



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Neighbourhood Care Network (NCN) News

ISSUE 2: August - October 2023

Welcome to the second edition of our quarterly newsletter.

In these pages, we are excited to share with you a wealth of updates, insights and news that showcase the fantastic work being undertaken by the Neighbourhood Care Network (NCN) across the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area. From new initiatives, local achievements and events coverage, this newsletter is your gateway to staying informed and engaged. Thank you for being part of our community and we hope you find this edition both informative and inspiring.

For further information about the NCN programme, please visit [Neighbourhood Care Networks \(NCNs\) - Aneurin Bevan University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#), or please email: abb.strategicchangeteam@wales.nhs.uk

Contents:

Page 1

Introduction

Page 2

Blaenau Gwent NCN

Page 3

Caerphilly NCN

Page 4

Monmouthshire NCN

Page 5

Newport NCN

Page 6

Torfaen NCN

Page 7

Professional Collaboratives

Page 8

NCN Communications & Engagement Update

Winter Planning Events



Winter planning events have taken place across localities in Gwent. This was a new and innovative approach, providing an opportunity to make a difference during difficult times over the winter period. The events had representation from a range of clinical services from secondary, community and primary care and were supplemented with key 3rd sector stakeholders, who often assist with admission avoidance and/or early discharge.

The events acknowledged the fragility of service sustainability across clinical services, which is particularly fragile during the winter period. They also provided detailed insight to the services that are available across the localities within Gwent and associated pathways. Potential barriers were identified along with proposed solutions to ensuring the patient pathway is a clear, streamlined process. Alternatives to admission were also showcased.



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Blaenau Gwent

Blaenau Gwent Flu Campaign 2023



As part of the Blaenau Gwent Flu Campaign for 2023, the Locality team are focusing on improving uptake amongst the 2–3-year-old cohort and are working in collaboration with the school nursing team. Both teams attended Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre this August and will be attending several Community events to promote the importance of having the flu vaccine.

A series of videos have also been produced in collaboration with the Communication & Engagement Team to raise awareness and understanding of flu vaccinations for children.

The videos can be downloaded from Vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/865921621?share=copy>.

District Nursing Review Incidents

Blaenau Gwent District Nurses have commenced Weekly datix reviews, as an opportunity to review incidents under investigation and provide support to team managers/ team leader to be able to complete and close.

Datix has improved tremendously being at 21 open reviews at Wednesday 13th Sept for BG D/N, with an expectation to reduce to 0 imminently, the process should support sustaining the manageability of incidents (we are waiting for RCA - some patients have multiples)

Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan Staff and Family Fun Day

Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan held a staff and Family Fun Day as part of their NHS75 Celebrations. The staff arranged a whole host of events for all the family to enjoy – live music, food stalls, face painting, crafts and so much more!

The event also included an interdepartmental sports day all staff were presented with a medal for their participation however Ebbw Ward were the winners of the day taking the grand prize!

Sports day Results:
1st Ebbw Ward
2nd Cwm Coch
3rd Sirhowy



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Caerphilly

Caerphilly's Community Garden

Caerphilly locality and IWN have linked with Keep Wales Tidy to provide a local garden area for the local community, patients of Trethomas Health Centre and Staff.

Keep Wales Tidy are a charity committed to working with local communities across Wales to protect our environment now and in the future. Their vision is for a beautiful Wales cared for and enjoyed by everyone.

Links were made and a garden package was secured for installing at Trethomas Health Centre.

The purpose of the garden is to bring the community closer, improving health and wellbeing of patients, the local community and staff in giving people something they can be proud of and want to spend time tinkering about with.

The garden has gathered interest from quite a few people that have visited the site and from around the neighbouring streets, there are now 3 locals that will join the IWN and Caerphilly locality team in maintaining and looking after this area.

There will not be much to do this time of the year as the plants will go back to their root but come spring, we should see the plants grow and make a lovely entrance to our building and this will be the time we will actively look for further volunteers.

It is a work in progress, we chose the wildlife garden as it is a small project and felt that starting little and working up to something bigger in the future.



Caerphilly Communities Supporting Local Residents

The NCN would like to highlight the good work going on within Caerphilly that are led and delivered by the Communities themselves. Below are just 2 examples of the many that exist:
Food-share and Cwtch Café

A full list of the food banks is available at [Cost-of-Living page](#).

The Cwtsh website has information about wellbeing activities and support available in communities across the Borough
www.cwtsh.wales

Tredegear Health Centre - Ukraine Support

Decommissioning Tredegear Health Centre has gone above and beyond to help others. As well as rehousing unused office furniture to other HB teams and donating lots of items to charity shops and recycle centres an introduction by a mutual colleague resulted in the project being able to help WAFU (Welsh Aid for Ukraine).

In August 2023, supporters of WAFU collected items from the health centre, including medical equipment and medical supplies and delivered them to Ukraine.



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Monmouthshire

Monmouthshire's Got it in the Bag!

A initiative to make the admission into hospital more efficient was launched in Monmouthshire. The red bag scheme is in place to help improve patient experiences for care home residents who have to go into hospital.

The Monmouthshire Red Bag Scheme focuses on when a resident becomes unwell and is assessed as needing hospital care, care home staff pack a dedicated red bag, that includes all the standardised paperwork and medication, as well as personal items such as glasses, dentures and hearing aids.

The red bag ensures that ambulance and hospital staff can quickly understand a resident's condition and personal needs – as well as facilitate a smooth transfer when they are ready to be discharged from hospital.



When a resident is discharged, the ward nurses ensures that all the paperwork is included, such as a discharge summary, medication changes etc, delivering person centered care across Monmouthshire.

Primary care recruitment campaign launches in Monmouthshire

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board is delighted to announce the launch of a dynamic recruitment campaign. The campaign aims to improve recruitment across primary care services and raise the profile of the Health Board as an employer.

Further information and links to all the resources can be found on the Communications and Engagement update on page 8.



More than just a job *A passion, a purpose, a place*

"If you want a great work-life balance, this is a fantastic place to live. I think we've got it all - if you like cycling, walking, canoeing, rafting. Also, the team at the surgery are wonderful people. The patients are lovely as well. So, you just can't better it."

Dr Brian Harries, GP & North Monmouthshire Cluster Lead.



Severn View Park New Build update

As you know the deadline for moving in was set for September this year.

Work is ongoing with colleagues and the Contractors to establish a clear and defined programme now that the project is so well progressed.

For a number of reasons it is disappointing to share that we will not be able to move in this year and the plan is now to move on the 4th March 2024.

The programme timeline has always been 16 months to build the home and 2 months to manage the move from the current home to the new. Because of the pandemic, timescales shifted significantly but we expected build completion to be July this year and a move in date of sometime in September.

As you would expect, projects of this size are complex and the programme dates are given as approximate. During the last 18 months we have had many challenges that have affected the project. Terrible weather in January / February this year introduced a five week delay. However, the most significant issues for the last 6 months have been to do with the services to the site; specifically the water supply but a solution was finally found and work commenced in May.



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Newport

Newport Health Fayre

(Update from the day held on 30th September at Eaton Road)

The Health Fayre proved to be a fantastic day with the Muslim Doctors Cymru Team being fantastic and very busy all day. Approximately 80 people visited the event, with lots of appetite from the community.



The day included: CVD screening; DBST hepatitis; 35 tests done and even had to turn people away; C19 vaccinations; Advice on Childhood immunisations; Melo and Afshan Morgan Wellbeing advisor; Alzheimer's team attendance; Lifestyle advice given; Population screening advice and lifestyle and the Level 1 (website), Level 2 Slimming World (weight management support); lots of people didn't know that it is free on the NHS!

Clock Cricket is back

On Wednesday 11th October 2023, Clock Cricket made it's comeback at St Woolos Hospital following a period of absence due to covid.

Several patients took part from different wards and was enjoyed by all. One family member who happened to be visiting at the time of the event (and even took part!) stated "I'm really surprised to see mum up and about; this is the first time since she's been here. It's nice to see her enjoying herself and smiling". Clock Cricket at St Woolos will now become a regular event of light activity for every patient who wants to take part.

Clock Cricket is a fantastic fun-driven game, in a really simple format, played indoors and in the comfort of your lounge chair! Clock Cricket are a not-for-profit Community Interest Company who are passionate about delivering fun and laughter through physical activity for older people and people who are living with dementia.

Further information and contacts on Clock Cricket can be found via this link: [Home \(clockcricket.co.uk\)](https://www.clockcricket.co.uk).

<https://vimeo.com/831823973?share=copy>

Newport Psychological Health Practitioners (PHP)

Within Newport NCN the Psychological Health Practitioners (PHP) are staggered across both the East and West.

The services offer low level psychological and wellbeing intervention and support thus reducing the demand upon GP appointments for issues of this nature.

In Newport we have expanded the service further to meet local population needs within the city by offering a dedicated PHP that is solely aimed at ethnic communities. Afshan Morgan who is the dedicated PHP offers support across both NCN's and utilises her contacts and experience to engage with local communities that would traditionally not present at a GP practice with these issues. The service is proving to be a huge success, Afshan speaks several languages which also helps to connect with some local communities and advice of the services available to them.

The Outreach PHP service receives referrals from GPs but the majority of clients/patients are identified by Afshan through community working. The work of the PHP is being spread vocally through communities who are able to contact Afshan direct by telephone <https://vimeo.com/790481108/1bcf3e5b1c?share=copy>



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



Torfaen

Age Connects Torfaen

Age Connects Torfaen is the operating title of Age Concern Torfaen, an independent charity for older people living in Torfaen and surrounding areas. They have over 30 years experience dedicated to supporting older people, carers and their families. Age Connects Torfaen is a locally based charity, which aims to provide services for Younger and Older People, along with their Carers over the age of 50, with Dementia and those experiencing loneliness. Their mission is to continually strive to improve quality of life of Older People along with encouraging, empowering and promoting wellbeing whilst maintaining their independence. They are proud to be helping to make Torfaen a great place to grow Old.

<https://ageconnectstorfaen.org.uk>

Torfaen Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm's Screening

The Wales Aortic Aneurysm Screening Programme (WAASP) was set up in 2013 to reduce the amount of deaths due to ruptured Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm's (AAA). The programme only invites men aged 65 and over for a simple ultrasound of their abdomen to determine if they have an AAA or not. This is because it is six times more common to find a AAA in a man than a woman. If an aneurysm has been detected, these men are then invited back onto a surveillance programme to monitor the growth of their aneurysm. If we find a large aneurysm, these men are then referred into secondary care to discuss treatment options, which normally involves surgery to repair the aneurysm. The screeners who perform the scans are highly skilled and trained to perform the ultrasound scan of the abdominal aorta only and they are able to give the results at the end of the scan.

Services began in County Hospital on 28th September, and Blaenavon Resource Centre on 9th October.



If you are male, and over 65 you can call the helpdesk for advice or an appointment: 01443 235161.

Local Gender Team

The Local Gender Team (LGT) was established in May 2020 and the clinic itself is called locally the "Alex Clinic". The Team work in close conjunction with the Welsh Gender Team (WGT), and accept any referrals for Aneurin Bevan University Health Board patients over the age of 18, requiring hormone therapy. They originally started with 15 patients and, as of July, there were 136 active patients with 80 on a waiting list. They are currently working from the Cedar Unit in County Hospital , Pontypool, and use facilities at the Outpatients Department for administering hormone injections to certain patients.

The team consists of 2 Clinicians, Dr Eleri Roberts and Dr Sarah Jones, and an Administrator, Charlotte Black.

The aim is to help and support patients safely through their transition pathway.

Lifetime Achievement Award for Dr David Millar-Jones

We are extremely proud to announce that our very own Dr David Millar-Jones has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Primary Care Diabetes Society for services to the society in his 6-year tenure 2012-2018 as Chair of the society.



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Professional Collaboratives

Professional Collaboratives (PCs) are networks of professionals with shared expertise, working together to use their unique skills to assess the needs of the population where they work.

The Professional Collaboratives include:

- Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)
- Community Nursing
- Dental
- General Medical
- Optometry
- Pharmacy

Lots of hard work has taken place across all Boroughs to establish Professional Collaborative representatives.

The collaboratives will capture the knowledge and experience of local professionals to map service provision, identify gaps and develop against needs.



Allied Health Professionals - Professional Collaborative Rep Introduction

Dave Gamble, Interim Head of Podiatry & Orthotics is very pleased to be taking on the role of AHP Professional Collaborative representative for Monmouthshire.

Working with professional peers within and across service boundaries helps our workforce to deliver the standards of care to which they aspire. This way of working makes it easier for them to advocate for their community to achieve wider system improvements within their area of expertise.

As part of this, a MS TEAMS channel for AHP's has been created, so AHP's can share information and discuss issues relating to Primary and Community Care in Monmouthshire. Please drop Dave a message and you will be added to the group.

Dave.Gamble@wales.nhs.uk

Blaenau Gwent Nursing Collaborative

Blaenau Gwent held their Professional Nursing Collaborative launch on 20th September in Brynmawr.

The launch was attended by representatives from different nursing specialities across the Blaenau Gwent area. The aim was to use and optimise on their expertise to discuss new ways of working and to work collaboratively.

The launch / meeting was chaired by Jo Lane, Deputy Head of Nursing Primary Care and Community Services, supported by Dr Isolde Shore-Nye NCN Lead for Blaenau Gwent East and the Blaenau Gwent Locality team.

Discussions were undertaken to ascertain shared aims and objectives for the collaborative.

Monmouthshire Professional Nursing Collaborative Launch

Monmouthshire held their Professional Nursing Collaborative launch on 22nd September in Usk. The meeting was well attended by representatives from different nursing teams from across the Monmouthshire area, bringing together expertise from different specialities to discuss working collaboratively.

<https://vimeo.com/866825340?share=copy>



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

For NCN Communications & Engagement
enquiries, please contact lisa.orford@wales.nhs.uk

NCN Communication & Engagement

Primary Care Recruitment Campaign Pilot

In response to the growing healthcare needs of the communities across the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area, we recognise the importance of ensuring accessibility and high-quality primary care services.

Monmouthshire is the first area to have a dedicated and local recruitment campaign and if successful, will be rolled out across all Neighbourhood Care Network (NCN) areas of the Health Board.

Dr Annabelle Holtam, GP, Mount Pleasant Practice, Chepstow: "I feel privileged to live and work in Monmouthshire as a GP. It has been great to work on a campaign promoting the work life balance that Monmouthshire affords. I hope that health care professionals across the UK and beyond are attracted to work here to further improve the local health care provision for our wonderful communities in Monmouthshire."

Interested healthcare professionals and potential candidates can learn more about the campaign, hear from existing healthcare professionals and explore career opportunities by visiting: <https://abuhb.nhs.wales/healthcare-services/primary-care-and-community-recruitment/>

For practices and services looking to recruit, a campaign asset pack has been created to help advertise posts: [Recruitment Campaign \(Pilot\) - asset bank \(sharepoint.com\)](#).



[The campaign video can be viewed here here](#)



Care Navigation to Urgent and Emergency Care

A new guide has been created for Care Navigators to help when signposting to urgent and emergency care at Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

The training guide is designed to equip Care Navigators with the knowledge necessary to navigate the public to the right place for urgent and emergency care, the first time.

[You can download the training package here](#)

NEW ABUHB Screen Presentation

A presentation containing health messages, campaigns and service information has been created for use on public facing screens.

The presentation has a running time of 26 minutes, is bilingual and can be played with/without sound as it is subtitled. The file format is MP4 and can be set to play on a loop.

[Download the bilingual file here](#)



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board