Report of the Chief Executive
January 2017

Date: 17 January 2017
Sponsoring Executive Director: Tracey Cooper, Chief Executive
Who will present: Tracey Cooper

Purpose and Summary of Document:
To provide a concise summary of activity of the Chief Executive during December and January 2017

- **Approve** the recommendation(s) proposed in the paper
- **Discuss** and scrutinise the paper and provide feedback and comments
- **Receive** the paper for information only

1 Joint Executive Team Mid Year Review with Welsh Government

The mid-year Joint Executive Team (JET) accountability meeting with Welsh government took place on the 1 December 2017. This was a very positive meeting that had a particular focus on the development of our new strategy, our contributions to helping inform health in all policies during the year to date and recognition of progress made across the wide range of our functions.

We also discussed aspects of our performance that requires improvement. These particularly relate to the inter-dependencies with Health Boards where we commission services from them in relation to a number of screening programmes. Action is underway on these challenges with the NHS and Welsh Government where appropriate. In relation to overall NHS performance, we also discussed our increase in focus on healthcare associated infections (HCAIs) and how we are organising ourselves to better support the NHS in reducing and eliminating HCAIs.

Overall, the progress that the organisation is making was very positively recognised and I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of our very talented and professional staff across the organisation for their passion and commitment in improving health and well-being for our people in Wales.
2 Engagement with the Scottish Public Health Agency

Following a review of the public health system in Scotland, the Scottish Government is in the process of bringing together public health activities being undertaken into one agency.

Colleagues in Scotland approached us to engage with us and share learning as they establish a new body. We had a virtual meeting with them and our Executive Team on the 10 January. This was the beginning of what will be an ongoing engagement with them as they establish their organisation. It provides us with another opportunity to build on the already well established relationships across various public health functions and to work closely together as two National Public Health Institutes going forward.

3 Update on Preparing for the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017

3.1 Background

The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 became law on 3 July 2017. Public Health Wales’ response to the Act was previously discussed by the Board on 20 July 2017. Below, a summary of progress is provided for information.

3.2 Health Impact Assessment

Ongoing discussions are being held with Welsh Government on the role of Public Health Wales (and more specifically the Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU)) in supporting the development of the statutory HIA regulations and the definition of ‘assistance’, which Public Health Wales will be required to give Public Bodies carrying out HIAs. The timetable for the draft regulations has been revised and these will now be published for consultation in summer 2018.

WHIASU has been preparing for the introduction and implementation of the HIA duty. Key actions include:

- Establishing a Strategic Future Model of HIA Working Task and Finish Group to develop a better understanding of the implications for the Public Health system (including local Public Health teams, Environmental Health Protection and Health Intelligence) and stakeholders.
- WHIASU undertaking an analysis of its working model and also carrying out a comprehensive review of its training function. An updated HIA Training Strategy and resources to support its delivery are currently being finalised.
• Engaging with Public Bodies such as Natural Resources Wales to identify how HIA can be embedded into practice and the support required e.g. training, mentoring or practical resources.

A letter has been sent to Welsh Government highlighting the resources required for WHIASU to ensure optimal support for the implementation of HIA in Wales.

3.3 Obesity Prevention and Reduction Strategy

Public Health Wales has engaged in initial discussions with Welsh Government on the specialist public health support required for an Obesity Prevention and Reduction Strategy.

The Health Improvement Division already has a programme of work relating to Nutrition and Obesity prevention. Work has also been undertaken in relation to the Wales Obesity Pathway; the development of model service specifications for level three services for adults and children and estimates of prevalence of obesity by Body Mass Index by Health Board.

A series of ‘work packages’ are being progressed which include:
• Evidence synthesis
• Policy review: evaluation and impact assessment
• International benchmarking and best practice

Public Health Wales is supporting Welsh Government in the planning of workshops to agree the priorities and scope of the strategy and to review current policy and strategy.

An initial meeting of the Strategy Board has taken place and the Director of Health Improvement presented an overview of the current position for the panel.

3.4 Special Procedures

A Speciality Registrar, working with Welsh Government, has developed a series of recommendations on the structure of the licensing model for Practitioners, including how to define, evidence and assess competency to undertake special procedures; training requirements for Practitioners and Local Authority staff; and policy evaluation. Support has been provided in the development of secondary legislation to support this part of the Act.
3.5 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

The Act enables the amendment of existing legislation to require Health Boards to prepare and publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) and to determine control of entry based on that assessment.

Primary Care Commissioning (PCC), commissioned by Welsh Government, is leading the PNA guidance and template development work alongside preparation for changes to the Pharmaceutical Services Control of Entry Regulations (Wales). Public Health Wales is supporting a series of PNA workshops in conjunction with Welsh Government, Health Boards and PCC, to work through the detailed requirements of the PNA system, which has involved input from the Observatory and the Primary Care Hub. Given Public Health Wales is not leading on the design process nor conduct of the needs assessments, we will facilitate others to carry out these tasks through provision of specialist advice, signposting to data sources, etc.

The last of the current series of working group meetings is in January 2018, where the group will reflect on progress to date and identify outstanding issues.

The provisional timescale for the new ‘control of entry’ regulations to come into force is March 2019, which will place a statutory requirement upon Health Boards to have published a PNA by April 2020. From April 2020, all applications to the pharmaceutical list must demonstrate how they will meet an identified need set out in the PNA.

4 Screening for the Future Programme Update

Following the strategic review of screening, which was undertaken in the second half of 2016, progress continues to be made in implementing the recommendations that were made in the report – referred to as Screening for the Future.

By means of an update for the Board, a dedicated Programme Manager is now in post on a 2 year secondment to take forward the work of Screening for the Future. The first Programme Board took place on 22 November 2017 to discuss the vision, scope and membership of the group. It was agreed to set up a Programme Team to support the delivery of the Programme.

The focus of the Programme will be to address the recommendations from the external review of Screening Division but it will also incorporate the findings from the NHS Staff survey 2016 and feedback from staff engagement events held in May 2017 where there were common emerging themes. The programme will ensure that the work aligns with the Public Health Wales new 10 year strategy and will be an enabler to achieving the strategic objectives set.
Each of the recommendations has been reviewed and progress against each one has been recorded. A workshop will be held on 16 January with the Programme Team to review those recommendation that have not yet been completed; with the aim of this workshop to develop a series of projects/workstreams to address the remainder of the recommendations. The Programme Manger will then develop a full detailed plan that will be submitted to the Programme Board for approval. A detailed update paper is planned to be taken to the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee in February.

5 Launch of the Adverse Childhood Experiences Hub

As the Board is aware, the Adverse Childhood Experience Support Hub was established by Cymru Well Wales during 2017 and is funded by three Government Departments which cover between them health, education and communities.

At the time of writing, the official launch of the Hub will take place on the 18 January. This will be launched by Huw Irranca-Davies, Minister for Children and Social Care. We will also be launching the report of the recent research that we have undertaken into the relationship between ACEs and factors within the community that impact on resilience and mental health - Sources of resilience and their moderating impacts on harms from adverse childhood experiences.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to:
- RECEIVE this report for information.