



Dear Colleague,

17/11/2022

Last week I was invited to speak at the Glamorgan Voluntary Service's (GVS) AGM and highlighted the importance of building on the strengths we have as a Health Board and working closely with Third Sector colleagues in partnership to support local communities and citizens across the Vale of Glamorgan.

Working collaboratively with Third Sector and voluntary organisations is a rewarding opportunity to engage, understand and raise local awareness of the services and innovations being undertaken across the community. This meeting was an opportunity to reflect on the work that has been done in collaboration with GVS and other community partners to support people and improve health, social care and wellbeing outcomes.

A positive example of this partnership working is the renovation of CF61 and Illtud House. The Health Board, Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and GVS have worked together to transform CF61 into a space with a wide range of support services for the community, including food sharing opportunities, a clothing bank and a venue to host activities. Illtud House is now a base for GVS and can be hired as a work space to support valuable income generation for the Third Sector.

To showcase the fantastic collaborative and cutting edge research that is taking place in

Cardiff in partnership with Cardiff University, I joined Charles (Jan) Janczewski, Chair of Cardiff and Vale UHB and Professor Meriel Jenney, Medical Director of Cardiff and Vale UHB, and Prof Steve Riley, Dean of Medicine and Head of School for Medicine at Cardiff University in welcoming the Health Minister Eluned Morgan MS and Prof Lord Kakkar, Independent Chair at King's Health Partners, to the CUBRIC building.

This visit was an opportunity to celebrate some of the practical, patient focussed research of international significance being undertaken collaboratively by both organisations, emphasising the benefits this research has to Wales. This was a great opportunity to talk collaboratively about the impact the research is having and share such positive news of innovation. Cardiff is rapidly becoming a leader in the field of delivering Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMP) trials in neurological disease and has developed unique expertise in this bespoke area of clinical trial design and neurosurgical expertise for therapy delivery.

Attendees met with a number of colleagues, including Prof Matt Wise, Prof Liam Gray, Dr Jonathan Underwood, as well as a group of researchers from the University.

As you will all be aware, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) intend to take strike action in the coming weeks. No dates have been

confirmed at this time. Several other Trade Unions are balloting members to find out if they are willing to participate in a strike and the Health Board will be advised on the outcome of these ballots in due course. For guidance on industrial action including frequently asked questions (FAQs) and guidance for managers, Health Board colleagues can [visit the dedicated Strike Action SharePoint page by clicking here](#).

We respect colleagues' right to strike in a peaceful and safe manner, and we recognise why many of you have voted in favour of striking during what is challenging time for many with ongoing winter pressures amidst a cost of living crisis.

As a nurse by background myself, I can appreciate some of the challenges you experience and I would just like to say a personal thank you for your ongoing commitment, professionalism and compassion despite the many challenges experienced and ahead.

I will be working with my Executive colleagues and Clinical Board Directors, and closely with RCN Wales to minimise the impact on planned and unscheduled services, and ensure we are able to continue to provide urgent and emergency care safely throughout the period of any scheduled industrial action.

Please do continue to take care of each other, be good colleagues and team players, be kind to yourself, each other and of course patients and their loved ones. I know challenges do occur so if you have any concerns or safety issues, we would encourage you to raise them with your line manager or alternatively use the Freedom to Speak Up initiative. I hope that you feel able to do so without fear of repercussions

but if that is not the case, then even more reason to make use opportunities such as Freedom to Speak Up. Speaking up really is the first step to getting help and resolving the issues and to access support we first need to know there is an issue.

Finally, I would just like to end with a huge thank you to you all, wherever you are working across the Health Board for your incredible efforts. With our winter plans well underway to mitigate the known impacts of this time of year I am confident that by working together and approaching everything we do with compassion we will get through the coming months safely.

Best wishes,

Suzanne

Supporting students and GP sustainability

The PCIC Clinical Board has been supporting new and returning university students in Cardiff to access healthcare most appropriately when in the city.



Driven by a commitment to ensure students are equipped with the knowledge of services

available to them when accessing care, the Clinical Board has been working closely with all four universities to provide advice, guidance and information on the Primary Care services available in the community.

Embarking upon a year-long campaign that works to raise awareness of services within Primary Care and encouraging students to access them more appropriately, the Clinical Board has provided information to universities to share directly with their students, attended Freshers' events to signpost to services and encourage GP registration, and placed advertising in Students' Unions to encourage students to 'Put your health First...'. The team spoke to over 1600 students during Freshers, 650 of which visited practice websites via QR codes set up specifically for the events.

Over the next few months, the Health Board is going to be continuing to generate content that helps to signpost students to services they may need, requesting support from Primary Care colleagues to participate in campaign activity.

Health Board marks Med Safety Week and World Patient Safety Day

Last week, we held a joint celebration for Med Safety Week and World Patient Safety Day.

Throughout the week, our Patient Safety and pharmacy colleges focused on five different themes — empowering individuals, making medicines safer, transitions in care, falls and the role of the pharmacist.

On Monday, colleagues from YCC Wales spoke with staff and patients at the University Hospital of Wales about medicine safety and the importance of reporting side effects.

Patients receiving medication from our pharmacy also received leaflets highlighting the importance of understanding how their medication should be taken and how to ask questions if they're unsure.



To end the week on Friday, pharmacy colleagues wore Patient Safety Day t-shirts to promote the World Health Organization's slogan Know, Check, Ask. The lake at University Hospital of Wales was also lit up in orange.

Nominate for a Portrait

On 5th July 2023, the NHS celebrates 75 years of service. It's our hard-working staff who make the NHS, so to

celebrate this milestone renowned artist Harry Holland will work in partnership with Cardiff & Vale Health Charity's Arts for Health and Wellbeing Programme to paint a portrait of ONE member of #TeamCAV.



[All you need to do is fill out this survey, detailing why your nominee should be selected.](#)

Arts and Health Coordinator Programme Evaluation Report

At Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and Cardiff & Vale Health Charity we are really pleased with the Arts and Health Coordinator programme evaluation report, it clearly evidences the significant impact that the Arts for Health and Wellbeing Programme makes to patients, staff, volunteers and the wider population.

[Find out more about the Arts and Health Coordinator Programme Evaluation Report.](#)

