



Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan

Population needs assessment

for the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

An assessment of the care and support needs of people
living in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan,
by listening to residents and local professionals
and reviewing service and population data

Version control

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Executive summary

Background to the assessment

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 introduced a duty on local authorities and Local Health Boards to prepare and publish an assessment of the care and support needs of the population, including carers who need support. This is a report of the that assessment, for the region covering Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The Act and its statutory guidance requires the presentation of the report under a number of themed headings.

The assessment was undertaken at the same time as the Wellbeing Assessments in each local authority area, required under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Wherever possible evidence from the assessments has been shared and the assessments inform each other.

How the assessment was undertaken

The assessment was undertaken between February 2016 and January 2017. The aim was to identify the key care and support needs, prevention issues, and assets (such as people, buildings, organisations or services which contribute to enhancing or maintaining wellbeing) in the region.

Information was brought together from a number of sources: public surveys tailored to the audience; focus group interviews with local residents; a survey of local professionals and organisations providing care or support, including the third sector; service and population data; key documents, and previous work. Engagement work was carried out under the 'Let's Talk' brand.

A series of workshops with lead professionals in the area were held in November 2016 to start to collate and interpret the findings.

The work was overseen by representatives from the City of Cardiff Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Council, and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, and reported to the Regional Partnership Board for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. Learning from the assessment process is included in the future recommendations in the document.

Background demography

In 2015 there were estimated to be 357,160 people living in Cardiff, and 127,592 living in the Vale of Glamorgan. The population of the Vale is projected to increase by around 1% over the next 10 years; however this masks significant growth in the number of people aged 65 or over. The population of Cardiff is projected to increase by around 10% over the next 10 years, or around 35,000 additional people. While much of this growth is among people aged 65 or over, there is also projected to be considerable growth in the number of children and young people aged under 16.

The population of South Cardiff is ethnically very diverse compared to the rest of Wales. Cardiff is an initial accommodation and dispersal centre for asylum seekers.

There are stark and persistent inequalities in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. A man living in one of the most deprived parts of Cardiff can expect to live 24 fewer years in good health compared with someone in one of the least deprived areas. In the Vale of Glamorgan a man living in one of the most deprived areas can expect to live 21 fewer years in good health compared with someone in one of the least deprived areas.

Key findings

Detailed findings across eleven population groups are presented in the main report. A number of findings were common to one or more of these groups, and addressing these is recommended as a priority. Underlying each of these issues is the broader and persistent issue of **inequality** between and within our communities. The cross-cutting findings are:

Care and support needs

- **Improving information and access to services** including access to information about support and services available; timely access to mental health and primary care services; accessibility of services and information; transport to aid access to services; improving awareness, signposting and access to different forms of advocacy
- **Tackling social isolation and loneliness** across our populations, but especially older people
- **Support for carers** including support for young and adult carers, and respite for young and adult carers
- **Improving transitions** between children's and adult services
- **Links with education** including improving involvement and engagement with schools; and vocational educational opportunities, apprenticeships and adult learning
- **Appropriate housing** to meet individuals', and to enable people varied to remain independent needs as they age
- **Community involvement** including increasing engagement with individual care and support plans; engagement with service planning and design; and supporting volunteers and volunteering
- **Dementia** meeting the needs of people with dementia and their carers
- **Joining up / integrating services** across the statutory sector and working with the third sector, including improved communication between services
- **Substance misuse** including responding to changing patterns of misuse

Prevention issues

- **Building healthy relationships** including emotional and mental health, sexual health; prevention of child sexual exploitation (CSE); support for children and young people affected by parental relationship breakdown
- **Practical life skills** including financial skills (for all ages)
- **Healthy behaviours** including tobacco use, alcohol, diet and physical activity
- **Healthy environment and accessible built environment** including tackling air pollution, and making it easier for people, particularly older people and those with disabilities or sensory impairment, to get around

Assets

- **Social capital** including positive social interactions, dementia-friendly communities, volunteers, self-care
- **Buildings and services** including community hubs, one-stop shops and libraries, Dewis Cymru
- **Organisations** including third sector organisations, community groups, statutory services including community pharmacies, multi-stakeholder partnerships
- **Physical environment** including access to green space

What happens next

The scale and breadth of the care and support needs and prevention issues identified in this assessment are significant and should not be under-estimated. Part of the next stage in addressing the issues presented will be to understand the best mechanisms for delivering action against each. This will feed into corporate planning processes, Area Plans, and other mechanisms as appropriate.

It will be necessary to flesh out what is achievable, and in what time frame, for each issue; as well as whether the issue aligns with existing statutory responsibility for delivery.

There will also be a need to prioritise what the public sector itself has the capacity and resource to directly deliver. This assessment and the Social Services and Wellbeing Act itself present a new opportunity to work increasingly closely with third sector organisations including charities, social enterprises and co-operatives, and communities themselves by building on their assets, to jointly meet the needs of the population.

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