

DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC PROTECTION WALES

Notes from the Port Health Expert Panel/Wales PLaN Meeting

Teams Meeting
On 26th Feb 2024

Present

Carwyn Thomas (Sec) Pembs CC
 Richard Firth Public Health Wales
 Huw Brunt WG
 Richard Pizzey WG
 Peter Jones WG
 Rhys Harries Swansea Council
 Rhys Thomas Newport Council
 Owain Williams SRS
 Jane Peaty SRS
 Lindsay Horth Newport Council
 Paul Lindsay Flintshire Council
 Sarah Johns WLGA
 Simon Fuller (Chair) Ynys Môn Council – joined late

Apologies

Huw Turner FSA
 Owen Lewis Food Standards Agency

| Item | Matter | Action |
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| 1 | <p>Welcome & introductions (including apologies) The chair (Simon Fuller) had given his apologies but hoped to join later. Carwyn stood in a Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for joining.</p> <p>Minutes of last meeting were agreed as a true record.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>PHW update: RF Whooping cough: lots of notifications but no increase in cases. National Surge team assisting. Measles: Cardiff cluster last year. Building in England – cluster expected. Plan being developed. Prison table-top exercise. Circular out to LHBs. Flu: not a big flu season so far. Revised: Comm Disease Outbreak Plan. Exercise 19-03-24. Tarian: discovery phase: HP teams – Betsi Cadwaladr – access to Tarian DP agreement signed off. WHO: state party assessment completed and submitted. Agreement across 4 nations being developed. Thanks for replies re. mapping. IHR – checklist for “core capacities”. What is the UK (4 nations) standard? Looking at this currently.</p> <p>PL: shigella cluster in Flintshire – for info. RF: slight uptick in cases – no obvious connections.</p> | |

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| | <p>JP: “core capacities” – what’s expected re. chemical incidents response? Not in the airport plan. RF: will look at it. JP: do we need to add? HB: all hazards approach make it relevant to ID/Env protection. Port plans? Table-top exercise? Wider env impact plan? JP: exercises done at the airport – time is of the essence. Do we need to do something? Plans: keep generic but can tailor to each port. RT: opportunity here. Pause maybe until OCP/authorisations resolved, then Env/PH exercise. After: develop PH desk-top plan. HB: look at potential incident to test on this. JP: what about England – what’s done there? Agreed to review following OCP completed.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>WG update (RP/HB) RP: BTOM 31/1: doc checks. DEFRA - seems to be going well. Next date 30/4.</p> <p>HB: Health Protection: 4 Nations Border Health – meeting few weeks ago. Separate groups: Legislation; Capacities; Plans. None the wiser re. timescales, but 4 nations better than individual.</p> <p>On radar: develop national health protection framework. Agree R&R’s. Need to ensure Port Health included. Work will unfold over next month or so. Expert Panels will be asked to comment. Huw going back to PHW, so unsure whether he’ll be involved in the group going forward from 1st Apr.</p> <p>JP: personal imports – legislation updated? RP: not finalised yet.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>FSA update - none</p> | |
| 5 | <p>LA updates Flintshire – quiet Newport – quiet. Feed from Turkey/Russia – same SRS – airport summer flight schedule starting soon – Caribbean cruises Bi-annual meeting with airport soon Sea – slightly busier than usual (scrap ships) ASF update? Medical chest cert request from agent – new for SRS. Swansea: similar picture – SSCs as needed. PH office in docks – moving out. Keeping an eye on Tata situation. Pemb: ongoing work with BTOM border checks prep. Lots of uncertainty though doc checks have started by DEFRA Hub. Otherwise nothing new.</p> | |
| 6 | <p>Training: CIEH 3 modules available: 1. Ship San</p> | |

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| | <p>2. Water 3. Ballast</p> <p>JP: WHO using VR headset to inspect ship</p> | |
| 7 | APHA update - none | |
| 8 | <p>EHW: SJ Training: EH apprenticeships (level 6). WG considering. Not at provider stage yet (i.e. universities) Ensure accessible to all LAs in Wales.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>PMO issue Public Health risk assessment v Clinical risk assessment PHW – all Wales, so need consistency across all LAs LHBs – variation across Wales PHW cannot direct LHB RH: changing roles within PHW – why change? Can PHW escalate when needed? Concern that no clear pathway SF: fill a gap. England ahead of us – CCDC acts as gateway – legal assessment – PH risk assessment. RT: difference between MO and AO HB: breakdown to PH risk assessment and clinical RA – need link between these two. Is health protection review too big? Links back to testing port plans Unclear how access to NHS route takes place Escalate up through sub-group of HP advisory group Interim arrangement – call ambulance – NHS RH: links to health board (HP team) PJ: quick fix – health board links – will take it back. SF: summary: PHW role? Risk assessment – yes Other incident: IMT convened on case by case basis – yes. RH: LAs have different relationships with their health boards – complexity! Funding models different between LAs – links to WG priorities – possible avenue to highlight it. Action: SF to prepare paper and review in 4/5 weeks.</p> | SF |
| 10 | <p>AOB: LH: retiring end March RF: Freeports? Timescales? Unknown. SF: parties developing business plans for respective ports.</p> | |
| 11 | Next meeting: May/June time. In person? CT to confirm. | |

