

PRIMARY CARE DIVISION NEWSLETTER



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Autumn/Winter 2019

The Primary Care Division is part of the Health and Wellbeing Directorate of Public Health Wales and also hosts the Primary and Community Care Development and Innovation Hub (PC Hub). We are responsible for supporting programmes of work relating to public health and primary care.

Our work extends across three key areas:

- Supporting primary care transformation
- Dental public health
- Prevention and wellbeing in clinical settings



This bulletin provides an update on our progress over the past six months.

EVENTS

National Primary Care Conference 2019

More than 400 primary care professionals from across Wales attended the fourth annual National Primary Care Conference held at the International Conference Centre in Newport on Thursday 7 November, 2019.

The event, organised by the Primary Care Hub on behalf of Welsh Government, centred on the theme of '*Clusters: Past, Present and Future*'.

Find out more on [Page 4](#).

Dental Symposium 2020

Plans are underway for the third annual Dental Symposium.

Organised by the Dental Public Health Team at Public Health Wales, the event is being scheduled for April/May 2020 and will be open to people working in primary dental care.

Previous Dental Symposiums have attracted over 300 delegates and offered a range of learning and networking opportunities.

Keep an eye on [Primary Care One](#) for updates.

The Strategic Programme for Primary Care



The Primary Care Hub plays a key role in contributing to the delivery of the national Strategic Programme for Primary Care. The programme is an all-Wales Primary Care response to [A Healthier Wales](#) and has six key work streams.

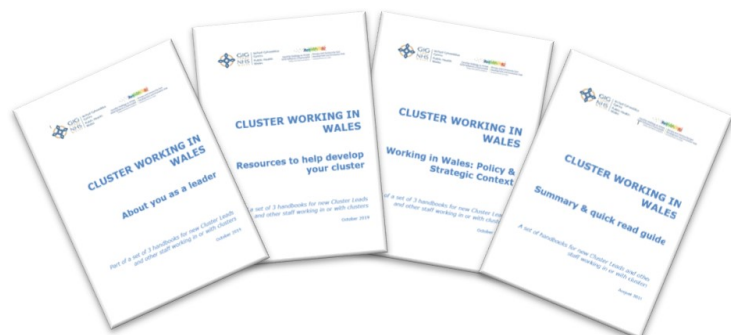
Backed by the Minister for Health and Social Services, the programme aims to support whole-system working (not restricted to GMS) and seeks to embed the Primary Care Model at an accelerated pace.

A Strategic Programme [Handbook](#) and [webpages](#) have been developed and you can follow the programme on [Twitter](#) for regular updates ([@SPPCWales](#)).

TRANSFORMATION OF PRIMARY CARE

Supporting health boards and clusters in the delivery of the national plan for the transformation of primary and community care in Wales

A series of digital handbooks on [Cluster Working in Wales](#) have been developed and are now available to view online or download via [Primary Care One](#).



The handbooks provide practical advice and ideas and signpost additional resources for anyone new to a cluster leadership role, or who wants to become involve in cluster working. Although presented as three separate handbooks to enable focussed reading, they are designed to complement each other and will be most effective if used collectively.

A series of topic-specific learning events delivered by external experts have been commissioned by the Primary Care Hub over the past year.



A one-day **Principles of Project Management workshop** was held in April and three two-day **Practical Project Management workshops** during October and November. An **Effective Engagement and Communications Masterclass** was held in October with another one scheduled for January. Feedback on the events has been very positive and we are working to scope further learning events for 2020 and beyond.

We are working with stakeholders to develop a series of **e-learning resources** to support a range of staff in their work with primary care clusters. These resources will provide a

definition of clusters and their purpose, outline the all-Wales and local-level structures in place to support primary care, and position cluster development within the wider transformation agenda.

Congratulations to the first two cohorts of Practice Managers on completing the [Confident Practice Manager's Leadership Programme](#).



Participants attended the final session of the programme in December. Cohort three is now underway in North Wales, with further cohorts due to start early 2020 in South and Mid Wales.

Good progress is being made on developing the **National Evaluation Framework for the Primary Care Model for Wales**. The first stage report and **Engagement Workshops** to identify each component of the model are complete. The output of this exercise will form the basis of an evaluation plan.

DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Supporting and leading oral health and dental services improvement in Wales

A decade of **Designed to Smile** was celebrated during #D2S10 week in September.



As part of the festivities we launched the **@D2S Wales** and **@CynllunGwen** Twitter accounts, the Minister for Health and Social Services took part in a **tooth-brushing session** with pupils at Windsor Clive Primary School in Ely, Cardiff and a national drawing competition saw children from schools and nurseries across Wales design birthday cards for Dewi the Designed to Smile Dragon.



Progress continues within the **General Dental Services Reform Programme**, with 30% of general dental practices in Wales now signed up to participate.



Efforts to recruit practices continue, with the aim of meeting the Minister's target of having 50% of NHS practices in Wales on board by October 2020. Plans are underway for a series of engagement events in January for practices that are already signed up, as well as those considering joining the programme.

Venues are being scoped out for the **3rd annual Dental Symposium** in 2020. This is likely to take place in late April/early May next year – keep an eye on **Primary Care One** for updates.

Congratulations to Nigel Monaghan, Consultant in Public Health, Dental Public Health, Public Health Wales on the publication on his article – **Teething products may be harmful to health** in the British Dental Journal in September 2019.

A warm welcome to Will Herdman who has recently joined the team as a Specialty Trainee in Dental Public Health and a goodbye to Lisa Howells, Deputy Chief Dental Officer who is retiring at the end of this year.

NATIONAL PRIMARY CARE CONFERENCE 2019

Thursday 7 November 2019 - International Conference Centre, Newport



Attendees at this year's **National Primary Care Conference** enjoyed a series of talks, panel discussions and workshops examining current practice in cluster working across the primary care sector, as well as exploring ideas and approaches for its ongoing development.



With key note speeches from Vaughan Gething AM, Minister for Health and Social Services, and Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard, Chair of the Royal College of General Practitioners, the event also featured a Primary Care Village and a community choir, formed as part of the Alzheimer's Society's *Singing from the Brain* initiative.

Prepared to support the conference, the **Primary Care Cluster 2019 yearbook** highlights some of the excellent work being carried out by clusters in Wales.

Conference material and the **Conference Report** is available via **Primary Care One**.



PREVENTION AND WELLBEING

Developing a coordinated approach to prevention in clinical settings to reduce the avoidable burden of disease

The conceptual model underpinning the **Framework for Prevention in Clinical Settings** underwent engagement during the summer both internally and externally to Public Health Wales. An **engagement report** has been finalised and the focus has now turned to developing a practical **toolkit** to support the application of the framework. The toolkit will complete the framework and be tested against the priority topics within the Strategic Programme's Prevention and Wellbeing work-stream.

A set of prevention-related pages have been created on **PrimaryCareOne**. A **landing page** provides context around prevention in primary care, while a series of sub-pages contain information relevant to the role of clusters in **screening**, **infection prevention**, **social prescribing** and **Making Every Contact Count (MECC)**.

The utility of **blood pressure monitoring machines in GP waiting areas** is being tested within the seven practices in the North Ceredigion Cluster.



Baseline data has been extracted from participating practices and reporting to the funder, Stroke Implementation Group, has commenced. The project will run for nine months and aims to increase the rate of BP checking in line with clinical guidance.

If you would like further information on anything included in future editions of this newsletter, please contact email PrimaryCare.One@wales.nhs.uk