



## Activity update

The group brings together partners from across health and social care services and acts as a source of impartial, evidenced-based expert advice for Welsh Government, NHS Wales, Senedd Members and other stakeholders.

The group also aims to ensure a sharper focus and understanding on the current and necessary support for the people we collectively represent in social care and in primary, community, and secondary care mental health services.

Mae'r grŵp yn dod â phartneriaid o bob rhan o wasanaethau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol ynghyd a byddant yn gweithredu fel ffynhonnell cyngor arbenigol diduedd, wedi'i seilio ar dystiolaeth ar gyfer Llywodraeth Cymru, GIG Cymru a rhanddeiliaid eraill.

Nod y grŵp hefyd yw sicrhau ffocws a dealltwriaeth fwy craff ar y gefnogaeth gyfredol ac angenrheidiol i'r bobl yr ydym yn eu cynrychioli gyda'n gilydd ym maes gofal cymdeithasol ac mewn gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl gofal sylfaenol, cymunedol ac eilaidd.

# Foreward

*“We’re excited to issue our third report, and what an eventful 12 months it has been for mental health in Wales.*

*“The Welsh Government has consulted on its new 10-year strategies for mental health and wellbeing and suicide and self-harm prevention. The final strategies and accompanying delivery plans are due for publication early in the new year. We eagerly await their release and stand ready to support their successful delivery in collaboration with partners.*

*“The new UK Government has unveiled its Mental Health Bill, heralding long-awaited reforms to outdated mental health legislation. We look forward to scrutinising the proposals as they progress through the UK Parliament, as well as the Senedd’s consideration of legislative consent. We are committed to working with the Welsh Government to ensure the effective implementation of the new legislation in Wales.*

*“Following the introduction of the Mental Health Bill at Westminster, the Mental Health Standards of Care (Wales) Bill will not be taken forward through the Senedd. Work on the Bill has not been in vain, however. Its development has laid important groundwork for future amendments to the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010, which will further enhance the experience of, and empower, mental health patients in Wales. We will pursue these in our engagement with the Welsh Government.*

*“The next few months represent a pivotal moment for the future landscape of mental health in Wales. Crucially, underpinning all of this, is our workforce.*

*“It’s now two years since the publication of the Strategic Mental Health Workplace Plan. The need to monitor the strategy and ensure that it is accounting and aligning to the ever-changing policy landscape, and demands upon services, couldn’t be greater. However, a lack of engagement with the Group and individual members on the year 1 evaluation of the plan has been a cause for frustration. We hope that this can be rectified in future reviews.”*

**Ollie John**  
**Chair of the Group**



# This year

We've been joined by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) Cymru, and the Royal College of Midwives, taking our membership to 12 organisations across primary, secondary, and social care.

We gave evidence to the Senedd's Health and Social Care Committee inquiry into Chronic Conditions. It's great that the group is being recognised and valued in this way.

We continue to have representations on several significant advisory groups:

- o The Ministerial Advisory Group on ND
- o The HEIW Workforce Plan Implementation Board
- o The Programme Board of the NHS Executive Strategic Programme for Mental Health

We supported the creation of a new group the 'Welsh Royal College Child Health (WRCCH) Collaborative' that has a focus on Children & Young People's mental health. This group is hosted by the Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health.





## Over the next 12 months

The group will be taking an increased focus on Dementia Care, with a view to informing the revision of the Dementia Action Plan.

We are also committed to an increased focus on ND, including informing and scrutinising action undertaken to address the waiting times for assessment.

The implementation of the long term plan for mental health and wellbeing offers an opportunity to give continuity, as well as cement a vision for mental health and wellbeing in Wales for future years.

As a group, we are committed to ensuring that future iterations of the mental health workforce plan value the role of professions across the sector, and that the development and review of current and future iterations of strategy are also informed by our workforce.

There is significant opportunity to better align our existing and new mental health legislation, and ensure that adoption and implementation is both rights-based and achievable.

We've expressed these focus areas, alongside our current programme, to Welsh Government.



## Contact details

Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists  
Royal College of Occupational Therapists  
Royal College of General Practitioners  
Royal College of Physicians  
Royal College of Psychiatrists  
Royal College of Nursing  
Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health  
The Royal Pharmaceutical Society  
Royal College of Midwives  
British Association of Social Workers  
British Psychological Society  
Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

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Chair of the Group

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### Supplied artwork

#### Hei Meddyliau - Gathering Thoughts & Minds

Tua chant o ddelweddau yn seiliedig ar atebion i 'Sut y'ch chi'n gweld y meddwl a dulliau o gyfathrebu?'

Around a hundred images based on answers to 'How do you see the mind and ways of communicating?'

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