

# EXECUTIVE CONNECTS



Dear Colleague,

05/09/2022

I am very proud that hundreds of NHS Wales colleagues gathered in Cardiff over August bank holiday weekend to march in the Pride Cymru 2022 Parade. Pride Cymru is a wonderful celebration of our LGBTQ+ community and as a Health Board we are proud to promote and foster inclusion.

The incredible bed used in this year's Pride Cymru parade was dressed by artist Caroline Richards and the different ribbons that adorned the bed represent the different LGBTQ+ communities and cultures. It was lovely to see all of the images, videos and posts across news channels and social media to celebrate the day and it made me feel so proud to be part of the NHS. I really enjoyed soaking up the atmosphere in the centre of Cardiff.



It was also great to read some stories from our staff on why they were marching at Pride and you can read more [here](#).

On the 1st September our Mass Vaccination Teams started delivering the Autumn Booster programme to adult care homes through our community vaccination teams and adults aged 80 and over will also start to receive invites to attend their GP Practice, Community Pharmacy or one of our Mass Vaccination Centres. Today, our new MVC at Woodland House opens following the closure of both Bayside and Splott MVCs. The new centre was built in just 4 weeks and will be able to deliver 12,600 doses a week depending on supply and will complement the existing MVC at Holm View in Barry. If you are invited for your vaccination please attend as the vaccine is the best way to enable us to protect the local population against Covid 19 as we head into the Winter months.

Delivery of the flu vaccination is also due to start later in September and again if eligible you will be invited to receive it so again please take up the offer as we are anticipating a bad season of flu and it is the best way to prevent serious illness.

More details on the Covid 19 vaccination programme can be found [here](#).

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## Mental health settings to become smoke-free across Wales

From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022, Welsh Government legislation requires all mental health settings to be entirely smoke-free. This includes all residential units, wards, buildings, grounds and vehicles on our site.

Since March 2021 it has been illegal to smoke on hospital grounds, however, under this regulation mental health settings were allowed to identify designated smoking areas in enclosed courtyards. In the interest of patient health, these exceptions have been removed from the regulation with effect from 1st September 2022. Mental health settings in England have been smoke-free since 2018.



Based on best practice and the evidence available around implementation, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board will be adopting a phased approach to support the transition with a view to fully implement the change by winter. This will allow us to best support existing inpatients and continue to tailor our approach based on learning and feedback.

Cardiff and Vale UHB recognises how important smoking can be to patients. However, there are significant health benefits to giving up smoking. Our staff will be on hand to provide advice and support through

the implementation of the new requirements – as well as on an ongoing basis. Support for smokers is going to be an increasingly important part of patients' individual care plans.

[Find more information about our plans, including frequently asked questions and Easy Read information on our web](#)

## Healthcare Job Fair

The Heath Board will be attending the Healthcare Job Fair on Saturday 10th September 2022 at the International Convention Centre, Newport.

Anyone who is interested in a job in health and social care are invited to come and meet us at the UK's largest recruitment event for medical, nursing, and health and social care employment opportunities.

Attendees will be able to find out about the wide range of exciting career opportunities we have available across the Health Board, including Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Care Support Workers.

[Find out more and register to attend here.](#)

## Become the RPB Representative for Unpaid Carers

Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board (RPB) is looking for an unpaid carer to join their Board to influence and plan long-term support and services across the region.

The RPB would love to hear from you if you feel you can use your knowledge and links to other

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carers to ensure our work reflects the views and experiences of unpaid carers.

We know how hard it can be to find help when people need it the most and that the challenges unpaid carers face have become even harder over the last few years. This is an exciting opportunity to look to the future by becoming a member of the Regional Partnership Board and shared Chair of the Unpaid Carers Board, which oversees the development of services we fund to support unpaid carers.

To give you a flavour of our work, we will be:

- Publishing an Unpaid Carers Charter to help people understand if they are carers and the support they can expect;
- Publicising the Carers Gateway, which supports unpaid carers and helps them access financial advice, grants and other services. [Please click here to watch a film about their work;](#)
- Developing our plans for the next five years - shaping services around what matters most to people and bringing them as close to home as possible.



[Please click here to read more about the role and complete the Expression of Interest.](#) This will need to be returned to [lanit@gvs.wales](mailto:lanit@gvs.wales) by 23 September 2022. Interviews will take place on 19 and 20 October 2022.

If you would like an information or have any questions, please contact Lani Tucker by emailing [lanit@gvs.wales](mailto:lanit@gvs.wales) or calling 01446 741706.

## **AWMSG publishes Annual Report 2021–2022**

The All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) has published their annual report for 2021-2022 which highlights the key work they have delivered over the last year. The report compiled by the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC), highlights the outputs from the nine virtual AWMSG meetings held during the year, including:

- 21 medicines appraised (8 full submissions, 4 limited submissions and 9 paediatric licence extensions)
- 17 Statements of Advice issued
- 14 medicine optimisation resources published
- 15 national prescribing indicators monitored throughout the year
- 9 Wales Patient Access Schemes processed.

The report also outlines the important work AWMSG carries out with the three main partner groups – patients and the public, healthcare professionals and the pharmaceutical industry – as it and AWTTC

continues to respond to the challenges of the pandemic while supporting the safe and prudent prescribing of medicines.

[Read the full 2021–2022 AWMSG Annual Report](#)

## Cardiff & Vale Health Charity launches 'Nominate for a Portrait' competition

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 to paint a portrait of one member of staff.

Staff are invited to nominate a colleague that they think should be celebrated with a portrait. Everyone working in Cardiff and Vale UHB is eligible.

[Staff can complete this form to nominate a colleague.](#)

## Welsh 3 Peaks Challenge

There's still time to sign up to the Welsh 3 Peaks Challenge! Find out more by visiting our [webpage](#) or contact us with any questions you have: [fundraising.cav@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:fundraising.cav@wales.nhs.uk)

A promotional poster for the Welsh 3 Peaks Challenge. The background is a scenic view of Snowdonia mountains under a blue sky with clouds. At the top, the text 'WELSH 3 PEAKS CHALLENGE' is written in white capital letters. Below it, 'SNOWDON - CADAIR IDRIS - PEN Y FAN' is written in black. The date 'SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER 2022' is in blue. In the center, 'REGISTER ONLINE' is written in white, with the website 'WWW.HEALTHCHARITY.WALES/EVENTS' below it. On the left, a blue circle contains '£250 MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP'. On the right, a white circle contains '£110 REGISTRATION FEE'. At the bottom, there are logos for GIG NHS, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, and Health Charity Elusen Iechyd, along with social media handles and the email 'fundraising.cav@wales.nhs.uk'.

## Art for SARC

The Staff Lottery Bids Panel recently approved a bid to brighten up the space of Ynys Saff at the Sexual Assault Referral Centre ([SARC](#)) at Cardiff Royal Infirmary in an aim to create a safe and nurturing environment for those who come to use the Sexual Assault Service.