



# Bwrdd Partneriaeth Rhanbarthol Gwent Gwent Regional Partnership Board



**Dewis Cymru**

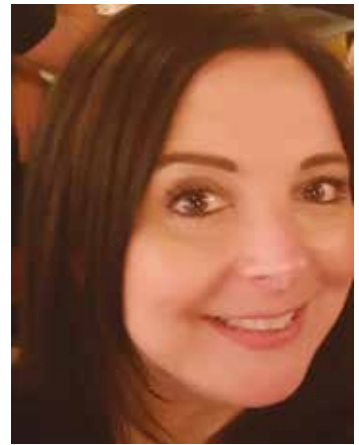
Have choice and take control

May 2018 - Issue 13

## Regional Partnership Team – welcome to new members!

Since the January newsletter, there have been some further additions to the Regional Partnership Team and here we profile the two Policy and Project Officers, Natasha Harris and Sarah Bees.

*'My name is Natasha and I'm one of the new Policy and Project Officers with the Gwent Health & Social Care Wellbeing Partnership team. My role is to support the Regional Service Managers and Gwent Heads of Service in their roles to drive the transformation of health and social care. This involves facilitating collaborative working to comply with legislative requirements helping to improve outcomes for people, policy development and project management. I have a wealth of experience in creating, managing and delivering projects within the community*



**Natasha Harris**

*to improve wellbeing and previously worked in banking, public health, third sector support services, Communities First and Social Prescribing.*

*My first month has been very interesting and I am looking forward to the challenges ahead and having more of a strategic input into health and social care services.'*



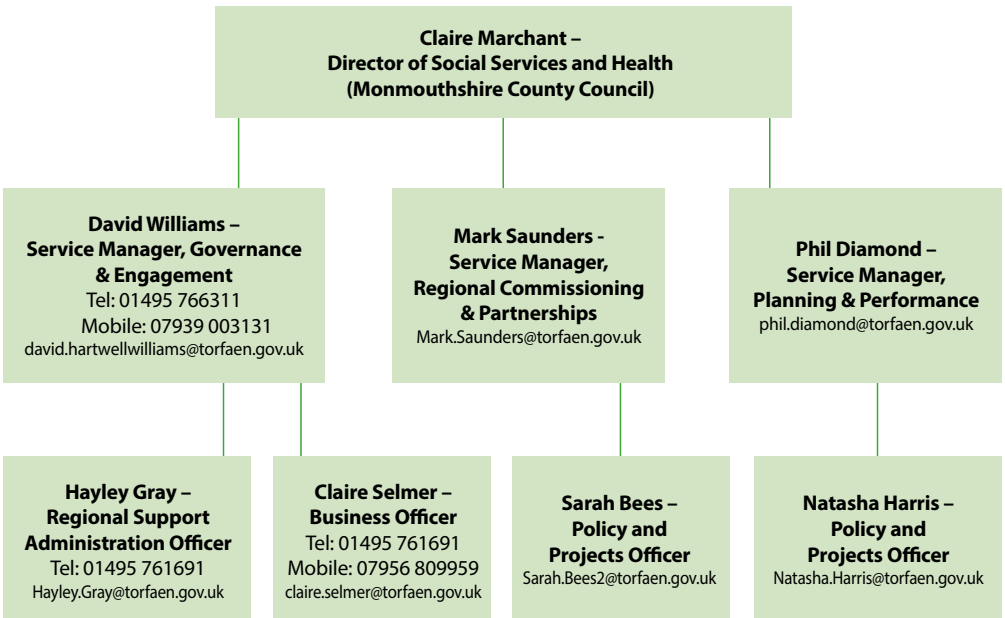
## Continued:



Sarah Bees

*'I'm Sarah and I am also one of the new Policy and Project Officers with the Gwent Health & Social Care Wellbeing Partnership team. My role is to support the Regional Service Managers and Gwent Heads of Service in their roles to drive the transformation of health and social care. My specialism is communications/public relations and I have spent the last seven years in a range of roles within Social Services predominantly working with the South East Wales Shared Lives Scheme. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first few weeks in this new role having already learnt a great deal from my colleagues. I am excited for the future and look forward to being part of some fantastic work'*

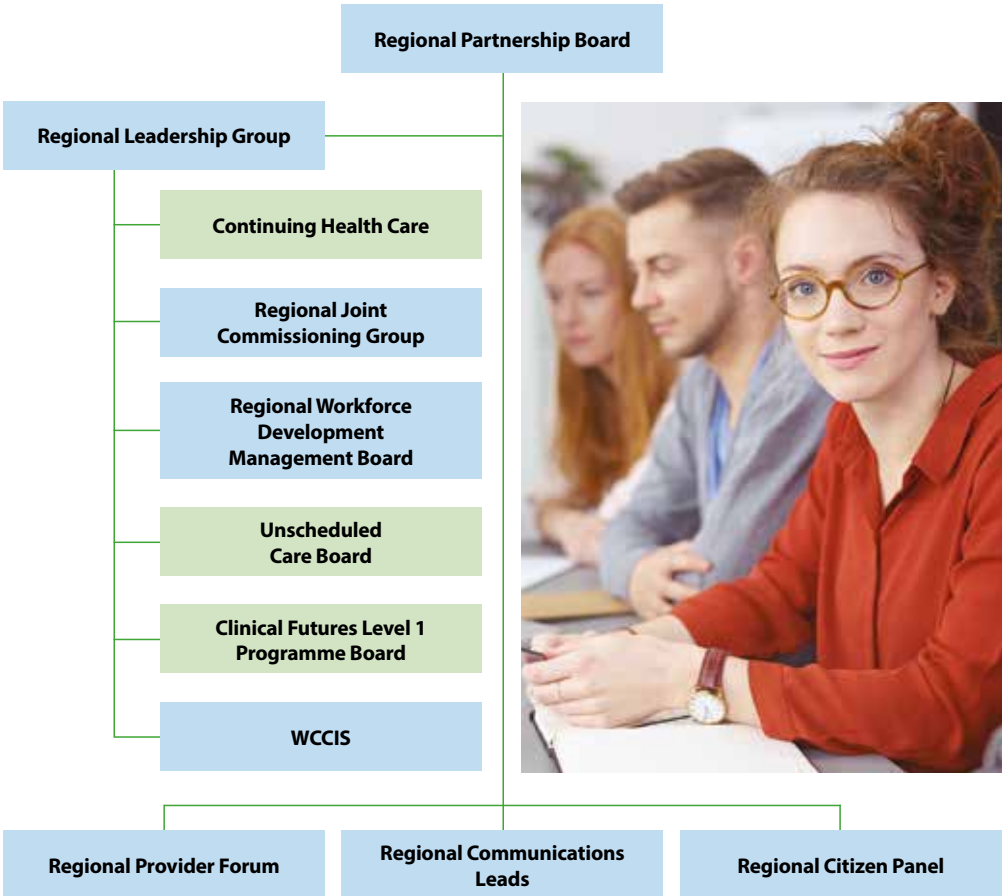
A number of people have asked as to the 'who's who' in the regional team so the organisation chart below sets this out.



If you have any queries as to 'who's who' in the regional partnership team or want to know more, then do feel free to contact members of the team on the e-mail addresses given.

## Regional Working – what else?

The last regional newsletter set out how areas of integrated working that were already in place before the Social Services and Wellbeing Act have been brought in to the five strategic partnerships under the Regional Partnership Board (RPB), but yes, it is a complex picture and this time we try and show how a number of 'cross cutting' bodies also report in to RPB and Leadership Group so that matters such as commissioning and workforce are also considered by all Health and Social Care partners.



(Green boxes denote statutory functions for ABUHB that should inform partnership discussion, and so come to Leadership Group and RPB)

If you want to know more about the strategic partnerships then contact: David Williams, Service Manager for Governance & Engagement:

✉ [david.hartwell.williams@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:david.hartwell.williams@torfaen.gov.uk)

## Taking a co-production approach to Advocacy

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Advocacy co-production workshop, Rodney Parade, Newport

Some work was started – falling out of a review of services commissioned by local authorities and ABUHB – to look at advocacy services provided in the Gwent region.

Advocacy is seen as a ‘golden thread’ running through the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, as well as being a dedicated Part (Part 10) of the Act. In light of this – and perhaps appropriately – commissioners in social care in the region have linked with the Golden Thread Advocacy project (GTAP) to propose a whole region approach to how advocacy is provided, in particular what the Act sets out as Independent Professional Advocacy.

There was agreement by Heads of Adult Services to take a regional approach to commissioning of Independent

Professional Advocacy (set out in the Act) for Adults, and commissioners agreed to extend that regional approach to all types of advocacy for adults.

There is already a regional approach to commissioning advocacy for Children, and this has been in place for two years. A small steering group of commissioners and members of the regional partnership team proposed working with GTAP to take a ‘co-production’ approach to developing a regional advocacy strategy – and two sessions were held in mid-March, linking with the Wales Co-production Network. The events were held in Ebbw Vale and Newport, with around 50 people at each, including commissioners, current service providers, carers, citizens, and service providers who are not actually commissioned – but do give a service.

## Continued:

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An 'open space' approach was taken, with a single question – 'what are the key issues to be addressed in co-producing the Gwent Regional Advocacy strategy?'

Anyone present could raise a topic and these were then allocated to a table discussion. In all there were 3 x 6 table discussions – with a lot of energy and enthusiasm in the room.

**Very interactive,  
good learning  
environment x3**

**Discussions  
in groups were  
great, lots of  
variety x4**

**Good mix of people  
with different skills and  
backgrounds x2**

**Good day –  
learnt a lot, very  
informative,  
everyone's voice  
heard x4**

### *Comments from sessions*

A summary report is now being prepared and an outline strategy framework, drawing on what came out of the session – with feedback to all participants (who confirmed that they want to stay involved in the process)

If you want to know more or get involved then contact Chris Hooper at

 [chris.hooper@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:chris.hooper@torfaen.gov.uk)

## Social Care Wales Facilitation Grant - RISCA Training

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Social Care Wales, the new body that came into being in April 2017, to take the lead for workforce development and social care strategic planning and research, replaced what had been the Care Council for Wales and the Social Services Improvement Agency.

They have identified three key strategic areas of work to be taken forward at a national and regional level, including:

- Supporting the implementation of the Care and Support at Home Strategy (5 year plan)
- Supporting the development of a Careers, Recruitment and Retention Framework
- Raising awareness and supporting engagement in the development of training materials for the Regulation & Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016

To take this forward Social Care Wales have allocated Facilitation Grant funding to regions, including Gwent. Part of this funding has been used to employ a fixed term Facilitation and Engagement Officer who has joined the Regional Transformation Team whilst also working closely with the Workforce Development Managers in each of the five local authorities in the region.

We welcome Chris Hooper, who has taken up this post from having worked in Children's Services in Newport. If you have ideas or suggestions for events or want to know more about the Facilitation Grant and what it can be used for, then please contact

 [Chris.Hooper@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Hooper@torfaen.gov.uk)

## Regional Partnership Board – who’s who?

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The January newsletter started to profile members of the Regional Partnership Board, looking at the Chair and Vice Chair. In this issue we consider two other members:

### **Judith Paget – Chief Executive (Aneurin Bevan University Health Board)**

Judith was appointed Chief Executive of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board in October 2014. Judith joined the Health Board as Director of Planning & Operations on 1st October 2009 and subsequently became Chief Operating Officer/Deputy CEO before her appointment as Chief Executive.



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In 2000 Judith returned to Gwent as General Manager of Caerphilly Local Health Group and was subsequently appointed the Chief Executive of Caerphilly Local Health Board. In August 2007 she was seconded as Interim CEO of Powys Teaching Local Health Board where she remained until October 2009.

Judith was awarded a Companionship of the Institute of Health Service Managers in 2012. In June 2014, Judith won the Institute of Directors – Director in Public Service Award for Wales.

### **Councillor Carl Cuss - Cabinet Member (Caerphilly County Borough Council)**



Cllr. Carl Cuss serves as Cabinet Member for Caerphilly County Borough Council, responsible for the Social Care and Wellbeing

Cllr. Cuss lives in Rhymney where he was born and now serves as local ward member. Growing up in Rhymney, Cllr. Cuss attended Upper Rhymney Primary School and Rhymney Comprehensive School where he currently serves as a Governor of both schools.

Cllr. Cuss went on to study Community Development with the University of Newport and also supporting learners with Basic Skills Needs at the former Coleg Morgannwg School.

Cllr. Cuss started his working career with the Communities First Programme helping those in his local area. He then took up a role with a disability charity called AbilityNet before moving on to the University of Wales, Newport, for a European Funded project helping people get back into employment through developing skills and accessing training.

Starting his political career in 2012, Cllr. Cuss was the youngest elected Councillor at the time, at the age of 21. In addition to his local ward duties and role as Cabinet Member he has also worked in the constituency office of former MP Dai Havard for Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney and has recently started to working for Cardiff Central MP Jo Stevens as her Senior Caseworker. Community engagement is high on the agenda for Cllr. Cuss who serves on a number of community groups including the Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Association, Ael y Bryn Community Centre and The Rhymney Trust. He is an avid sports fan with a particular passion for Rugby and Cricket.

The portfolio for the Social Care and Wellbeing includes the following service areas;

Adult Social Care • Children’s Social Services • Integration with Health Services

## Area Plan – sign off

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It also includes performance measures to help answer the question, 'how do we know we are making a difference'.

The first area plans will be published by 1 April 2018 and the aim is have a clear 'read across' with wellbeing plans produced by each Public Service Board (on local authority area footprints) under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Welsh Government have been 'non-committal' as to how wellbeing plans under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act should link with Area Plans developed by Regional Partnership Boards under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act - so this is how we try and 'join up'. To see the Area Plan the link

@ <http://www.gwentrbp.wales/home>

To find out more about the Area Plan, please contact Phil Diamond at

✉ [phil.diamond@torfean.gov.uk](mailto:phil.diamond@torfean.gov.uk)

In the last newsletter we updated as to work done to develop an Area Plan following on from Population Needs Assessments work undertaken in 2017. The Area Plan essentially sets out 'what we will do' across health and social care in response to population needs.

## Getting Your Views!

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Has this regional newsletter been useful for you? If yes, what has been good? If not, would anything else be useful? We need your views going forward – so

please take the opportunity to tell us what you think. E-mail:

✉ [Claire.Selmer@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Selmer@torfaen.gov.uk)

*Note: This newsletter is prepared by the Regional Transformation Team, who are hosted by Torfaen County Borough Council, on behalf of the Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership.*