

# **DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC PROTECTION WALES**

## **Notes from the Port Health Expert Panel/Wales PLaN Meeting**

Teams Meeting  
on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### **Present**

Simon Fuller (Chair) Ynys Mon Council  
Richard Firth Public Health Wales  
Huw Brunt Welsh Government (Public Health)  
Malgorzata Dabrowska-Jones Welsh Government (OCVO)  
Rhys Harries Swansea Council  
Lindsay Horth Newport Council TS  
Animal Feed lead Wales  
Paul Lindsay Flintshire Council  
Jane Peaty SRS  
Owen Lewis Food Standards Agency  
Peter Jones Welsh Government (Public Health)  
Sarah Johns Welsh Local Government Association

Rhys Thomas Newport Council

### **Additional Attendees**

Rebecca Pomeroy Wrexham, Chair of Food Expert Panel  
Daniel Morelli DPPW lead on Food / Port Health – Torfaen Council

### **Guest Speakers**

Peter Ryland WG  
Colin Johnstone UKHSA


### **Apologies**

Huw Turner FSA  
Carwyn Williams  
Pembrokeshire Council



	<p><b>US Confectionary</b> - There is potential for US goods arriving via Rotterdam without clearance, so far, no evidence for this occurring. Please look out for this and notify FSA if this is occurring.</p> <p><b><u>Pork Products from countries affected by ASF.</u></b></p> <p>Romanian pork and pork products are subject to restrictions due to that country being within the highest risk zone of identified African Swine fever risk (ASF). The products bear a hexagonal health/ID mark indicating the product is only permitted for the domestic Romanian market and that they should not be distributed outside Romania. <a href="#">Communication File   FSA Communications (food.gov.uk)</a></p>	
4	<p><b>PHA/LA updates/incidents:</b></p> <p>RM-relatively quiet at Newport. Change in management and structure J Keen no longer Head of Services.</p> <p>JP- back to normal in SRS although quiet at seaports. Completing sanitation certificates and boarding vessels from third countries</p> <p>PL- Flintshire-Austin quiet previously linked to windfarms and jumbos.</p> <p>RH- Swansea quiet. PT dock becoming part of freeport with Pembroke unsure implications moving forward.</p> <p>LH- Newport -animal feed imports coming in from Turkey to Newport. Issues with time that sampling is taking. Please advise if any animal feed imports coming into other ports.</p> <p>SF- Anglesey will be having a BCP in future Cabinet office agreed that Holyhead was appropriate. Size and design still under review. Revised timeline for Border checks 31.10.23 Central Defra team set up to screen a % of national import documentation. However, on 31.01.24 Welsh Authorities have been told that they will be undertaking this screening role and will be picking up documentary checks from the DEFRA hub which will close as staff return to full time work with their employing port authorities. Other matters - Cruise ships returning at a pace with 60-65 coming into port between April and October Freeport – no known impact on port health or TS roles</p> <p>BP- FH Expert Panel group representative- looking at ABC hygiene delivery model Consultation ends in June. Attended an Import group meeting regarding TOM and concerned that FH officers would need to pick up imported food issues inland during inspections rather than at the ports.</p> <p>SJ-joined LGA as Policy officer for WLGA Wales from Pembs. Attending to establish how work of group can be supported.</p>	

	<p>RP – Food Safety Expert Panel – raised concern with the impact of imported foods from Europe and Rest of World due to reduced border Enforcement.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>PHW update-RF</u></b> Started looking at work on International Health Standards. Definition and appointment of port medical officer (PMO). Previous blanket approach to appoint CCDCs as PMOs but portion of workforce not medically qualified and those who are medically qualified may have issues with current competency.</p> <p>Issue experienced – Pembs / PHW no process in place to attend ship where someone had died. This has prompted a review of capability of the existing PHW team. (Coverage south but no one physically in North Wales.) and availability / medical background. PHW reviewing.</p> <p>Other issues The sudden repatriation of Sudanese /UK nationals had encountered flights being diverted to different airports and impact on receiving LA's due to issue of need to house influx of homeless people. No health issues encountered.</p>	

<p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p>	<p>Monkeypox- increase in cases linked to travel and Pride events. PJ advised communications being developed encouraging take up of vaccine in eligible community. No cases in Wales.</p> <p>RT raised issue of PHW rota. CD Panel set out list of recommendations for PHW to look at for participants on the rota. Expressed need for ownership of list of people should be responsibility of PHW to ensure correctly designated.</p> <p>Port medical officer – need to make a distinction from proper officer.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> consider updating law to reflect current practices – Richard will keep the group updated about the review of the legislation. Offline meeting with RT and JP re Port Health Medical Officer</p> <p><b>Within EHW</b> – SF to raise with comm disease panel about the Port Health EP overseeing the port medical officer as a separate and individual appointment as opposed to the proper officer merging into the proper officer role which is different.</p>	<p><b>RF</b></p> <p><b>SF</b></p>
<p>6</p>	<p><b>Presentation given by Colin Johnstone UKHSA about mosquito surveillance</b> being undertaken by UKHSA due to concerns of migration of tiger mosquito Northwards in recent years. Looking for additional surveillance sites in Wales. 65 cases identified in France of dengue fever in 2022.</p> <p>Mosquitoes likely to become a biting nuisance in UK first before vector of disease so surveillance important.</p> <p>Query made why disinsection not required on all European flights if mosquito present. HB to raise at Adaption plan for vector control.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>UKHSA IMS.pptx</p> </div>	<p><b>HB</b></p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Presentation no. 2</b> given by Peter Ryland Director of Regional Investment and Borders Welsh Government. on Draft Target Operating Model (Borders -TOM) Peter provided and overview of the current position, challenges and timeline facing the borders initiative. <b>Please note that the PowerPoint was official sensitive, and we will circulate peters slides if available later. If you did snapshot, please don't circulate.</b></p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>AOB</b> Please forward any ideas for objectives this year for group to SF</p>	

Port Health Expert Panel  
Annex 3 Action Tracker

8.1	Consider meeting in person on 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 with workshop in afternoon <b>to be agreed</b>	