

COUNCIL: 29 NOVEMBER 2018

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & WELL-BEING STATEMENT

A Healthier Wales

I am pleased that Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board was successful in its submission for ambitious transformation funding for delivery of 'A Healthier Wales'. The proposals will deliver £7 million of investment across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan over the next two years. The projects will further support our prevention agenda, as well as building resilient communities. Importantly, the transformation funds apply to projects across the life course to support delivery of seamless locality based services which keep people independent and connected as long as possible.

Care Awards 2018

Last week, our Regional Workforce Partnership held its second annual awards evening at the Atrium in Dumballs Road. The event was held at and sponsored by Cardiff and Vale College, and organised to acknowledge the excellent care and support in the community, and also to recognise care workers achieving their QCF qualifications. This year's event was well supported, as illustrated by the opening keynote from Huw Irranca-Davies AM, Minister for Children, Older People and Social Care. This was followed by Sue Evans, CEO Social Care Wales, who spoke passionately about the role of care workers and the need for deserved recognition, fostered by her early experiences as an unpaid carer. Compered by BBC News presenter, Sian Lloyd, the evening reflected how valued the care sector is and, given the positive comments from all involved, this is clearly an event that will continue to grow annually as we work together to raise the profile of, and increase the professional recognition of, both care workers and social care.

Get Me Home

I am pleased to highlight the progress made in relation to one of our transformation projects, the Get Me Home pilot. This brings the concept of Independent Living Services' First Point of Contact into the hospital environment. Working hand in hand with the University Health Board, the objective will be to achieve optimum discharge times. Our officers will be the first point of contact for council and community services and will be based at University Hospital Wales (UHW). Six officers have been recruited for the project and are nearing the end of a comprehensive 6-week training programme, which has included shadowing and understanding hospital services and procedures.

On 26th November, the Get Me Home officers will begin a week-long induction at UHW, with 'go live' on the wards on 3rd December. Several sessions planned in the induction week allow officers to meet both their new health and council colleagues. They will be co-located with the hospital's Social Work team, Accommodation Solutions and Discharge Support officers. The induction week will allow them to meet ward staff, build relationships and attend hospital 'infection control' training. The Get Me Home officers will be easily identifiable on the wards by their uniforms featuring the logos of both the Council and the Integrated Health & Social Care Partnership.

Grand Avenue Older People's Day Centre

Grand Avenue Day Centre opened on 29th October and I am so pleased that the positive impact of the new environment was immediate. The scheme was designed with the needs of those living with dementia at its heart, and everyone responded well to the calm and familiar surroundings, becoming more engaged in activities as a result. The working relationships between our now co-located social care workers and health staff is already developing positively. The team recently had an opportunity to meet with local ward members and Cabinet members, and I would encourage all members to arrange a visit, as it is wonderful to see the care and dignity with which the staff are caring for individuals living with advanced dementia.

Dementia Friendly City

I was delighted to open a really inspirational event earlier this month. Held by Cardiff Council, in partnership with Alzheimer's Society Cymru, the event took stock of the progress made to date in the development of dementia supportive environments across the city. It also identified achievable steps and deliverables in our ambition to become a Dementia Friendly City. I'm really pleased to say that, currently, the number of Dementia Friends across Cardiff and the Vale has reached 22,000. We are working with several Cardiff businesses who have pledged to become Dementia Friendly, and make changes to help improve the lives of those affected by Dementia living within Cardiff. In recent months, Reading Well Dementia, a clinically selected book collection to support carers, families and those living with Dementia has been made available at all of our Hubs & Libraries and is already making an impact.

Action on Hearing Loss Cymru 'Live Well with Hearing Loss' Report Launch

Over the last few years Adult Services have worked in partnership with the third sector to support improved access to services for adults with sensory loss. I was delighted to attend Action on Hearing Loss Cymru Report Launch: Live Well with Hearing Loss. Around 575,500 people in Wales are deaf or have hearing loss – as many as the populations of Cardiff and Swansea combined. Action on Hearing Loss Cymru works in communities across Wales to support people who are deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus. It also campaigns for equal access to employment, health, entertainment and other services. As well as providing information and support, Action on Hearing Loss Cymru can help with specialist equipment, online training skills and hearing aid repairs. Adult Services are currently working in partnership with Children's Services, the Education Directorate and third sector sensory impairment organisations (including Action on Hearing Loss Cymru) to develop clear and

consistent pathways, to help adults in accessing and receiving a sensory loss service.

White Ribbon Campaign

On Sunday 25th November, we will celebrate the United Nations International Day to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls, which is also White Ribbon Day.

Last week, on 20th November, the Council's White Ribbon Ambassador, Councillor Caro Wild, and I launched our regional White Ribbon Campaign Calendar of Events, starting with the planting of our White Ribbon flowerbed at Cardiff Castle, supported by the Council's Parks and Gardens team. This annual planting has gained UK and international recognition, with many cities now replicating Cardiff's novel approach to marking White Ribbon Day. This year, a bilingual information plaque has been placed next to the flowerbed that provides information about the Campaign itself and, importantly, signposts the public to the national 'Live Fear Free' bilingual 24-hour helpline, which is available to anyone affected by violence against women, domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.

On the same day, I was also pleased to attend the annual White Ribbon 'Not in My Name' event at the Senedd organised by the National Federation of Women's Institutes-Wales and sponsored by Joyce Watson AM. This event focused specifically on sexual violence and highlighted the unacceptable statistics which show that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 6 men will be victims of sexual violence.

I would urge all members to find out more about the Campaign, wear a White Ribbon to show their support and to pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls. Members can also follow the Campaign on social media: #whiteribboncardiffvale.

Stuttgart Delegation

I had the pleasure of hosting a delegation of Councillors and Officers from our twinned city, Stuttgart on a learning visit to Cardiff during the week of 29th October. The delegation were particularly keen to learn about children's services in Cardiff, but also took the opportunity to visit Willcox House and our Independent Living Services. Their interests were in how we were developing preventative approaches, strength based practice through signs of safety, and services at the edge of care. They were overwhelmingly enthusiastic about the professionalism of our officers, our honesty about what worked well, and the further improvements we need to make. Importantly, they received the warmest welcome from our city.

Councillor Susan Elsmore
Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health & Well-being
23 November 2018