

COUNCIL: 25 OCTOBER 2018

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & WELL-BEING STATEMENT

RISE-Cardiff

The new commissioned specialist service for female victims of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, RISE (Recovery, Information, Safety, Empowerment), has now been operational in Cardiff for six months.

On 1st October 2018, a formal launch of the service provided an opportunity to showcase to funders and key stakeholders the different elements of the new service and how it delivers innovation. The event was attended by the South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner and representatives from South Wales Police, Cardiff Council and the Welsh Government's Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Team.

In opening the launch event I was pleased to acknowledge the successful implementation of the new service, and to welcome partners to the new one-stop shop facility in Riverside. I was especially pleased to learn from the Chief Executive of Cardiff Women's Aid, as the lead provider for the RISE service, and a number of operational staff, how the new service can, and has, supported victims and their children with the provision of advice and information, safety planning, safe accommodation, support through the courts, psychological counselling and group work.

Partners were really complimentary about the service: how it had fully integrated into the partnership arrangements at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and how it was providing an essential safety net for all Police referrals. The Chief Executive of Cardiff Women's Aid was complimentary in turn about how the Council had managed the commissioning process and had drafted a robust and comprehensive service specification.

I took the opportunity to talk to a former service user who acknowledged the support she had received from the service and how she had benefitted from being referred via an IRIS-trained GP surgery – the RISE service delivers the Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) training to GPs and provides ongoing support to staff. Finally, we had a tour of the one-stop shop and were able to speak to all staff across the service.

I am so proud of this service, and am sure that it will go from strength to strength as it becomes fully integrated into our services for vulnerable people across the city.

Grand Avenue Older People's Day Centre

Earlier this month, I was really pleased to visit the new integrated dementia day service at the Grand Avenue Older People's Day Centre in Ely, which is now open. This follows a successful Integrated Care Fund (ICF) capital bid, as well as capital financing by the Council, which has enabled the complete redesign and refurbishment of the day centre.

The result is truly a stunning example of a best practice dementia friendly environment, appropriate to meet the needs of people with moderate to high care and support needs. The centre has contemporary bathing and toileting facilities, a cinema, space for therapeutic interventions, and a beautiful, accessible garden and patio.

This is very much a joint venture with Cardiff & Vale University Health Board and the centre will be staffed both with nurses and care assistants. Transport to and from the centre will be by council vehicles, and in collaboration with Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST). A considerable amount of training has been offered to staff to ensure that the service offered will be of the highest quality, and emphasis will also be on the enhanced support available to informal carers.

Tremorfa Day Centre

Also this month, I had the opportunity to visit the complex needs day service in Tremorfa. This facility offers high quality, person centred daytime opportunities to people who have a learning disability with complex health needs and behaviours, on the dementia pathway or with an autistic spectrum condition.

The service supports over 65 people with intensive support needs to remain living at home, and works to support them to feel valued and included in their communities. Individuals access a wide range of community activities from: swimming to music sessions, volunteering and therapy appointments. People are supported using person centred plans to develop individualised services focused on skill building and outcomes. The consistent staff team are highly trained to meet communication, health and behavioural needs. The service has high satisfaction levels.

The service base has just undergone significant refurbishment using capital and ICF monies. The smart new look and modern facilities have improved safety and made the building far more welcoming and pleasant to spend time in. The addition of automatic doors and ceiling mounted tracking systems also enable people to move freely through the building, thereby supporting independence. Feedback from individuals, families and staff is very positive and people are reported to be relaxed and happy in the building.

Canterbury Outcomes Framework

Last week, I was delighted to chair a special meeting of the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) when members had the opportunity to meet members of the senior management team from Canterbury District Health Board, New Zealand. It was a fantastic opportunity for RPB members to listen and learn, and to discuss how the Canterbury Outcomes Framework was developed, and how it has delivered significant improvements for residents.

The Canterbury approach has helped inform the development of our own 'Me, My Home, My Community' strategy, which also formed the basis of the RPB's recent bid for Welsh Government Transformation Funding. I am delighted that the RPB's submission was fully supported by Welsh Government and that all of the RPB projects were successful in being awarded funding that amounts to almost £7 million over two years.

Mental Health & Wellbeing Minority Ethnic Communities Annual Health Fair

I was very pleased to attend the Minority Ethnic Communities Health Fair earlier this month. The event was opened by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething AM, and former Olympic athlete, Christian Malcolm, with an additional opening address from my Canton ward colleague, Councillor Ramesh Patel. A number of presentations from sponsors including Marie Curie, Guide Dogs and Race Equality First, as well as expert presentations on topics including Stress Control, Housing & Mental Health, Bereavement & Mental Health and Mental Health in Children, were provided during the event and were interesting and informative to the colleagues and partners in attendance. The day was rounded off with a number of taster sessions, including Laughter Therapy, Mental Health and Wellbeing & Mindfulness.

Councillor Susan Elsmore
Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health & Well-being
19 October 2018