

Welcome to the December LPF Briefing!

This is a summary of the topics we discussed and any actions or decisions reached at our latest meeting. Please share this briefing with any staff who don't have access to the UHB internet or CAV You Heard newsletter.

The Director of Workforce and OD / Deputy Chief Executive advised that:

- We have recruited 280 additional (new) nurses
- There was a positive Joint Executive Team meeting with Welsh Government – they are pleased with our progress over the last 3 years and want us to continue
- Absence levels increased again in September, but there was a small reduction in October
- We are creating a library of bilingual, generic job descriptions as all recruitment must be bilingual under the Welsh Language Standards

We are continuing to overspend on delegated budgets for a number of reasons including agency costs, expensive drugs and slippage against the cost improvement plans. A Plan has been drawn up to ensure that we breakeven this year, but this involves using flexibilities that won't be available next year so 2020/21 will be a hard year.

Please continue to use and promote the Park and Ride schemes. The times at UHL are being evaluated and reviewed to enable as many people as possible to use it

The Forum congratulated everyone involved in recent nurse recruitment events – especially for their hard work and for thinking differently

We received an update on the Clinical Services Strategy and the infrastructure needed to shift toward delivering care closer to home. We also heard about the initial plans for UHW2. The roles for UHW and UHL are becoming more distinct. This is just the start of a longer conversation, and more formal engagement & consultation will take place in 2020

The Public Health team attended as part of the consultation into the 'Move More, Eat Well' initiative. A number of priorities have been identified including:

- Healthy environment
- Travel
- Health pre-schools and schools.

The Forum were very supportive of the programme but staff representatives raised concerns about staff who can't get a hot meal at night, and the need to be able to refill a water bottle

The extraordinary operational pressures we have been facing continue, with 500+ more people presenting compared with this time last year. This is not unique to the UHB and reflects the UK and Welsh position, but it does mean that there has been no real respite between winters this year.