

Cluster Plan Priorities 2025-2026

South Powys Cluster

PCPG Powys RPB (Regional Partnership Board) Executive Group

Cluster Executive Summary:

During the past year, the South Powys Cluster has continued to refine its processes to deliver innovative care as effectively as possible to the local population.

There continues to be increased demands across Cluster services, as 1 of 3 clusters in Powys, we recognise to be able to meet these demands on services, a Pan Powys approach working collaboratively with the North and Mid Cluster will help facilitate and support the development of more long-term sustainable service solutions, reflective of the needs of the populations across South Powys. This will be a key focus for the cluster for 2025/26.

As a Cluster, South Powys, saw the successful delivery of several pilot service projects, during 2024/25, including the delivery of the Pain Management services in partnership with the Bevan Commission, the continuation of the Respiratory CRP Point of Care testing service within GMS Practices, and the proactive screening for Atrial Fibrillation during influenza vaccine clinics.

Building on the success of these pilots, and sharing learnings with PthB service development teams, working collaboratively with the PthB Living Well Service, (Pain and Fatigue Management), the Cluster are supporting the scoping and development of an enhanced comprehensive pain service for Primary and Community Care. As well as building on the success of CRP Point of Care testing pilot, linking with a Welsh Government initiative looking at the role of Point of Care testing in a Primary and community care setting.

Although delayed in 2024/25, Frailty continues to be a priority for the Cluster, the development of a dedicated frailty team across the GMS and AHP collaboratives will be taken forward in 2025/26. Enhancing the important work that is already being done through the South Cluster virtual ward models and strengthening emergency care planning within Primary Care.

At the other end of the age spectrum the cluster is supporting a Pan Powys targeted childhood obesity intervention programme for children and young people providing a series of nutrition and health eating education sessions, including cooking skills and overcoming obesogenic barriers.

2024/25 has continued to see the successful delivery of the MSK FCP service, delivery benefits for patients and the wider system. 25/26 will see the Cluster supporting and working with PthB for the long term sustainable continued provision of the service.

2025/26 will see the Cluster supporting the delivery of innovative digital solutions to support the access to, and sustainability and delivery of day-to-day services across Primary Care and the wider Cluster.

Key Cluster Outline priorities and actions 2025/26:

Improving Access to Primary & Community Services

- **MSK FCP Pilot** – improving access, outcomes, and capacity across the system.
- **Allied Health Professionals** – supporting frail patients, Meds Management dietician services, and expanding Diabetic Retinopathy clinics.
- **Improving provision and access** to services provided within the Community – increasing education of 3rd sector services and community groups via PAVO Community Connector Service, Pharmacy Common Ailment scheme, Optometry and Dental services by supporting patients to adopt improved health behaviours.
- **Vulnerable & disadvantaged groups** – proactively identifying groups across Cluster, scoping the services provided, and pathways for access.
- **Digital & Patient Access** – providing alternative access to services utilising the use digital apps and software to support day to day service delivery & long-term condition management and continue promotion of NHS Wales App.

Pathways of Care, essential services, and business continuity

- Building **collaborative service development relationship with Cluster & Collaborative members, Commissioners and Secondary Care** providers – to improve pathways of care across cluster providers & services.
- **Supporting the development & design of 'in' county services** – Diagnostics, Cardiology, Dermatology, Transgender services.
- **Review of the provision of services** which are essential to Cluster providers in meeting the needs of the population supporting a 'Sustainable model of Care' for Powys patients, including Virtual Wards, Respiratory, Cardiology, Cancer, Obesity, Diabetes prevention, Falls, Frailty, Transgender, Refugees, Women's, and Children's Refuge services.
- **Waiting List Patient Support services** – supporting patients awaiting surgery.
- Supporting the implementation of the **All-Wales Social prescribing framework** through building on existing Powys provision and digital solutions to support the health and wellbeing of patients. (PAVO Community Connectors is the funded social prescribing services covering all of Powys).

Urgent & Emergency Care

- **Frailty Services & Virtual Wards** in line with the **Enhanced Community Model** – support the mapping & reviewing current service provision and programme work, improving care across the cluster to those with most vulnerable needs, learning from existing services and pilots, identifying solutions – including Virtual Wards, Dental, Optometry, Community Pharmacy, Community services, and the development of Powys wide Comprehensive Geriatric Assessments, and Anticipatory Care planning tools.

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As in previous years, there continues to be many priorities and challenges across the Cluster, and wider health and social care organisations, the Cluster will continue to work collaboratively with all partners and patients to improve the health and wellbeing of our local communities, with the sustainability of services and innovative service developments being a key priority for 2025/26 and beyond.

Dr Anthony Morgan, South Cluster Lead

- **Point of Care Testing** – supporting the development of POCT models across the Cluster.
- **Planning and modelling for Winter** to meet increasing system demand across all Primary & Community services – including the role of MIU’s and Minor illness services. Improving awareness of services and pathways of care across Cluster members and services, through education and communication campaigns.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

- **NHS 111 press 2 service** – continue to support the development of this service, support the education and awareness among patients and communities.
- Increasing awareness of 3rd sector Mental Health provision among patients through Powys Mental Health Information Service. (Commissioned PTHB project)

Workforce & Wellbeing

- **Wellbeing services for cluster and collaborative employees and independent contractors**, raising awareness of the provision of services and identifying routes of access.
- Working in partnership with the **Primary and Community Care Academy** for the provision of education, training, and development of the workforce, enabling portfolio careers, facilitating stronger links with universities and expanding opportunities for greater rural placements, portfolio career paths and alternative recruitment models.
- Supporting development, **skills, and knowledge of professionals**, both clinical and non-clinical to support the delivery of **agreed Cluster priority projects**.

Key achievements/successes related to the 2024/25 Cluster Plan:

- Continued successful delivery of MSK FCP service.
- Supporting a Pan Powys approach to the development and piloting of a CYP Childhood obesity programme, providing a series of nutrition and health eating education sessions, including cooking skills weight and nutritional skills course.
- Successful delivery of a Primary Care pain management service within one practice within the cluster, supported by the Bevan Commission.
- Sharing learning from Pain project and working with PtHB Living Well Service teams, supporting the scoping and development of an enhanced comprehensive pain service for Primary and Community Care.
- Continue provision of an Enhanced Pre-diabetes Service – supporting those at an increased risk of type 2 diabetes from developing the condition.
- Continued provision of CRP testing project for Winter 2024/25 to support antibiotic prescribing and diagnosis.

Key reflections / challenges related to the 2024/25 Cluster Plan:

- Cluster has recognised to meet wider service demands, to affect and influence real change for the development and planning of services, a Pan Powys approach working collaboratively with the North and Mid Clusters to share priorities, ideas and learnings will be beneficial and will be a priority for 2025/26.
- Identifying wider organisational initiatives and priorities within Clusters, and how these are developed and taken forward within the wider health and care landscape will continue throughout 2025/26.
- New processes and procurement challenges, resulted in delays to implementation of the Frailty project, which has resulted in alternative delivery models now being explored. With implementation being delayed further. 2025/26 will see a collaboration between AHP/GMs to deliver this vital service.

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Emerging alignment with PCPG Plan / RPB Area Plan 2023/2028

Health and Social care organisations across Powys have a shared vision of creating sustainable services that meet the needs of the population, which highlight the importance for people to 'Start Well', 'Live well' and 'Age Well' through a focus on well-being, early help and support, the big four challenges and joined up care.

There is continued emerging service development alignment with RPB Executive group and Area Plan priorities, through the following key areas:

Early help and prevention models of care – improving access to Primary Care, though, First contact Practitioner services, Frailty service provision, Diabetes Prevention, GP Dermatology services.

Integrated Joined up Care – provision of care closer to home, the development of Frailty services across the Cluster teams, a community approach to the coordination and delivery of care for severely frail patients.

Workforce Futures - collaborating with the Health and Care Academies for the provision of education, training, and development of the workforce, enabling alternative recruitment models and portfolio careers, and expanding opportunities for greater rural placements.

Continued Transforming in partnership – collaborating across Cluster and collaborative boundaries, to support innovation and improvement to models of care, through a multi professional and organisational approach to the provision of frailty services.

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Funding Project Title	New or Existing Project	Brief Project Description	Results/ benefits expected by end March 2026	Strategic Alignment: Ministerial Priorities	Project End Date
Frailty Coordination Service	Existing (2024/25)	Introduction of a South Cluster frailty coordination service	To support the coordination and delivery of care to those patients identified as Moderately and severely frail.	Population health	Spring 2026
MSK FCP Physiotherapy	Existing (2023/24 plan)	Direct access to a Musculoskeletal professional within Primary Care	Improved outcomes, reduce referrals to secondary care. Improved service for patients, closer to home.	Population health	Autumn 2025
Prediabetes AWDPP	Existing (2022/23 plan)	Introduction of the AWDPP and enhance pre-diabetes care.	Reduction in the number of patients developing type 2 diabetes.	Population health	March 2025
AHP Frailty Professionals	Existing (2023/24)	Multiprotection AHP's supporting Frailty – within community, Meds Management, Home first, diabetic screening	To support delivery of services to frail patients, completion of CGA's, CRT integration, falls prevention and early help and support.	Population health	March 2027
Cluster & GMS Website Development	Existing (ongoing from 2021/22 plan)	Expansion of ICT and patient access via development of Cluster website	Increased access for patients. Increased technology available for patient reviews, requests. Streamlining of services across the cluster.	A Healthier Wales	March 2026
CYP L2 weight Management	New (2024/25)	Supporting the development & delivery of tier 2/3 CYP weight management services	Improve lifelong health through improved eating habits increased confidence to increase activity levels/ habits through face-to-face family education.	Joined up Care / Transforming in partnership	Spring 2025
Point of care Testing Developments	New (2025/26)	Scoping of POCT service developments across the Cluster – expanding on previous pilot models such as CRP, D-dimer, etc	Supporting care closer to home, earlier diagnosis and intervention, improving outcomes.	Population health	Spring 2026
Digital & Patient Access	New (2025/26)	Developing alternative access to services utilising the use digital apps and software to support day to day service delivery & long-term condition management.	Improved alternative access to services for patients Improved efficiencies with back-office functions.	Joined up Care / Transforming in partnership	March 2026
Sign Posting & Pathways	New (2025/26)	Supporting First point of contact signposting by frontline team members, increasing awareness of services, self-referral & awareness of 3rd sector services	Improving access to right service & right clinician.	Joined up Care / Transforming in partnership	March 2026
Virtual Ward Reporting Improvements	New (2024/25)	Develop a Pan Powys digital method of recording and reporting virtual ward activity.	Improved data capture and consistency of reporting across Powys, supporting development of a standard service.	Joined up Care / Transforming in partnership	April 2025