

Chief Executive CONNECTS



Dear Colleague,

09/03/2021

Yesterday was International Women's Day, a global occasion celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of all women. It also marks a call to action for accelerating gender equality and creating a more inclusive, fair world. The theme this year is #EverydayCourage in tribute to the courage being demonstrated by women in health and care during these extraordinary times. That is certainly something we have seen at Cardiff and Vale UHB during the past 12 months.

I was pleased to see a number of our female colleagues recognised on the Health Board's social media accounts yesterday, which of course represents a very small number of the many women who make a vital contribution at all levels of our organisation.

Fiona Kinghorn, Our Executive Director for Public Health and executive sponsor for issues relating to gender, yesterday said: "Women make up 77 per cent of our staff in health and care. It is clear that they have often played a disproportionate role in informal care and in supporting our families during the Covid-19 pandemic. Yet there is sometimes a disjoint between the volume of their contribution and the power and influence they have the opportunity or confidence to play in the formal system. When we add other factors like race, ethnicity, gender identity, disability and sexual orientation, the system becomes even more unequal. Access to learning, career opportunities and health and care matters for all, no more so than now.

"We see the everyday courage of our female colleagues working at the point of care during COVID19, especially women from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background, who work with extra risk. We see the everyday courage of women who juggle work with home schooling or other caring responsibilities. We need the everyday courage to take action for a different future, based on gender equality and social justice."

We can choose to challenge bias, discrimination, and stereotyping based on gender. We can choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements, lifting up the stories from our past and present so often pushed into the background by men's accomplishments. Collectively, we can create an inclusive and gender-equal world.



I commit to call out gender stereotyping, celebrate women's achievements, raise awareness against bias and take action for equality.

Len Richards
Chief Executive

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

The vaccination programme continues to make good progress as to date we have offered around 139,000 first doses and 29,000 second doses. Over a third (34%) of our adult population, that is everyone aged 16 or over, has received their first dose. We are continuing to invite priority group 5 (age 65-69) to their GP, and groups 6 (those aged 16+ with underlying health conditions and unpaid carers) and 7 (aged 60-64) to mass vaccination centres.

Last week, we published an online form so unpaid carers could identify themselves and come forward to received their vaccination. Since going live on Thursday, over 600 carers have completed the form. We also announced that a fourth mass vaccination centre will be opening at the end of this month at the former Toys R Us site in Cardiff Bay; it will be called the Bayside Mass Vaccination Centre.

Also last week, we held a media day across three of our Mass Vaccination Centres, gaining national publicity for our hardworking staff on outlets such as BBC, ITV and Wales Online.

Further, in our meeting with local Members of the Senedd and Members of Parliament on Friday, our communications team were also praised for their work on the mass vaccination programme web pages, and I would like to thank them for their efforts to continually keep them up to date, with clear and concise information. I'm sure it is making a huge difference to people's anxieties about when they will be offered the vaccine.

In the week ahead, our mobile vaccination teams will be visiting care homes to administer second doses to residents and staff, our GPs will continue to offer first doses to priority group 5, which they are on track to complete by the 22nd March. Our mass vaccination centres in Pentwyn and Barry will also continue to deliver the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine to priority group 6, while the centre in Splott and the satellite clinic at University Hospital Llandough will continue to offer second doses of the Pfizer vaccine.

More vaccine will be delivered next week and we will be looking to offer both first and second doses to even more people.



Supporting Vaccine Uptake among Minority Ethnic Communities

Our regional Test Trace Protect team which brings together representatives from the health board, Cardiff Council, Vale Council, Public Health Wales and a range of community groups and charities, has recently worked closely with Muslim Doctors Cymru and a number of General Practitioners from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities across Cardiff and the Vale to produce a series of bite-sized videos to support people in making an informed choice about the Covid-19 vaccination.

We are asking local community and healthcare partners to support this latest campaign by sharing the resources with local community groups. The work aims to increase COVID-19 vaccine uptake amongst some of the groups who have been disproportionately impacted by the virus. Each short video focusses on a different topic of concern around the vaccine including efficacy, safety and side effects, impact on underlying conditions and vaccine ingredients.

The results of a [Public Health Wales report](#) released last month showed that at an all Wales level, older people of white ethnic groups appeared to be taking up the vaccine faster than older people in combined Black, Asian, Mixed and Other ethnic groups.

Making sure that all our residents are able to make an informed choice around vaccination is a strong priority for the health board. Over one in three Cardiff and Vale residents have had the vaccine so far and each person who is vaccinated is helping to protect our older and vulnerable family members. [Read the full story here.](#)

The videos are available in [English](#) and [Welsh](#), along with a communications toolkit to support dissemination to local communities.

Frequently Asked Questions about the COVID-19 vaccine are answered in a range of languages and can be found [here](#).

Our second Spread and Scale Academy is this week

In very exciting news, [our second Spread and Scale Academy](#), hosted in partnership with Life Sciences Hub Wales and the Billions Institute, takes place this week. It was heartening to read that the panellists for this academy were overwhelmed with applications from across Wales in January despite the pressure the system was under at the time.

We know that the many of the best ideas about how to improve healthcare will come from the frontline but those with the ideas don't always know what to do when faced with certain barriers. The Spread and Scale Academy is designed to help people with working change projects implement them successfully across the wider system. Delegates at the previous Spread and Scale Academy in 2019 described it as "the best thing I've attended in my career by a long way".

They have gone on to achieve great things with their various projects and programmes of work using the knowledge and skills they gained during the three-day academy. Since then, the COVID-19 pandemic has radically changed the ways in which many services are delivered and been the cause of much-needed innovation across the system. The best of these fledgling ideas from across Wales will be represented at this week's academy and I am very excited to watch their progress into the future.

There are more Spread and Scale academy dates planned for the near future with the next one expected to take place in autumn 2021. Therefore, if you are working on a project that is successful in your area, but want to know where to take it next so that more people can benefit, I would strongly recommend that you consider applying when the process opens later this year.

Join us at the Shaping Our Future Clinical Services engagement events

You may be aware that our engagement period for our Shaping Our Future Clinical Services has begun. It will run until Monday 19th April 2021.

We need to rapidly evolve to best serve the needs of the public and ensure that we're able to offer sustainable health services for everyone, no matter who you are or where you live. To help shape our future clinical services, we want to hear your views on our vision.

Join us at an engagement event:

- Cardiff South East & Central: 7-9pm, 10th March 2021
- The Eastern Vale of Glamorgan: 7-9pm, 22nd March 2021
- The Western Vale of Glamorgan: 7-9pm, 24th March 2021
- The Central Vale of Glamorgan: 7-9pm, 30th March 2021

Due to ongoing limitations to face-to-face meetings presented by the pandemic, all of these meetings will be held online via Zoom, hosted by the South Glamorgan Community Health Council (CHC).

[Sign up to one of our events here](#) and we will email you the access details on the day of the event. Welsh language simultaneous translation is available for these events.

This is your chance to have your say on future clinical services are delivered in hospital, in the community and even in your home.

[Find out more about our proposed transformations here](#)

Sign up for our Vascular Engagement Events and have your say

You may have seen that we have launched an engagement programme into the future of vascular services in South East Wales. This public engagement opportunity will run until Friday 16th April 2021.

A number of growing challenges face vascular services in South East Wales, meaning the service cannot be sustained in its current format for the future. The configuration of vascular services across the region has been discussed at length for many years.

Our Health Boards in South East Wales have long standing working relationships, the South East Wales Vascular Network has been formally established to enhance collaboration and identify the best model of care for the future. The network is made up of:

- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
- Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
- Powys Teaching Health Board

A series of engagement events is being hosted each of the provider Health Boards, ours will be held on the following dates:

- 16th March 2021, 7-9pm
- 18th March 2021, 7-9pm

Due to ongoing limitations to face-to-face meetings presented by the pandemic, all of these meetings will be held online via Zoom, hosted by the South Glamorgan Community Health Council (CHC).

[Sign up to one of our events here](#) and we will email you the access details on the day of the event. Welsh language simultaneous translation is available for these events.

This is your opportunity to have your say and shape how we deliver vascular services in future.

[Find out more here.](#)

Help us help you

I once again want to remind you of the importance of risk reducing behaviours amongst staff in order to protect patients, staff and our local communities. We are collectively responsible for everything that happens within our places of work.

As part of our #HelpUsHelpYou campaign we are highlighting the ongoing hard work and sacrifices our staff members are undertaking in order to keep us all safe. I hope this will serve as a reminder that we all have a part to play in protecting each other. We must all continue to comply with the advice from Welsh Government and Public Health Wales – Maintain physical distancing, wear a mask when required and wash hands regularly.

A big thank you to you all for the commitment you show on a daily basis.

[Hear more from Ceri Morris, clinical nurse specialist at UHW's Urology Diagnostic & Treatment Centre here.](#)



Other News and Events

Healthcare Inspectorate Wales wants your views.

Healthcare Inspectorate Wales is carrying out inspections of COVID mass vaccination centres in Cardiff and Vale, Cwm Taf Morgannwg, Hywel Dda and Betsi Cadwaladr health boards. As part of the work, they'd like to hear the views and experiences of staff working in the centres. If you've worked at a centre, you can help them by spending a few minutes in [completing their survey.](#)

Speaking up to keep people safe

Jointly with their sister inspectorate, Care Inspectorate Wales, HIW has published a statement calling on all staff working in health and social care in Wales to "speak up" about the excellent care that is being provided, but also about care that does not meet the required standard. [Read more.](#)

Other News and Events

Arts Team celebrate International Women's Day

The Hearth Gallery is delighted to welcome you to the virtual exhibition The Female Interpretation, a group exhibition by three local female photographers who all share interests in the subjects and themes of Architecture, Creative Wellbeing and the Welsh landscape. [Read more](#)

Enter the Health Charity Easter Raffle.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Barry Hospital Newsletter

[Read about what the Health Charity have been doing at Barry Hospital recently.](#)

Cardiff & Vale Health Charity pays tribute to Captain Sir Tom Moore

Cardiff & Vale Health Charity pays tribute to Captain Sir Tom Moore by sharing how donations to NHS Charities Together have been supporting NHS patients, staff and volunteers across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

[Read more](#)

Team B6's Land's End to John O'Groats Challenge

Everyone at Cardiff & Vale Health Charity would like to say a huge thank to Team B6 and wish them the best of luck for their Lands End to John O'Groats Challenge in support of Ward B6 at the University Hospital of Wales!

[Read more](#)

Staff Lottery Winners: February 2021

[Find out who our lucky winners were for last month's Staff Lottery draw.](#)