

Response to Public Service Board Scrutiny

Question:

What action is proposed by the PSB to ensure that common processes are used by Powys County Council and Powys Teaching Local Health Board utilising the WCCIS system as an enabler to achieve the integration of health and care services?

Response:

The Public Service Board considered the question and determined that it was not an area which the PSB has direct oversight of. The WCCIS as a potential enabler for integration has greater alignment into the Regional Partnership Board remit.

WCCIS is very much a system that can be an enabler to achieve the integration of Health and Social Care Services. This is currently demonstrable in the North Community Mental Health Teams (Welshpool and Newtown), where both Social Workers, Community Health Nurses and supporting staff work off the same referral for each patient. Work with both Service Leads, as well as other relevant departments in both Health and Social Care are actively taking forward this system and way of working. The plan is for the system to be rolled out to all the Community Mental Health Teams in Powys following the refinement of some issues/learning from earlier stages of implementation.

We have also agreed between Health and Social Care the information sharing access in Adults, and this is working effectively, one of the biggest benefits realised to date is the ability of being able to access information from other services. This has not yet been agreed within Childrens Services, however the matter has been escalated to the relevant Directors to help progress.

The project team are happy to continue to demonstrate the ability of WCCIS supporting integrated working between Health and Social Care. Key learning stems from the need to work differently and this will take broad commitment and leadership. The question that the Scrutiny Committee ask is key, and the project team has suggested that this be put to teams as a core prompt for improving joined up care, through common processes to truly allow WCCIS to act as an enabler to achieve the integration of Health and Social Care Services.

Strategically, a new Executive Board is being established between the health board and local authority (Digital First Board) and this will provide strategic leadership and direction in transforming services. The Board would welcome an opportunity to further share its work.

Response approved by:

Carol Shillabeer, Chair of Powys Regional Partnership Board

10 July 2019