



# DIRECTORATE REPORT TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD

<b>Directorate:</b>	Health Protection and Screening Services Directorate
<b>Executive Lead:</b>	Meng Khaw
<b>Reporting Month:</b>	March 2024 (retrospective February – March forward look)
<b>Business Executive Team Meeting Date:</b>	20 March 2024
<b>Board Meeting Date:</b>	28 March 2024

## Overview of Key Activities During the Month

### Health Protection Division (HP)

- Measles incident UK wide: PHW leading All Wales preparedness activities including internal capabilities and partnership working with UHB colleagues.
- On going response to exceedance of whooping cough (pertussis) notifications including utilisation of the National Surge Team to support AWARe public health management
- Work in progress in preparation for the Wales Immunisation Conference in April 2024.
- Task & Finish group established for the provision of easy read guidance relating to infectious diseases.
- iPassport document management project continues to remain on track with over 600 documents currently checked/revised and uploaded.
- Responding to requests around sensitive landfill site in West Wales.

### Infection Services Division

- Procurement exercise to replace the Enteric Molecular Contract.
- Rapid Blood Culture testing rolled out to Morrision and Princess of Wales Hot Labs.
- Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)/IT team working closely with Intersystems to develop the requirements for Infection Service.
- Engaged with Healthcare Pathways and national Value Based Healthcare (VBHC) team to explore improving our sampling and testing processes.
- Preliminary discussions with Hywel Dda University Health Board regarding the transfer of Withybush Laboratory to Public Health Wales.

### Screening Division

- Progressing with Radiology Information System procurement, Picture Archiving Communication System (PACs).
- Progressing with development of breast cohort IT system.
- Continuing meetings with England around sharing screening histories in cervical screening.

### **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- Preparation via Emergency Planning & Business Continuity (EPBC) Group for industrial action by Junior Doctors in February.
- Preparing a multi-agency exercise in March to validate the new Communicable Disease Outbreak Plan for Wales.
- Preparing for a 2no. Identical two-day business continuity training events (external provider).
- Work ongoing on PHW/University College London collaboration Project - series of scenario-based partner workshops and public focus groups to consider equality in the emergency management process.
- Work ongoing with multi-directorate group to deliver a series of staff-wide facilitated learning events for Covid in 2024.

### **Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- Two e-job planning sessions run during February.
- Second Revalidation Quality Assurance meeting held.
- Revalidation UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) by portfolio workshop attended.
- First Task and finish Group held for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) portal concept project.
- OMD supporting recruitment process for Deputy National Director HPSS.
- Revalidation & Appraisal policies drafted for GMC & UKPHR registrants in preparation for appropriate consultation.
- Initial meeting held to review Public Health Practitioner Scheme.

## **Successes**

### **Health Protection Division (HP)**

- National Surge Team working in collaboration with HPT to support public health management of whooping cough notifications since February 2024.
- Successful workshop on novel methods of detection and surveillance delivered at Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine (IAPSM) Conference 2024.
- Collaborated with EPRR on various training/exercises/awareness raising activities related to communicable disease control.
- Successful recruitment to 3 consultant posts (2xCCDC, 1xEnv PH).

### **Infection Services Division**

- Presentation to Quality, Safety Improvement Committee (QSIC) providing reassurance on management of exposure related to Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR).

- Continued to deliver the Infection Clinical Service during period of Industrial Action.

### **Screening Division**

- Recovery progressing – breast screening backlog reducing significantly.
- Taking forward recruitment for National Lung Cancer screening – 2024/25.
- UK National Screening Committee (NSC) blog – reflection from ASW Programme Coordinator from screening course bursary.

### **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- Confirmed delegates for Exercise Wales Gold 2024 for new Strategic Response Directors and nominated deputies.
- Successfully facilitated a debrief for preparation and response relating to industrial action by Junior Doctors in January 2024 via Emergency Planning & Business Continuity (EPBC) Group.
- Welsh Government Annual EPRR Report for 2023 approved via BET & Quality, Safety Improvement Committee (QSIC).
- Successfully facilitated a debrief for the Measles Outbreak in Cardiff 2023 on behalf of Health Protection.
- Successfully supported the delivery of multi-agency sessions to raise awareness of Communicable Disease Outbreak Plan for Wales.
- Successfully prepared and delivered a multi-agency Prison Measles Exercise for Wales.

### **Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- OMD has supported a number of consultants in uploading job plans to the e-job planning system.
- Members of OMD took part and supported Operation CYHYRAETH.
- Director of Health & Wellbeing offered Executive support for future Public Health Practitioner scheme development work.
- Employment start date in May 2024 agreed for new Clinical Governance Manager.

### **Any Concerns being Managed**

#### **Health Protection Division**

- Large number of posts currently recruited on fulltime contracts until 03/2024 to posts funded by Welsh Government covid funding.
- Junior doctors industrial action – on-going strikes.
- Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation (SBAR) under development in relation to Health Protection related paper records storage across PHW sites.

#### **Infection Services Division**

- Multiple Field Safety Notices including bacterial media and molecular tests.
- Containment Level 3 facilities remain a high risk.
- Two Reports of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) raised following injury of staff (one a slip on the stairs and the other a lifting injury).

### **Screening Division**

- Focus on improving My Contribution completion and recording
- Timeliness South East Wales region Breast Screening.
- Colonoscopy waiting times- generally improving.
- Pathology waiting times.
- Newborn IT system is end of life and both clinical and cyber risks – potential way forward with DHCW.

### **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- Concern highlighted as risk throughout 2023 re; the changes to partner alerting processes will mean that PHW stop receiving alerts for emergencies and major incidents (E or MI).
- HPSS approval to establish a resilient EPRR 24/7 on-call service (12/2023). Work to establish the new service commenced with a target completion date on end of March 2024.
- **NB.** Risk has moved from the Directorate Risk Register to the Corporate Risk Register.

### **Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- Industrial Action of junior doctors February 2024.
- OMD working with Quality, Nursing and Allied Health Professionals (QNAHPs) on professional registration assurance – issues identified with Electronic Staff Record (ESR) accuracy – meetings scheduled with key stakeholders to resolve.
- Supporting EPRR in readiness for potential Consultant/Specialist, Associate Specialist and specialty (SAS) Doctor Industrial Action.

## **Forward Look of key activities for next month – March**

### **Health Protection Division**

- HPD Intranet and Internet guidance SOPs to be developed.
- Consultant Connect (mechanism to speed up communication between primary care and the HPT) to be implemented once the new mobile handsets are received.
- HP engagement day set for April 2024.
- Communicable disease outbreak plan exercise set for March 2024.
- HP Inequalities workshop set for March 2024.

### **Infection Services Division**

- Procurement contract awards – Board sign-off for Enteric Molecular Testing and Syndromic Rapid Molecular Testing.
- Deep Dives into DATIX incidents established on quarterly basis – first in March 2024.
- Focus on completing and recording My Contributions.

### **Screening Division**

- Replacement diabetic cameras project.
- Consultant recruitment progressing –.
- High risk MRI provision – continuing to progress.

- Toyota Lean training for 5 places in March 2024.
- Progressing breast cohort IT system.

### **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)**

- Conduct debrief of preparation and response relating to industrial action by Junior Doctors in February 2024 via Emergency Planning & Business Continuity (EPBC) Group.
- Preparation via Emergency Planning & Business Continuity (EPBC) Group for industrial action by Junior Doctors in March 2024.
- **NB.** Also prepare for the potential for Consultant and SAS Doctor in April 2024.
- Work with People Organisational Development (PoD) to attract and recruit 2no. people to support the EPRR 24/7 on-call service. Target implementation date of April 2024.
- PHW participation in Exercise Damona; for Calor Gas COMAH Site, Briton Ferry.
- Deliver multi-agency exercise to validate the new Communicable Disease Outbreak Plan for Wales.
- Deliver 2no. Identical two-day business continuity training events (external provider).
- PHW (EPRR) leadership of 4N EPRR Group (03/2024).

### **Office of the Medical Director (OMD)**

- Refresher training arranged for Caldicott Guardian/Alternate Caldicott Guardians.
- Advisory Appointments Committee (AAC) panel for Deputy National Director HPSS scheduled.
- NWSSP Audit and Assurance Team carrying out appraisal sampling work.