

Chief Executive CONNECTS



Dear Colleague,

03/08/2021

As you are no doubt aware, I will soon be leaving Cardiff and Vale University Health Board to take up a new role as Chief Executive of Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust. My last day at Cardiff and Vale UHB will be the 24th September and I feel as though that date is fast approaching.

It is a bittersweet prospect for me as while I am looking forward to a new role, as I'm sure we all do when presented with such an opportunity, I am going to sorely miss Cardiff and Vale UHB and the incredible people who I have been fortunate to call my colleagues over the last few years. Last week's Annual General Meeting truly emphasised for me everything which we have achieved in the last year and the huge potential the UHB has going forward. It made me incredibly proud.

At the AGM, deputy Chief Executive and Medical Director, Prof Stuart Walker, gave an insightful presentation on the future direction of the Health Board and work we have been undertaking in this transitional period as he prepares to step up as Interim Chief Executive upon my departure. I am delighted to say that Stuart will be joining me this Friday in my regular Q&A session to give a similar presentation before we jointly answer questions on the subject.

The session will take place between 12pm and 1pm on Microsoft Teams and if you would like to submit a question, you can do so in advance by emailing it to news@wales.nhs.uk by 10am tomorrow (4th August). It promises to be a fascinating discussion and I do hope to see you there.

As I said when I first announced my new position back in May, our role as executives and my role as the Chief Executive is to consider the conditions so that staff are able to deliver the services required as best as possible. We have been working hard to ensure that those conditions remain unaffected by my departure as their continuity is paramount.

Again, as I have said before: I am just part of the team at Cardiff and Vale, just as you are, and although I will be leaving the UHB (and do so with a heavy heart), I know that every single person working at the Health Board will continue to achieve great things from what we have worked together to put in motion over the last four years. Keep up the excellent work!

Len Richards
Chief Executive

COVID-19 Vaccine update

We have delivered 685,364 vaccines to our adult population and are continuing our walk-in sessions at Bayside MVC and Holm View Leisure Centre every day between 8.30am and 7.30pm.

In accordance to JCVI guidance we have begun inviting those who are nearly 18 for their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. If you are turning 18 between 26th July and 31st October 2021, then please call our vaccine booking line on 02921 841234 to book an appointment at one of our Mass Vaccination Centres.

Getting vaccinated is still the best way to protect yourself, your loved ones and your community. So if you are eligible and have not received your vaccination please contact us by calling our vaccine booking line.

We continue to see a high number of people not attending for their second dose of the vaccine, and I want to take this opportunity to reiterate how important it is to receive both doses. It's important to get your second dose for maximum protection, to reduce the risk of serious disease and hospitalisation. So if you have an appointment please attend.

There are a number of resources available for employers, including a Welsh Government toolkit to help employers to support staff in getting vaccinated, [which can be found by clicking here](#). I would urge employers to be as flexible as possible when it's time for staff to have a vaccine. Furthermore, if you or your organisation would like to help promote our vaccination programme, we have a number of multilingual information leaflets and social media assets that can be [downloaded from our website here](#).

If you have any questions about the vaccine you can find comprehensive FAQs on our website. Together we can help keep our population safe.

Blog from Wayne Parsons

On the subject of changing roles, Wayne Parsons, one of the newest members of our Improvement and Implementation team, published an excellent blog on his transition from his previous role as Lead Nurse for our Emergency Unit on the Dragon's Heart Institute website.

Many colleagues will know Wayne from his time in the Emergency Unit so will not be surprised that what he has written is an incredibly honest and moving piece in which he reflects on how it has felt to step away from the frontline, why he felt it was the right thing to do for his career and his goals in his new role.

It is an excellent read, and I imagine anyone who has made a similar career change will be able to empathise with what Wayne writes.

[You can read it here.](#)

SAS Contract Reform

It's an opportune time to highlight the work that's currently going on in respect of SAS contract reform.

On 1st April 2021 a new Specialty Doctor contract was introduced and all new appointees to this grade will be appointed in accordance with the new pay, terms and conditions. In addition, any Specialty Doctors and Clinical Assistants already in post within the UHB under the existing contract as at 1st April 2021 are being invited to express their interest in moving on to the new pay, terms and conditions or they can choose to remain on their current contracts with no detriment.

Also on 1st April 2021, a new 'Specialist' grade contract has been introduced which extends potential career growth opportunities for Specialty Doctors. A new job description and person specification will be drawn up to enable future recruitment to this new role where appropriate. As part of the transitional arrangements, any existing Associate Specialists in post within the UHB as at 1st April 2021 are being invited to express their interest in moving on to the new Specialist grade pay, terms and conditions, subject to them meeting the entry criteria for the grade – or they can remain on their current Associate Specialist contract with no detriment.

Our colleagues in the Medical Workforce Department are currently writing out to all existing Specialty Doctors, Clinical Assistants and Associate Specialists in post within the UHB as at 1st April 2021, highlighting these developments and inviting them to express their interest in moving to the applicable new contract. It's important to note that these doctors will have until 30th September 2021 to express their interest in moving to the new contract so that they can be eligible for any backdating of pay increase to 1st April 2021 that may apply under the transitional arrangements.

Eligible doctors expressing an interest to move to the applicable new contract are not obliged to do so but it does signify that they will participate in the job planning process as necessary with a view to receiving an offer to transfer to the new contract as per this agreed job plan.

This is an exciting development for our SAS grade colleagues and I would encourage all those eligible to access further information on these reforms via the NHS Employers and BMA websites and consider taking the opportunity to express their interest in moving to the new contract.

Celebrating our Medicine Clinical Board staff at the annual recognition awards

Friday 16 July marked an important day for staff in our Medicine Clinical Board. It's an annual, internal event where staff from our Specialised Medicine (SM), Integrated Medicine (IM) and Acute and Emergency Medicine (AEM) directorates are recognised and celebrated for their hard work, dedication and achievements over the past year through a number of categories.

This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we held a small ceremony which was compèred by Wyburn & Wayne and hosted by Max Boyce MBE! Staff who were unable to attend the ceremony in person could watch it through Microsoft Teams.

It's important that we stop and reflect during ceremonies like these and it's so humbling to hear about the inspiring work from our staff in what has been an incredibly challenging year. I'm pleased to announce the winners and runners-up from the ceremony overleaf. I hope you join me in congratulating each and every one of them.

| | WINNER | RUNNER-UP |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION - NURSING | Emma Simpkins (AEM) | Sam Baker (IM) |
| OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION - MEDICAL | James Dunn (AEM) | Alex Elliott-Green & Stephanie Wells |
| OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION - HCSW | Ashley Crockett-Lynch (AEM) | Natalie McCulloch (IM) |
| OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION - ADMIN | Karan Phillips (IM) | Anne Jones (SM) |
| QUALITY IMPROVEMENT | Syed Masud (AEM) | Tim Ayres (AEM) |
| LIVING OUR VALUES | Elizabeth Davies (SM) | Kate Boyes (AEM) |
| PARTNERSHIP WORKING | Zoe Roberts (AEM) | Nikola Creasey (AEM) |
| MANAGER OF THE YEAR | Lorraine Speight (SM) | Rebecca David (SM) |
| UNSUNG HERO | Kath Prosser | John Butler (IM) |
| TEAM OF THE YEAR | Parkinsons Team (IM) - Tracy Williams, Sandra Mahon, Dr Biju Mohamed, Dr Chris Thomas | CaV Stroke Services Team (IM) |
| INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP | Senior Nursing Team within Medicine Clinical Board: Lisa Waters - Senior Nurse (AEM) Cath Morris - Senior Nurse (AEM) Jenna McLaren - Senior Nurse (AEM) Lisa Green - Senior Nurse (AEM) Jacqui Westmoreland - Senior Nurse (AEM) Ceri Martin - Lead Nurse (AEM) Carly Simpson - Senior Nurse (IM) Fran Wilcox - Senior Nurse (IM) Ruth Cann - Senior Nurse (IM) Sian Brookes - Senior Nurse (IM) Natasha Whysall - Senior Nurse (IM) | Jinky Hernandez (IM) |

Medical and Dental Staff Bank

On Monday 16 August, we will be launching a new locum bank for medical and dental workers, implemented by Medacs Healthcare, whose onsite teams currently manage all temporary staffing operations for the health board.

The new bank is expected to bring positive benefits for staff, managers and patient care, with a large, multi-skilled resource pool, efficiently managed so more vacant clinical shifts can be filled at less cost (due to less reliance on agency locums). Benefits for doctors will include the ability to use a mobile app to view and book available shifts and submit timesheets, with weekly pay and support from an onsite team to build their skills in new areas.

The new bank will also free up time for rota coordinators, with more efficient booking and payroll processes. Management information reports will be shared with the clinical board in due course, showing how the bank is performing, with detailed insights to drive continuous improvement, cost savings and more efficient management of both bank and agency workforces.

All medical and dental staff will be automatically enrolled on the bank, with communications sent directly to all in the coming weeks, giving them the option to 'opt out' of the bank if they wish. They will also be encouraged to download and login to the new Envoy app to view and book their shifts.

Llantwit Access to Food Survey

Food Vale is working closely with the Health Board and a number of partners including Vale Foodbank and Vale of Glamorgan Council, to understand the barriers people living in the Vale face in feeding themselves or their families. To gain an insight and hear from the population of Llantwit Major, a new survey has been launched as part of a pilot project to help provide better support for those who are struggling to access a good meal every day.

The short, anonymous survey is open to all residents of Llantwit Major to give families an opportunity to share their experiences in accessing food. You can complete the Llantwit Access to Food survey by [clicking here](#) or calling the dedicated phone line on 02921 836517 to leave a voice message. Read more about the Llantwit Access to Food project [on our website here](#).

The Digital Gateway is here!

The Digital & Health Intelligence team are delighted to announce the launch of the new [Digital Gateway intranet pages](#). These have been developed to make it easier for staff to access help, advice and support in the ever expanding digital environment.

From this site you can access online help and training, request IT support and learn more about our Digital & Health Intelligence team and systems.

You will find links to log helpdesk support calls such as:

- Request new NADEX logons
- Change Global address details
- Request homeworking tokens & merakis
- Apply for port activation
- Request installs; software, desktops, printers etc
- And much, much more!

From the Digital Gateway front door you will also find information and useful documents relating to Information Governance, IT Security, BIS & our Informatics Team.

Advanced Therapies Wales Programme Updates

Precision medicine has seen increasing progress over the last few decades, with new discoveries and breakthroughs happening more frequently. The Advanced Therapies Wales programme continues to support the development of this sector in Wales by working with colleagues from organisations such as the NHS, academia, commercial and charitable sectors, at both a national and UK level.

To learn more about the Advanced Therapies work in Wales, [read the latest programme updates.](#)



**Advanced
Therapies**
Wales

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Cymru

Cardiff Council Digital NHS Parking Permit

Cardiff Council have agreed to extend the free parking for people using the digital permits in the Council car parks detailed below until the end of August.

This applies to staff parking in the following Council-run car parks:-

Heath Park, Sophia Gardens, Wellington Street, Leckwith Road, Severn Road, Grey Street, Harvey Street

All NHS & Public Health Wales staff who have signed up for the digital permit system on MiPermit, have had their special permits extended until 31st August 2021 automatically.

However staff will continue to need to book a stay using the App every time they are working and parking in one of the above named car parks.

We will also continue to accept the paper Welsh Government Covid Parking permits in resident Permit areas/bays along with any previously agreed NHS permits (such as the district Nurse permits previously in use) until the 31st August.

These exemptions will be reviewed again towards the end of August and as soon as a decision is made in relation to whether these will be extend again or the exemption stopped I will let you know.

Other news and events

Grateful Family Praise NHS Staff

Christine Pell and her family would like to thank all of the staff in Cardiff and Vale for their expertise and dedication after Christine was admitted for COVID in November 2020. Christine's family recently donated £1,000 to the Critical Unit at UHW. Speaking on behalf of all the family, Christine's daughter, said "No words can express how grateful we are for the life-saving treatment given by the medical team and all of the care, mum received on her journey to recovery from all of the staff". [Read more](#)

Feedback for Barry Hospital Exhibition

Jane Hutt MS and Ceri Phillips, Vice Chair of Cardiff and Vale UHB met with Molly Lewis, Gallery Co-Ordinator at the Summer Showcase at Barry Hospital earlier this week. This Showcase is a vibrant and positive exhibition that celebrates the benefits that creative art can bring. [Read more](#)

Staff Lottery Winners

July's staff lottery winners have been announced. [See the lucky winners here.](#)

Teresa Janes Crowned Health Hero

Cardiff & Vale Health Charity is delighted to announce that Cardiff and Vale University Health Board employee Teresa Janes has been crowned Health Hero for August.

Teresa, who is a Clerical Officer in the Sexual Health Department at Cardiff Royal Infirmary was nominated by former colleague Nathan Saunders for "making patients so happy."

[Read more](#)

Funding received for Cardiff Royal Infirmary; people, place, future

The Arts for Health and Wellbeing Team at Cardiff & Vale Health Charity are delighted to receive funding and support from the Arts Council of Wales from the new National Lottery Arts, Health and Wellbeing Fund.

The project – Cardiff Royal Infirmary; people, place, future aims to re-frame a deeper, more accessible relationship to NHS services for all, through the creative arts and to people in their communities. [Read more](#)

Nathan Wyburn's vaccination artwork

Nathan Wyburn recently designed a piece of vaccination art for Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. If you would like a copy of this artwork for your working area please email: fundraising.cav@wales.nhs.uk with how many are required, thank you.

