

# CHC Conference 21 September 2017

## Regional Partnership Board workshop notes

### Awareness of Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs)

- Awareness of RPBs and their responsibilities is extremely limited within the housing sector. Participants had no awareness that these existed and felt work needed to raise visibility.
- The workshop was an opportunity to find out more about the Regional Partnership Board. The session was seen as useful to have a better idea of where and how to make contact – slides and handouts appreciated. Great to see the work that RPBs are progressing but people aren't aware – how can we promote the work more effectively?
- Examples of RPB work would be useful – few were aware of the population needs assessments being completed, and saw the value of having information accessible to all for forward planning – but does need to consider RSL forward planning also (sites for development, projects in pipeline, land acquisitions, etc)
- It is difficult to find contact details for RPBs as they are all called something different – can we make this easier so people know who to speak to about getting involved?  
[See below for contact details.](#)

### Engagement with housing

- How do housing colleagues/RSL's connect to RPB's to raise issues – need an awareness of those regional integration structures below RPB
- Difficult to engage effectively with national housing groups at a regional level – issue with having adequate representation in each partnership area.
- View expressed to put out 'advert' for interest in integrated working, so different stakeholders can put in interest
- Opportunities and mechanisms for working more closely with housing could be explored at one of the national sharing events for RPBs arranged by WG.
- The CHC was suggested as a forum that brings together different housing associations that could provide a single voice for RPB.
- What is the link between the RPB and Supporting People and RSLs? Supporting people appears to be divorced from the RPB agenda. Bringing it within the partnerships' remits would be beneficial in developing consistent whole-system models of support and optimising funding opportunities.
- Anticipated new capital funding via ICF provides an important opportunity for improving engagement with the whole housing sector.

- Involving housing officers from local authorities is not sufficient to have the views and input from the whole housing sector. Other partners need to be brought in.
- Important to also look at development opportunities from a business perspective as well as care and support needs e.g. providing further support regarding land/planning/capital developments
- Noted that some regions – such as Gwent or North Wales will have 6 or more RSLs, whilst other regions have fewer – so how get to include all in integrated working?
- Views expressed that need people to ‘unlock doors’ – perhaps housing and health ‘champions’?

### **Regional partnership board priorities**

- The five statutory priorities are plenty to be getting on with. Suggested we’d be better focussing on one only and getting that right before moving on to the next. Having a success will help the group to bond too. Good leadership is important in making that happen.
- How does the RPB influence the experiences of individuals who have lots of agencies working with them?
- What role will the Parliamentary Review play in shaping the RPBs? It would be useful to have a clearer vision for integration which goes past pooled budgets.

### **Regional working challenges**

- It’s a challenge to promote partnership working at the scale of the RPB – note that groups with more than 8-9 people struggle to be effective.
- It is not always evident which are regional issues and what is being done at neighbourhood level – is there connecting up?
- Having smaller ‘task groups’ noted – as RPB’s can be too large for detail discussion – but important to give partner commitment to forward plans
- It is important that we don’t just focus on regional solutions – the most impact on well-being often happens at a community level

### **Regional Partnership Boards and Public Services Boards**

- How do we align the work of the RPB and Public Service Boards – care and support issues are significant for public services and we need to ensure this is a priority for wider partners involved in the well-being plans.
- It is important to understand the other partnership delivery mechanisms in each region and what work is going on – how do we ensure this is all connected? Is this the role of the PSBs to do this?
- Links with PSB’s not evident – do RPB’s report to PSB’s or PSB’s refer actions to RPB

## Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 implementation

- The name of the SSWB Act is unhelpful as it implies that it is just about social services – there are so many opportunities to progress this agenda across a large number of sectors and organisations.
- There is strategic sign-up to the principles but there is still lots of work to do to ensure the Act and work of the RPB is embedded within organisations. Lots of staff have no idea the RPB even exists!

## Other comments

- How can we use the GP Clusters more to develop local approaches and give greater emphasis to prevention? How can we align other funding streams such as the Primary Care Fund?
- Need to take risks to do things differently – and important to start up conversations as a need to line up many partners
- Warm Wales promoted mapping work they'd done to map vulnerability to fuel poverty to street level that they make available to local authorities for £5,000. They also run projects to target the most vulnerable with support.

## For more information



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Powys Regional  
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[www.powys.gov.uk/en/adult-social-care/integration-of-health-and-social-care/powys-regional-partnership-board](http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/adult-social-care/integration-of-health-and-social-care/powys-regional-partnership-board)



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