**Cardiff and Vale Care and Support Regional Workforce Partnership: Briefing for the Third Sector September 2017**

**Introduction**

The Regional Workforce Partnership Board brings together the training teams from the City of Cardiff Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Council, along with the Cardiff and Vale College and Senior Members from Social Services in both Council’s with the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board also attending. C3SC and GVS are also members. During 2016/2017 the Partnership developed a new website from where information can be shared across the wider social care workforce. The website is almost ready to launch and will be available at [www.cardiffandvalesocialcare.co.uk](http://www.cardiffandvalesocialcare.co.uk)

The Partnership view the workforce in its widest possible terms, paid social care workers or support workers, carers (family, unpaid) and volunteers. The offer to carers is being developed at present.

The Partnership has two main groups the Board and an Operational Group. The C3SC Health and Social Care Facilitator had issues presented about the workforce in Cardiff, as a result they have been engaged with the partnership through the various group meetings since December 2015. The GVS Health and Social Care Facilitator has recently been invited to join both the Board and Operational Group.

**Work to date**

As well as developing the website the partnership have run two workshops for consultations around the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016, with another planned in regards to the Social Care Wales Transforming Care in the 21st Century consultation document.

Be a care worker campaign – this campaign was run in Cardiff only, but is being looked at to be rolled out across the region. The campaign aims to raise the status and profile of the social care workforce and to celebrate successes from within it.

Preparing for the Registration of the Social Care Workforce, this has been challenging as what the requirements for registration will be have been slow to be revealed. However, the Board have listened and engaged with Social Care Wales to put the region in the best place possible with planning.

Funding: The Partnership have discussed funding of the workforce to meet the requirements of the living wage and to reward qualifications and other skills. With austerity this is an ongoing concern of the Partnership and not one that can be easily solved, it continues to be discussed. Other options to reward and acknowledge the skills of the workforce are also a focus of the Partnership, with a celebration event being planned for November 2017.

**Priorities for 2017/18**

The following are the current priorities for the Regional Workforce Partnership, all have been linked to the key priorities developed by Social Care Wales.

*Key priority one: Care and support at home*

* 1. Qualifications for Social Care Workers
  2. Registration of the Social Care Workforce – 2018

*Key priority two: Recruitment and Retention of Social Care Workforce*

2.1 Promote Recruitment and Retention of Social Care Workers (includes Be a Care Worker campaign and the celebratory event)

*Key priority three: Professional Development for Social Care Managers*

3.1 Appropriately recruit suitable practitioners to take up the regions 7 (now 5) places on the “Step up to Management” Programme.

*Key priority four: Social Care Induction Framework*

4.1 Implementation of Social Care Induction Framework

*Key priority five: Workforce Planning*

5.1 Strength mechanisms for data collection and analysis and establish systems for communicating key findings to the Social Care Sector in a timely way.

*Key priority six: People with Dementia Care*

6.1 Supporting the implementation of the Dementia Care 10 year strategy across the region.

*Key priority seven: Outcome Based Planning and Commissioning*

7.1 Promote outcome planning and commissioning for citizens.

*Key priority eight: Improved Training and Development Opportunities for Unpaid Carers*

8.1 Identifying the training and develop needs of unpaid carers and work with them to meet these needs.

*Key priority nine: Looked After Children*

9.1 Support the engagement of Children’s Services providers within the Workforce Partnership.

9.2 Promote training and staff development opportunities across the child and family sector to promote early intervention and prevention services that reduce the need of children to become Looked After.

There are likely to be opportunities to engage on a number of these actions. Information on opportunities will be advertised through the Cardiff Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Network, Vale Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Network, the Cardiff and Vale Carers Support and Information Network Group (CSING) as well as through the Social Care Managers Forums and from the Workforce Partnership website.

**Proposed merger of Cardiff and Vale Social Care Training Unit**

The possibility of merging the two training units is being looked at with a business case being due to go to both Local Authority Cabinets in October 2017. The unit if merger proceeds would continue to have two bases, one in Cardiff and one in the Vale of Glamorgan so there will be very little difference seen at least initially by providers, services and support would continue to be delivered. The Partnership are particularly keen to maintain business as usual due to the time limitations for the planned registration of Domiciliary Care workers and the potential need for additional training and support to be provided.

**Contact details**

For more information on the work of the Regional Workforce Partnership please see the new website [www.cardiffandvalesocialcare.co.uk](http://www.cardiffandvalesocialcare.co.uk) or contact the Health and Social Care Facilitators directly, their details are shown below.

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