

Wrexham Public Services Board – Action Notes

7th October 2021, 4pm

Sue Price, chair (Coleg Cambria)
Karen Evans (WCBC)
John Gallanders (Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham)
Nina Ruddle (Wrexham Glyndwr University)
Stuart Millington (North Wales Fire and Rescue)
Sioned Rees (Welsh Government)
Andrew Gralton (Betsi Cadwaladr UHB)
Helen Douglas (North Wales Police)
Amanda Aldridge (Department of Work and Pensions)
Ian Bancroft (Wrexham County Borough Council)
Donna Dickenson (WCBC)
Helen Douglas (NWP)
Ceriann Tunnah (Public Health Wales)

Christy Hoskings (Betsi Cadwaladr UHB)
Michael Cantwell (WCBC)

Sally Holland, Children’s Commissioner for Wales
Kath O’Kane, CCfW office

Caroline Bennett (WCBC)
Tricia Jones (WCBC)
Alex Pengelly
Anna Louise Edwards

1	Introduction and Welcome	
	<p>Sue Price welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from Cllr Mark Pritchard.</p> <p>It was great to see Sally Holland, Children’s Commissioner for Wales for her third visit to Wrexham PSB, and Sue acknowledged the brilliant support we have received from Sally and her office, as partners have sought to focus on a children’s rights approach in how we work individually and as a partnership.</p>	
2	Overview from Children’s Commissioner	
	<p>Sally Holland reflected that the last meeting of Wrexham PSB she attended was a few days before the lockdown in March 2020, and eighteen months later we are still dealing with the pandemic, and wrestling with a virtual and socially distanced world.</p> <p>The pandemic has had a wide range of impacts on children and young people, negative and positive, and young people from both Wrexham and Flintshire have been instrumental in shaping the research carried out by the Office.</p> <p>It has been heartening how public sector organisations have shifted to genuinely engaging with young people, as experts with lived experience, ideas and energy rather than just consulting with them. The challenge now will be how to continue with this way of working as we recover and move forward.</p>	
3	PSB update work to date	
	Partners outlined one issue that they were proud of:	

	<p>Donna Dickenson - Staff went into overdrive to make sure children and young people remained connected to services.</p> <p>Michael Cantwell - Glyndwr students produced a magazine to describe the joint Wrexham and Flintshire PSB community resilience work - their designs and ideas and energy blew us away</p> <p>Iona Hughes – forthcoming Tedx talks by young people on Climate change will be fantastic</p> <p>Kath O'Kane - CCfW Participation Team. We have been proud to have great input in our youth advisory panel from a young person from Wrexham Youth forum who is always open to challenge and enquire. Also we have had great support from Caroline, Tricia and Jane in engaging young people in the Coronavirus Survey. Thanks you Participation in Wrexham.</p> <p>Sue Price - Children's university, improving transition arrangements and information sharing between schools and college, supporting young people’s mental health throughout lockdown</p> <p>Ian Bancroft – WCBC is continuing our work on our pledge for children</p> <p>Tricia Jones - the strength of young people from the Senedd and their ability to adapt and keep motivated</p> <p>John Gallanders - many children and young people organisations in the communities increased contact with parents as they saw community provision as being a trusted source of information and enabled opportunities to sign post parents to other services to support needs</p> <p>Stuart Millington - From a NWFRS perspective I am particularly proud that we have been able to innovate and delivery our young people programmes differently as the result of the COVID environment. Whilst we are back up and running with face to face sessions for Phoenix, Fire Cadets and our work with Fire Setters, during COVID this work continued utilising technological solutions. Also really pleased that during COVID we have been able to recruit 18 new firefighter apprentices.</p> <p>Hughes, Iona - Joint working between Wrexham and Flintshire PSBs to share and learn and work collaboratively across the region</p> <p>Karen Evans - the Education community has worked hard to deliver a learning offer and support the wellbeing of children and young people.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Impact through stories</p> <p>Nina and Christy explained how the Impact through stories project in Flintshire had given children and young people an introduction to systems leadership. Four powerful and moving narratives were delivered by young people around the themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Mental Health & Well being • Children and Young People • Poverty and Inequality <p>Ian Bancroft – these are great narratives and very powerful. How can we extend this pilot into Wrexham?</p> <p>Donna Dickenson - would there be a way of converting some of them into digital stories so that they are anonymised and are still impactful?</p>	

	<p>Kath O'Kane - CCfW Participation Team - Really hard impacting and be interested to see how they are used. They would also be great tools to use to work with young people as role models to speak out and be heard.</p> <p>Andrew Gralton (BCUHB - Child & Adolescent Health) - happy to share the BCUHB model. Simply put their story would be anonymised and an agreed product produced.</p>	
5	The impact of COVID on children and young people	
	DD and CB presented the findings from research carried out with young people across Wrexham and Flintshire – following up from their presentation to the May 2021 meeting. The findings have now been shared widely and there will be a follow up survey with young people across Wrexham and Flintshire in January 2022	
	Partners to feedback, by end of October 2021 to DD how their organisation has considered the needs and wishes of young people in their service planning.	ALL
6	Next steps for the PSB	
	<p>Sally reflected that the Wrexham PSB organisations have been on a journey over the last few years to embed the five Right Way principles into how they work, individually and as a partnership. Despite COVID there has been some real strong progress and honesty tackling the So, what? question, as the views and ideas and solutions from young people has become centre stage.</p> <p>The challenge now is for public sector organisations to genuinely involve young people in their decision making and to co-produce the way forward, and not drift back to a tick box approach. Because of the sincere commitment of the Wrexham PSB organisations to involve young people and the impressive track record from partners such as Senedd yr Ifanc and the Young People Care Council or the depth of maturity in the impact through stories project there is a really opportunity now to shape the future together.</p>	
	Determine how best to involve children and young people in planning, decision making and delivery.	ALL
7	PSB Business	
	<p>20/21 Annual report</p> <p>For the second year running, the annual report has been produced in challenging conditions, but MC felt it was important to try to produce an honest and accurate reflection of the year, and also to highlight the amount of work that the PSB partners have been doing, either independently, in partnership or with Flintshire PSB partners.</p> <p>The meeting approved the 20/21 Wrexham PSB annual report.</p> <p>Alex Pengelly - for future would you consider doing a young people friendly annual report.</p> <p>MC agreed that hopefully all documents will be co-created with young people in future, and that would really help to improve the visibility of the PSB.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share with WG, FGC office and Audit Wales and place on the PSB website. 	MC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share with Town and Community Councils 	MC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSB partners to share 20/21 Annual Report with their Boards, colleagues and teams 	ALL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share report with WCBC scrutiny 	SP
	Scrutiny recommendations	

	<p>Following the scrutiny meeting in June 2021, where the Wrexham PSB was represented by Cllr Hugh Jones and Michael Cantwell, WCBC scrutiny wrote to Sue Price and the Welsh Minister for Local Government to make their recommendations.</p> <p>The recommendations have been included in the 20/21 annual report.</p> <p>The December PSB business meeting will be an opportunity to discuss the scrutiny recommendations more fully, alongside the positive response from WG about the joint community resilience work with Flintshire PSB, and prepare for the next meeting with WCBC scrutiny in Feb 2022.</p>	
	Produce a table showing the contribution from each partner organisation to discuss at the December meeting of the PSB	MC/ALL
	<p>Well-being assessment</p> <p>NR outlined the regional partnership framework for producing the well-being assessment, and that this evidence and insight will then be used to shape our next well-being plan.</p>	
	Ensure that the appropriate colleagues in their organisation engage with the assessment when requested.	ALL
	<p>Update from joint PSB</p> <p>The joint Wrexham and Flintshire PSB had met the previous week to discuss the work to build community resilience that partners have spent the last year on, and committed to continuing to work together to improve outcomes across the two counties.</p> <p>The recommendation from that meeting was to check with Wrexham PSB was that the joint PSB circulates a very short proposal, by mid November 2021, that the two priorities of the joint work will be mental health well-being and climate change and nature emergency and outlining the governance structures needed to work with our communities to make a long term impact on these priorities.</p> <p>Wrexham PSB partners were happy with this approach</p>	
8	DONM and close	
	The next Wrexham PSB business meeting will be Dec 16th 2021 – 10am	
	Please send any items for discussion to MC	ALL