



**Cwm Taf Morgannwg  
Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group (RHSCG)  
2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 – (Microsoft Teams)  
Minutes Q1**

Attendees		Representing
Cllr Geriant Thomas (Chair)	GT	MTCBC
Cllr Bob Harris	BG	RCTCBC
Cheryl Emery	CE	Housing RCTCBC
Susan Preece	SP	Housing RCTCBC
Hannah Mills	HM	Housing MTCBC
Suzanne Stephens	SS	Housing MTCBC
Ryan Jones	RJ	Housing BCBC
Zoe Leonard	ZL	Housing BCBC
Louise Davies	LD	Public Protection Services
Nicola Eynon	NE	RPB Housing Rep
Emma Richards	ER	Probation Rep
Christa Bonham-Griffiths	CBG	Youth Justice
Lorraine Griffiths	LG	Support Provider Rep
Kelly Francis	KF	Regional Development Coordinator
Guests		
Rachel Thomas	RT	Housing Outreach Service - CTM UHB
Peter Rayner	PR	Housing Outreach Service - RCTCBC

<b>1</b>	<p><b><u>Welcome &amp; Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Deborah Evans, Luke Takeuchi, Jessica Ware, Emma Howells, Claire Beynon, Sarah O’Keefe, Angharad Metcalfe, Cllr Rhys Goode, Melinda Powell, Rachel Gronow, Rachel Honey-Jones.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b><u>Minutes of previous meeting and actions.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>content</u></b></p> <p><u>Minutes:</u> Were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u> HM confirmed all actions have been completed.</p>

**3** **CTM - Regional Project Updates:**

**3.1** **Research/ Scoping Projects**

There were two research projects funded last year:

3.1a The **BME pilot** delivered by BAWSO will not be continued into 23/24. The initial pilot received minimal take up. The project was extended due to the 2 x support posts not being filled for the entire duration; take up continued to be low during the extension period. Officers added that it was frustrating that this poor engagement was potentially due to staffing issues and may not have been a true reflection of need. The written report will be kept to inform future commissioning and could potentially be re-visited in the future.

**3.1b LGBTQ+ CTM Scoping Project** – HM explained this project needs to be considered further by the group. SP believes the last RDC (Kristen Cooper) had started an action plan regarding this project. HM will check the O-drive to see what has been documented so far.

**Action:**

KF to see what progress has been made with the LGBTQ+ project and bring this items back to the group. LGBTQ+ action plan to be circulated prior to the next RHSCG.

**3.2**

**Housing, Health and Substance Misuse Specialist Project**

Please see attached presented delivered by Rachel Thomas and Peter Rayner from the Housing Outreach Service (HOS).

In 2020 Welsh Government provided funding for a regional specialist outreach service for individuals with complex needs who were homelessness. In 2021, the project began with just 3 staff members and 23 service user referrals but it has grown substantially since then and now stands at 18 staff members and 501 service user referrals, whilst proving to be a very successful partnership project. Take up on the project has been evenly spread throughout Cwm Taf Morgannwg as the project continues to focus on being person centered and having a holistic approach.

The future for the project and its expansion includes recruiting a Senior Practitioner Social Worker and UHB medic support, as well as extending into supported accommodation and Housing First Projects.

CE acknowledged this project has been on a massive journey and wanted to specifically thank the team for all the hard work carried out.

ER asked what the pathway is into probation and RT confirmed this was through Housing and highlighted the importance of risk assessments. ER asked if the probation service can receive the same presentation and will contact RT directly to arrange.

The Chair expressed that it was pleasing the project was being delivered evenly across CTM as well as the preventative aspect of the project. The Chair did point out that it would be useful for the Police to be more aware of this specialist service.

CBG explained she works for Youth Justice in Bridgend but is more than happy to take the lead across CTM and it would be good to do joined up work with the more complex cases.

<p>3.3</p>	<p><b><u>Regional Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme</u></b></p> <p>The three CTM Local authorities contributed to this programme in 22/23, but in Merthyr there was little take up during the pilot period. Although the LA appreciate the value of the scheme, there is no HSG available to continue this into 23/24. Despite raising this at Executive level, no alternative funding source has been identified. Unfortunately, MTCBC will be unable to contribute to the scheme for 23/24.</p> <p>LD will raise this at the next VAWDA group.</p> <p>The Chair expressed his disappointment that MTCBC had to drop out of this project due to lack of funding and highlighted the fact that MTCBC paid an equal share despite it being a smaller authority.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.3</p>	<p><b><u>Housing/ Homelessness</u></b></p> <p>Housing Support Grant Leads gave a brief update on Cwm Taf Morgannwg Local Authority positions.</p> <p><b>BCBC – ZL:</b> Currently looking to obtain suitable temporary accommodation instead of relying on B&amp;B accommodation, so working closely with private landlords and Housing Associations. A new tender is going out this month to introduce a Wet House to Bridgend, which will be partially temporary and partially supported accommodation with no limit on how long someone can stay.</p> <p><b>MTCBC – SS:</b> Still have a high percentage of people in B&amp;B accommodation and the current demand is not decreasing. Behaviour seems to be problematic at the B&amp;B accommodation including several incidents of substance misuse overdosing, particularly when someone receives PIP back-pay. Marsh House to be completed by October 2023. Increased level of supported accommodation required and so in the process of scoping out suitable premises. Some HSG funded projects have been recently decommissioned and the next step is looking to do a retender of all floating support.</p> <p><b>RCTCBC – CE:</b> Higher number of single people in B&amp;B accommodation. The Rapid Rehousing Plan is based on building availability and funding. Abertonllwyd House has opened and is proving to be a success. Dispersed projects are currently on hold but hoping progress will be made in the later part of 2023. Working with private landlords as well as the housing First Project and Domestic Abuse project. Decommissioned some services but the Single Person Pathway will now have a dedicated case worker to keep reassessing. As always there is the shortage of the right accommodation for some people.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><b><u>Partner &amp; Stakeholder Updates</u></b></p> <p><b>CTM Regional Provider Forum (RPF) update - LG:</b> The next meeting is tomorrow and going forward they will be arranged around the RHSCG dates confirmed today. The last meeting took place in January 2023 and covered the cost of living crisis, retaining and recruiting staff, plus the Housing Matters campaign with Cymorth Cymru. CE asked to raise the issues around recruitment and retaining staff at tomorrow's CTM RPF.</p> <p><b>Youth Justice – CBG:</b> Extended prevention services to young children, secured a recovery trauma model and utilising the early-help and prevention services.</p>

6	<p><b><u>Regional Priorities 2022/2023</u></b></p> <p><u>Regional Statement</u> LD asked if the priorities could be consolidated and focus more around housing.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> KF and HM to consolidate the priorities on the Work Plan 23/24.</p> <p><u>Membership List</u></p> <p>The group agreed that RT could represent Mental Health. CBG also suggested Christel Walters who works with Mental Health partners. LD suggested contacting Ceri Ford for the Area Planning Board Service User Voice.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b> KF to enrol RT as a member and contact Christel Walters. LG to consider and recruit a suitable Service User Voice rep.</p>								
7	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>The Chair concluded the meeting by thanking Cllr Rhys Lewis for his work for the RHSCG during difficult times.</p> <p>The next RHSCG will be the current Chair's last.</p>								
8	<p><b><u>Meeting dates 2023 / 2024:</u></b></p> <table data-bbox="724 972 1198 1106"> <tr> <td><b>Q1 Tuesday</b></td> <td><b>2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Q2 Tuesday</b></td> <td><b>18th July 2023</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Q3 Tuesday</b></td> <td><b>7th November 2023</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Q4 Tuesday</b></td> <td><b>6<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Q1 Tuesday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023</b>	<b>Q2 Tuesday</b>	<b>18th July 2023</b>	<b>Q3 Tuesday</b>	<b>7th November 2023</b>	<b>Q4 Tuesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
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