

Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol/
Prif Weithredwr GIG Cymru
Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Director General Health and Social Services/
NHS Wales Chief Executive
Health and Social Services Group



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Chief Executives – Health Boards

Our Ref: AG/SM/SB

25 July 2019

Dear Chief Executives

A Healthier Wales set out the need to accelerate the implementation of the Primary Care Model for Wales. Clusters are the underpinning delivery model for this and there is a need to ensure they are core and central to our system in terms of planning and delivery. Across the 64 clusters in Wales there is significant variation and we need to ensure that progress is made across all clusters and not just our most innovative clusters. In order to support this, the Strategic Programme for Primary Care is developing tools to support the development of clusters, both at local level and at Health Board/Regional Partnership wide level.

In March 2018, the Minister for Health and Social Services wrote to Health Boards with the following expectation:

Cluster working: *Cluster IMTPs for 2020-23 complete, using a nationally agreed template and underpinned by cluster workforce development plans by the end of September 2019.*

This expectation was reinforced through the negotiations for GMS contract reform, with the following agreed:

- A mandatory requirement on practices to be members of a cluster included in the core contract;
- Reformed cluster output and activity indicators in the new Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework (QAIF) related to engagement (5 meetings at 40 points), contribution to cluster IMTPs (80 points) and delivery of outcomes for relevant services (80 points).

Over the past couple of months, the Strategic Programme for Primary Care has been working with representatives from your Primary Care teams to develop a nationally agreed template. The attached document provides supporting background information, the template for completion and guidance on completion.

Early expectations of the statutory IMTP planning cycle for 2020-23 were communicated and discussed at the All Wales IMTP Summer Learning in June 2019. This included the expectation that primary care cluster IMTPs will be completed by the end of September in order to feed into and influence the development of health board IMTPs by December. Guidance on the development of health board IMTPs will be issued in the autumn via the annual NHS Planning Framework.

Recognising the variation in maturity across clusters, completion of the template will be more challenging for some clusters than others. It is expected that corporate departments within Health Boards work with clusters to support the completion of the cluster IMTPs, with the aim of ensuring cluster planning is central to Health Board planning.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Goodall', written in a cursive style.

Dr Andrew Goodall CBE