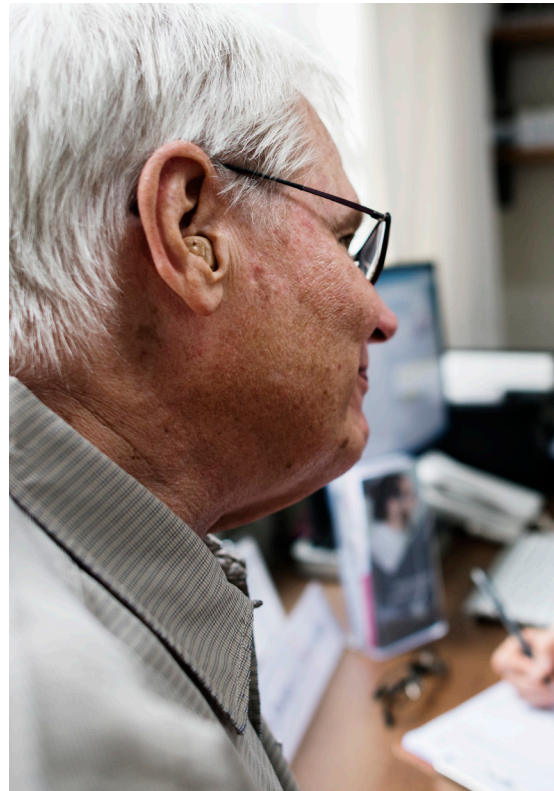
We... have supported the seven Executive Peer Groups in the development and delivery of the Programme comprising of a total of 63 actions on the themes of efficiency, value based health care, workforce, digital and governance.

We have provided administration and direct support to aid Executive Peer Group discussions on the implementation of actions and other activities.

We have connected relevant Peer Groups including the development and implementation of the efficiency framework, developing a Cardiovascular Atlas of Variation, implementation of low value medicines which should no longer be routinely prescribed, and have hosted all-Wales Peer Group Chairs discussions on several priorities.

Members... wanted us to establish new ways of working between Executive Peer Groups to collaborate efficiently on the delivery of innovative systems and process.

We... extended support to Executive Peer Groups emphasising joint working and focussing on actions and initiatives that require partnerships with several different groups. This has allowed Peer Groups to speed up the delivery of good practice ideas and develop new model of care.



Events

Members... wanted us to engage with Assembly Members on key health and social care issues.

We... hosted several engagement events with Assembly Members designed to help inform and shape the debate around the challenges for NHS Wales and provided an opportunity for AMs to meet with health service leaders.

Members... wanted us to organise networking events for those working in health and care with a focus on sharing strategy developments and good practice.

We... hosted a successful series of *A View From...* events, providing opportunities for networking, learning and sharing good practice. We organised events with Dr Andrew Goodall following the publication of *A Healthier Wales* and hosted the NHS Wales' 70th birthday celebrations, attended by over 100 people including Assembly Members.

Members... wanted us to organise events for NHS board members with an emphasis on developing skills to increase knowledge and understanding of a wide variety of topics and area within the health service.

We... held a series of board development sessions and skills workshops, in partnership with Academi Wales on topics including how to manage risks as well as providing sessions which encouraged NHS organisations to hold a mirror to themselves and assess how they could improve their partnership working.

Communications

Members... asked us to increase our representational voice to become the "go to" organisation for the media and build our relationships with key contacts.

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

Represented our member's by responding to the publication of the Welsh Government's long-term plan for health and social care.

Built stronger relationships with key contacts in the media from ITV, BBC and WalesOnline.

Members... asked us to continue to build relationships between the Welsh Government and the heads of communications for NHS Health Boards and Trusts.

We... emphasised the need for NHS representation on the Welsh Government's EU Transition Leadership Group Communications Sub-Group to highlight concern and the mechanisms available for messages to be communicated.

Members... wanted us to review our communications strategy and develop and implement a communications plan which aligns to our events and policy programme.

We... produced an agile communications plan for 2018/19 which aligns to our monthly themes and priorities and uses a range of communications channels to promote our messages.

www.welshconfed.org

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