A Public Health Strategic Framework for Allied Health Professions (AHPs) in Wales

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Welsh Therapy Advisory Committee
Healthy and Active – Our aim is to improve health and well-being in Wales, for individuals, families and communities, helping us to achieve our ambition of prosperity for all, taking significant steps to shift our approach from treatment to prevention.
Next steps:

Develop an implementation plan through the Welsh Therapy Advisory Committee.
Allied Health Professions
NHS in Wales 2016

1,625 Physiotherapists

1,336 Occupational Therapists (+ 350 in LA Social services)

12 Art/music drama Therapists

1,210 Radiographers (diagnostic)

2,045 Paramedics

68 Orthoptists

460 Speech & Language Therapists

400 Dietitians

252 Podiatrists

170 Radiographers (therapeutic)

25% of the clinical workforce in Wales

558 Clinical psychologists
Initial scoping survey - Aims

• identify current public health practice across the AHP professions in Wales
• provide a baseline for evaluating the goals of the strategic framework
• identify gaps in provision and progress for each goal
• help identify and agree priorities for each goal
Initial questions

• What is being done already in Wales which contributes towards our public health vision and goals
• What is already planned which will contribute to our public health vision and goals?
• What are the gaps you think we need to address for your profession?
• What needs to happen to address these gaps
Goal 1 Developing the workforce

Current
• some dedicated public health roles: dietetics, S&LT, psychology
• majority of training has been on MECC but is not universal
• PH is starting to feature on most national professional conferences, some all Wales PH/HP groups
• AHPs are developing others in PH role
• some shift in emphasis

Gaps & Priorities
• pre and post registration & practice placements
• improve confidence of staff in raising issues
• roll out of specific PH competencies within job roles
• interface with public health
• broader PH training
• scope for further dedicated roles e.g psychology informed practice at population level, physio in exercise promotion
• ACE’s & prevention and early intervention of mental health difficulties
Goal 2 - Demonstrating impact

Current

• use of Results Based Accountability in Nutrition skills for life (Dietitians) and Flying Start (S&LT) demonstrates positive outcomes

• Health and Disability sports partnership outcomes on return of investment. Increased participation across North Wales has risen by 21% since 2013.

Gaps & Priorities

• incorporating public health measure of activity in Community Therapy Information system

• case studies

• PH measurement tools

• need to identify population based outcomes for AHPs
Goal 3 Increasing the profile of AHPs

Current
- some established PH services have had recognition e.g. Nutrition Skills for life – dietetics
- Disability Sports & health partnership – Betsicadwaldr physiotherapy
- UK drive across professional bodies

Gaps and Priorities
- Consider awards for AHPs in Public Health Wales conference
- Links with Local public health team, PH mentors
- Further develop the Public Health AHP network as a community of practice
- Increased use of social media and podcasts
Goal 4  Strategic connections

Current

• Welsh Therapy Advisory Committee – key objective

• Chief Therapy Advisor in WG

• Support from Directors of Therapies and Health Science

Gaps and Priorities

• develop further opportunities to influence at health board level via Directors of Public Health and Directors of Therapies and Health Care Science and Primary care via cluster leads (AHP)

• gain recognition at strategic level within PHW (AHP)
Goal 5  Leadership

Current

• 2 national public health, profession specific roles
• Chief Therapy Advisor

Gaps & priorities

• national AHP lead role
• identify support required for profession specific AHP leaders to develop services that can contribute to public health
• Reducing challenges of delivering PH opportunities alongside core services
• Well being champions & role model behaviour
• Messages from the top
Goal 6 Health & well being across the NHS, social services and local authorities

Current

• Development of key services by AHPs
• Recognition of the need to promote staff health
• NHS & public services to be exemplar role models, creating a healthy environment to work in

Gaps & priorities

• potential for further leadership to promote AHPs as integral part of workplace health and wellbeing, and the provision of wider range of services to support staff
Key themes

- Specific public health roles
- Return on investment
- Core opportunities for learning accessible by all AHPs, and starting at undergraduate
- AHP Public Health Network for Wales
- Job descriptions and person specifications
- AHP public health leader
- Healthy conversations
- Confidence
Section 3 case studies
Wider determinants

**Influencing strategy and policy**

Dietitians contribute to expert groups at national and local level that influence public health policy e.g. Welsh Government Obesity Strategy, National MECC advisory group, Nutrition Standards in public settings.

Physiotherapists provided evidence to Health & Social Care committee review of physical inactivity in children.

AHPs influence on local delivery plans for preventive element of range of conditions.

**Promoting healthy environments**

dementia friendly and falls prevention strategies to improve the environment.

**Supporting vulnerable communities - SHEP**

Holiday hunger is becoming more prevalent increasing both health and education inequalities.

**Aim:** to pilot a multi agency schools based Food and Fun club providing healthy meals, nutrition skills, sports and other enrichment activities in the school holidays.

Positive outcomes across all indicators.

**Youth offending service and S&LT services**

Up to 60% of young people in the youth justice system have communication difficulties.
Health Improvement

MECC
Health professionals are trusted

Building capacity
Nutrition skills for life is an award winning national nutrition training programme delivered by all Health Boards

Annual RBA reporting on outcomes demonstrates positive change
Gwneud i bob cyswllt gyfrif
Making every contact count

Sgyrsiau Newid Ymddiwyd lechyd yng Nghymru:
Gwneud i Bob Cyswllt Gyfrif
Health Behaviour Change Conversations in Wales: Making Every Contact Count

Buom yn siarad* a gaeafion yng Nghymru ymgylch sgyrsiau newid ymddiwyd lechyd a gwneud ymaeddu lechyd proffesiynol yng Nghymru.

We talked* to adults in Wales about health behaviour change conversations they had with health professionals.

95% eu had newid gweliwyd iechyd proffesiynol y ymestryd oedd 95%
had seen a health professional in the last year

Cyfrifiadau

- Unwaith newidiadau ar waelch yr ymgyrchiau
- Yn adno
- Yr adeilad
- Yn newid
- Ymestryd
- Unwaith

Cafodd mwy na hanner sgwrs am newid ymddiwyd lechyd
More than half had a health behaviour change conversation

Dywedodd dro 90% bod eu sgyrsiau
Over 90% said the conversations...% bod eu sgyrsiau

- Unwaith
- Yn eisio
- Yn adeilad
- Yn newid
- Ymestryd
- Unwaith

Dros draeaf o bobl wedi rhoi newidiodau ar waith ym dilyn y sgwrs
Over a third of people had made changes following the conversations...

Roedd sgyrsiau newid gan mwyaf yng Nghymru
Change conversations were mostly about...

YSMWMggy, Smoking
Gweithgaredd corfforol, Physical activity
Diet, Alcohol

Gallwch chi hefyd wneud i bob cyswllt gyfrif.
You too can make every contact count.

Byddwch yn gyfarnog trwy fynd i www.mecc.wales
You can find out more at www.mecc.wales

*Gained from an interview with the health professionals in Wales who are helping to improve the nation's health through effective behaviour change conversations.
Primary community & integrated care

Joint Paediatric Therapies (Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy)
Improving access and uptake of mainstream sporting activities by children with disabilities
- Identification of partners
- Joint working on assessment of need
- Referral pathways and provision of services

S&LT Early years supporting the best start in life
Higher rates of delayed language skills in children from the most deprived communities
- Early identification of speech and language and communication needs
- Appropriate interventions
- Monitoring outcomes

Cardiff Flying Start N &D Service supporting the best start in life
- Ensure families have access to consistent, evidence based nutrition information
- Ensure staff feel confident delivering consistent food and nutrition messages to families.
- Cascade training approach and provide level 2 accredited food and nutrition training for practitioners e.g. Community Nursery Nurses and childcare staff

Uptake of children into Disability Sports has significantly increased
Opportunities for roll out
Primary community & integrated care

Rehabilitation, preventing admission and enablement
Monmouthshire amblers
•  increase people’s confidence with outdoor mobility
•  support to prevent and manage falls

potential for the Amblers concept to be rolled out
Requires:
• availability of suitably briefed AHP’s/support workers
•  the right environment
•  bringing together of community members

Supporting self management
large potential for work within primary care and diabetes education, prevention of complications and management of obesity

BCUHB and Disability Sport Wales (DSW) 2013
to support more disabled people to improve their health and wellbeing through increased participation in physical activity, including sport.
The Health Disability Sport Partnership (HDSP) is led by a Physiotherapist, and is the first partnership of its kind in the UK. Demonstrated positive outcomes on return of investment
Potential roll out cross Wales
Health Protection

**Housing**
OTs involved in designing new builds with housing associations

Aim: to meet individual’s complex physical and learning needs at the design stage.

Outcome: Securing accommodation to meet the best possible personal outcome for individuals and to ensure the most cost effective use of resources.

**Screening**
Orthoptics
Aim: children should be screened for visual impairment between 4 - 5 years of age

Identification of gaps in service and quality, not achieving consistent all Wales services

Intended outcome - all children between 4 and 5 years old undergo vision testing to agreed standards

Outcomes recorded, audited and reported to Welsh Government via the Children’s Vision Service Advisory Group
Reports by the Centre for Workforce Intelligence and Royal Society for Public Health have highlighted that Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) are an important group of the wider public health workforce who have the enthusiasm, skills and opportunity to make a significant difference to health and well-being over the next few years.

Allied Health Professionals have a vital role to play in the transformation of health and social care. People of all ages who experience illness, are disabled, or have special needs, value the particular contribution that Allied Health Professionals make to their treatment, recovery and quality of life. Their knowledge and expertise is essential for the modernisation of services, and provides a valuable resource for patients and the wider healthcare team. All the Allied Health Professions share a commitment to improving services for patients, and to developing a better understanding of the role of their profession.
Public Health Network Cymru

https://mecc.publichealthnetwork.cymru/en/about

What is MECC
Making Every Contact Count (MECC) can lead to improvements in people’s health and well-being, reduce avoidable premature mortality linked to poor lifestyle choices, reduce health inequalities and help people better manage long term conditions.

What are the benefits of MECC?
This page lists organisational benefits, community and local health benefits, staff benefits, national & population benefits and individual benefits.

Contact
Here you will find a list of local health board contacts responsible for MECC in your local area.
Summary and what's next

• We have a lot of existing public health activity
• There are also gaps
• Collective ambition to drive this agenda – supported by national policy and strategy
• Scope for further leadership and coordination
• Need for robust evaluation and outcomes
• Working together across the UK to further increase profile
Diolch am wrando

Thank you for listening