MAKING LIFE BETTER | News

Issue 1
Winter 2019/2020

Welcome to the second issue of the Making Life Better News bulletin for Wales.

In this issue, we have all the latest news and updates from the MLB Wales Core Team, including the Wales Leadership Team and the Wales Governance Board.

We hope you enjoy this issue of MLB News.

MAKING LIFE BETTER

MLB Network Contact Details

If you need to speak to anyone regarding the Network or MLB News please contact us by email at:
MLBWales@wales.nhs.uk

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MLB SENIOR SERIES

This Autumn/Winter saw the first MLB Network Senior Seminar Series. The aim of the seminars is to bring together senior leaders from across the Network to discuss and explore topics of interest. The first seminar in the series was on Leadership for Quality Improvement and was delivered by Professor Jennifer Dixon, Professor Ian Litchfield and Professor Ann Gallagher. The slides from the public health skills register and how to measure improvements in experience are starting, the slides from the other two seminars will be added to the Network Sharepoint site in the coming weeks. The slides from the first seminar are available to view on the Network Sharepoint site here: https://www.sp.nwlh.wales.nhs.uk/Network/SeniorSeminarSeries/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx

Date	Topic
11 September 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Making Life Better through a Leadership Lens for Quality Improvement – Professor Jennifer Dixon, Professor Ian Litchfield and Professor Ann Gallagher
25 September 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Making Life Better through a research lens part 1 – Professor Jonathan Gabbay
9 October 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Management and Leadership in the NHS: what do those delivering care need to know about the system in which they work – Professor Ann Gallagher
23 October 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Life Expectancy & Stalling Life Expectancy – Professor Ian Litchfield
6 November 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Making Life Better through a research lens part 2 – Professor Jonathan Gabbay
20 November 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Developing Public Health Skills – Dr Sarah Lewis-Barned
4 December 2019 12:00pm-1:00pm	Measuring Improvements in Experience – Professor Ann Gallagher

Our evaluation also collated some ideas for future seminars and we will begin to look at these for a rolling seminar series.

PHOTO BOARD

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Making Life Better Conference for 2020 will take place on:

TUES 12 MAY 2020

More information will be announced in due course.

MLB Senior Series Spring 2020

The Public Health Wales Leadership Forum announce the **Making Life better Iain Serles for 2019/20**. Registration is now open for the following seminars:

Date	Topic	Venue
12 February 2020 12:00pm-1:00pm	Cross-border healthcare: international trials in Ireland and Northern Ireland	Fermanagh Medical Education
4 March 2020 2:00pm-3:00pm	Stalling Life Expectancy: Is the NHS what the Research says Part 2	Glangwili General Hospital Bevan Suite
25 March 2020 2:00pm-3:00pm	A Whole System Approach to Childhood Obesity	Bethesda Hub

Numbers are limited so early registration is advised.
Please email MLBNetwork@wales.nhs.uk to register for the above seminars.
Please let us know which seminar you are registering for and if you require any special arrangements for the day or any dietary requirements.

Further details including exact times and agendas will be circulated in due course.

All Departments Official Group (ADOG) Meeting

The All Departments Official Group (ADOG) is a large staff and stakeholder group that is chaired by the Interim Director of Public Health Wales. ADOG serves as a forum for senior officials from all 16 Government Departments to meet and to support collaborative working.

Ministerial Committee for Public Health

All Departments Officials Group (ADOG)

Making Life Better Re-group Meeting

The 19th meeting of the ADOG took place in Cardiff Bay, Glamorgan, on Tuesday 12 November 2019.

The agenda for the meeting included the following items:

- Update on MLB Mid-Term Review;
- Implementation of consultation on Tobacco Products and Preservation on Children's Emotional Health and Well-being Framework;

Innovative Solutions

Rab Kearsey from Urban Sciences Innovations (USI) delivered a presentation on "Innovative Solutions for Public Health Challenges". Rab explained that USI was founded in 2015 by a team of public health practitioners and data scientists. USI's mission is to "Transform the way we think about and tackle the complex challenges that affect our communities and the ways we work together". The presentation was very interesting and the most valuable part of the presentation was the discussion that followed, which was very lively and generated a lot of interest from the attendees. The discussion centred around the fact that the Government's Research Strategy is currently being developed and that it is important that research is given a high priority in the new strategy and that it is given a clear mandate and support from the top.

Next Meeting

The next ADOG meeting will be held in May 2020. If anyone has any ideas/ topics to be included on the agenda for the next ADOG meeting or if you would like to attend a meeting, please contact Dr Sarah Lewis-Barned or Sophie Lewis in Partner Governance.

Making Life Better, a whole system framework for public health (2013-2023) Mid-term Review

Last year we reported on "Making Life Better", the Public Health Wales strategic framework for public health which was underpinned by a collaborative leadership approach. Making Life Better is a 10 year strategic framework for public health, active beyond the draft Programme for Government 'Cymreiriaeth' Delivery Plan and sets out the contribution we can make to the well-being of the citizen of our transformation strategy, Delivering Together.

Making Life Better has been successful in focusing the collective energy of change - the ecological approach. This clearly recognises that health and wellbeing cannot be the responsibility of one sector or organisation. It is studying age, family, community, workplace, beliefs and traditions, economic, and physical environments that shape our health and well-being.

While the framework provides strategic direction for action for a ten-year period, MLB is a living document and it is important that we review and refresh it rolling basis and is now the focus of a comprehensive mid-term review.

The mid-term review is underway and will be completed by December 2019 and will provide a snapshot of what has changed and what driving progress over the remaining term.

The first meeting of the MLB Mid-Term Review Steering Group took place. The Group is made up of representatives from Government Departments and partners, including Public Health Wales staff and people with research / academic vector.

An update on the activities undertaken in MLB:

- The Public Health Agency (PHA) are undertaking a piece of work to map the contribution of the voluntary sector to MLB;
- Public Health Wales is developing a Leadership Framework that will provide practical examples that we can further grow and scale;
- The Leadership Forum Wales is planning to host a seminar on looking at learning from public health frameworks across the UK and Ireland, and the UK, and beyond, to see if we can learn from other approaches.

Our aim is to ensure that the review is transparent with key stakeholders – looking at what key priorities there could be going forward. This will be a key piece of work for the Leadership Forum Wales, and we will also be asking Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers to confirm that they still stress the wider determinants of health and the outcomes you are trying to achieve.

To discuss further / offer input please contact:

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It is anticipated that the final report from this review will be available in May 2020 – in line with European Public Health Week and the next MLB Network event.

MLB Update from the Centre for Public Health (CPH) NWB

The 10 years between 2008 and 2018 was a period of considerable expansion and development for the Centre for Public Health North Wales (CPH NWB) multidisciplinary team, with funding for a Centre of Excellence from the UKCPH. Our mission was to "Make a difference to population health and well-being locally by our science, leading to the appointment of some fantastic young public health academics who have made a difference to the lives of our local people, and our research with all our partners in Public Health Wales. So we are now prepared to continue that philosophy, to help improve public health and reduce inequalities.

In conducting the UKCPH initiatives, the research funders came together to form the UK Prevention Research Partnership (UKPRP) in 2009 to fund a portfolio of research into the prevention of chronic disease and injury and unveil system-structural determinants of public health. This would require even more collaboration than ever before, between researchers, funders, policy makers, practitioners and members of the public. The UKPRP began to deploy research teams to bring together scientists with simulation expertise with those who understand the complexity of the real world. The UKPRP also set up a Public Health Research Strategy Board to provide a forum for identifying new individual citizens, or "agents", within this wider social ecology and to develop a research agenda that would be relevant to the needs and aspects of the simulated environment change. This Population Health Agent Simulation Research Group (PHASRG) was established to bring together researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and members of the public, and consider research teams and aims to: (i) demonstrate how simulating individual and environmental agents can be used to inform public health policy; (ii) develop a research agenda for the UK to develop the simulation capacity and system-scale research teams by bring together scientists with simulation expertise with those who understand the complexity of the real world; (iii) develop a UK-wide research network to share research ideas and methods, and support research networks with wider reports and guidelines so a wide range of people can use the results of the research; (iv) Develop a Research Strategy for the UKPRP (UK-PHASRG) and (v) Hold CPH's annual Public Health Research Conference to bring together the research-to-practice initiative and active registry where people can be involved.

Academics from the Centre were also pivotal to two submissions to the ex-Welsh Ministers for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething AM and Mark Drakeford AM, which were Professor Jonathan Gabbay, Professor Ann Gallagher, Dr Sarah Barned. Both submissions were successful and the Centre was tasked to change the culture around public health research in Wales, to ensure that it is fit for purpose in the current planning environment. In the short term, the Centre has set up the Public Health Research Leadership Forum Wales, which is chaired by Professor Ann Gallagher and co-ordinated by Dr Sarah Lewis-Barned. The Forum is a "Community of Practice" and has 4 sub-groups. The sub-groups of these two new bids will be known in the summer of 2020.

Professor Jonathan Gabbay, Director of Research and Innovation, has been at the forefront for many years in several talented young researchers to lead on specific aspects of the Centre over the last decade:

Dr Jonathan Bennett is a Senior Lecturer in Public Health and the Institute for Public Health in Ireland, the Institute for Public Health in Ireland, the Institute for Public Health in Ireland,