



Healthcare Professionals Forum (HPF)

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 19th September 2025 via Microsoft Teams

	<u>06.12.24</u>	<u>HPF/IMTP Planning Workshop 06.12.24</u>	<u>07.03.25</u>	<u>06.06.25</u>	<u>19.09.25</u>
Executive Health Board Lead Officer – Teresa Owen	P	A	P	P	P
<u>Welsh Medical Committee:</u>					
Primary and Community Care Medical Representative – Dr Tim Davies	P	P	P	P	P
Mental Health Medical Representative – Faye Graver	A	A	P	P	A
Specialist and Tertiary Care Medical Representative – Vacant	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
<u>Welsh Nursing and Midwifery Committee:</u>					
Community Nursing and Midwifery Representative – Emma Adamson (Chair HPF)	P	A	P	P	P
Hospital Nursing and Midwifery Representative – Naomi Holder	P	P	P	A	P
<u>Welsh Health Professions Committee:</u>					
Therapies Representative – Steven Grayston	P	P	◆	◆	◆
Allied Health Professions Representative – Dawn Leoni	◆	◆	P	A	P
<u>Welsh Scientific Advisory Committee:</u>					
Scientific Representative – Jane Wild (Chair HPF)	P	P	P	P	A
<u>Welsh Optometric Committee:</u>					
Optometry Representative – Manon Haf	P	P	P	◆	P

Optometry Representative – Geraint Allport	◆	◆	◆	P	A
<u>Welsh Dental Committee:</u>					
Dental Representative – Jeremy Williams	X	X	P	P	A
<u>Welsh Pharmaceutical Committee:</u>					
Hospital and Primary Care representative – Sarah Kingman	P	P	P	P	P
Community Pharmacists Representative – Sally Harris	P	P	P	P	P
<u>Guests in attendance:</u>					
Lauren Harkins, Associate Director of Strategy, Digital Data and Technology (DDaT).					P*
<u>Corporate Governance Directorate:</u>					
Executive Business Manager - Llinos Roberts	A	A	P	A	◆
Secretariat HPF - Rona Newton	P	P	A	P	A

Key:

P - In attendance / **P*** - Present for part meeting / **A** – Apologies submitted

X – Not in attendance / **MC** – Meeting cancelled

◆ Not a member of the Healthcare Professionals Forum at this time/Vacant post

It was noted that the meeting was recorded for administration purposes.

H25/25 Welcome, introductory remarks and apologies

H25/25.1 The Chair Emma Adamson welcomed attendees and acknowledged the high number of apologies due to diary clashes.

H25/25.2. The members introduced themselves, including their roles and affiliations.

H25/25.3 Apologies received from:
Dr Faye Graver, Mental Health Medical representative.
Jane Wild, Scientific representative.

H25/26 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

H25/27 Draft minutes of previous meeting held on Friday, 7 March 2025 - for approval

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2025 were approved with one amendment: Correction of Geraint's nomination source to "North Wales Regional Optometric Committee".

<p>Action: Update minutes accordingly.</p>	<p>RN</p>
<p>H25/28 Matters arising and summary action plan</p> <p>H25/28.1 The action log was reviewed and updates noted on various items, including expressions of interest for vacant roles.</p> <p>H25/28.2 The outstanding membership updates were received during the tabled agenda item (H25/31 HPF Membership update).</p>	
<p>H25/29 Digital & Data Roadmap – Presentation/Discussion by Lauren Harkins (Associate Director of Strategy, Digital, Data & Technology)</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Lauren Harkins to the meeting. A presentation was shared with the members which highlighted the following key aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 10-year digital strategy replacing 2021–2024 roadmap. • Six domains: Infrastructure, Data, Workforce, Clinical Transformation, Citizen Enablement, Innovation. • Emphasis on agile planning, clinical leadership, and digital therapeutics. • Challenges include funding, system integration, and workforce digital literacy. • Discussion on AI, shared care records, and optometry systems (Open Eyes). <p>A discussion ensued incorporating the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for clinician involvement in digital design. • Concerns about implementation timelines and system usability. • Workforce training and digital inclusion highlighted as priorities. <p>The Chair thanked Lauren Harkins for joining the meeting and sharing an interesting and comprehensive update on the Digital and Data Roadmap.</p> <p>[Lauren Harkins left the meeting]</p>	
<p>H25/30 Women's Health Plan & Preconception Strategy</p> <p>The Chair presented this item the key aspects were as follows:</p> <p>Alignment with National Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy supports the Welsh Government’s Women’s Health Plan, focusing on prevention, early intervention, and holistic care. <p>Priority Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menstrual Health: Improving awareness and access to support for menstrual disorders. • Menopause: Enhancing education and service provision for women experiencing menopause. • Preconception Care: Promoting healthy lifestyle choices and risk reduction before pregnancy. • Contraception & Abortion Care: Ensuring timely access to safe and effective 	

<p>services.</p> <p>Cross-Sector Collaboration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with primary care, community services, public health, and third-sector organizations is essential for successful implementation. <p>Challenges Identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited resources and workforce capacity. Need for sustained partnerships with voluntary and community organizations. Ensuring digital inclusion for patient education and service access <p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members highlighted the importance of integrating preconception care into routine health checks and community outreach. Suggestions included leveraging digital platforms for patient education and linking with social prescribing initiatives. Concerns were raised about funding streams and the ability to maintain momentum given competing priorities. 	
<p>H25/31 – HPF Membership Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant posts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Chair Specialist and Tertiary Care Representative Members reminded to nominate deputies and consider shadowing opportunities. 	
<p>H25/32 – Chair and Members’ Written Updates</p> <p>H25/32.1 – Chair & Community Nursing and Midwifery (Emma Adamson)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted national perinatal assurance assessment underway. Concerns about competing national demands and resource pressures. Enhanced maternity care programme shortlisted for BCU Awards. <p>H25/32.2 – Allied Health Professions (Dawn Leoni)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive recruitment in SLT due to Wrexham course. Community Assessment Days praised for patient and staff experience. Concern: Short-term funding and impact on stroke services. <p>H25/32.3 – Community Pharmacy (Sally Harris)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPS rollout successful. Flu vaccine procurement changes discussed. Advice shared on prescribing practices for optometrists. <p>H25/32.4 – Health Care Science (Jane Wild – Apologies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy embedded locally with focus on capacity, capability, collaboration. Career framework development ongoing. <p>H25/32.5 – Hospital Pharmacy and Medicines Management (Sarah Kingman)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple award nominations and conference presentations. Legislative changes proposed to allow pharmacy technicians greater autonomy. Flu vaccine rollout issues noted (WIS platform and early deliveries). <p>H25/32.6 – Primary Care (Dr Tim Davies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing contract negotiations with Welsh Government. Concerns about GP workforce pipeline and training post shortages. Highlighted need for better planning and support for new doctors. <p>H25/32.7 – Nursing (Naomi Holder)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates on pay ward and healthcare support worker progression. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major issues flagged. <p>H25/32.8 – Mental Health (Dr Faye Graver – Apologies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress on Royal College review actions. Staffing reviews underway. EHR tender closed; out-of-area placements remain a concern. <p>H25/32.9 Optometry (Verbal update provided by Manon Haf)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Government Optometry Service (WGOS): BCUHB now leading in WGOS pathway implementation across Wales. Eye Care Collaborative: Meetings have restarted to improve coordination and patient flow. Digital Systems: Open Eyes implementation progressing; deadline for full rollout approaching. Referral system integration remains a priority to reduce delays. Awards & Recognition: Several optometry professionals nominated for national awards, showcasing excellence in eye care. Challenges: Workforce pressures in optometry clinics. Need for improved communication between primary and secondary care for complex cases. 	
<p>H25/33 - To be received for information :</p> <p>H25/33.1 Minutes of the Quality, Safety and Experience Committee (QSE) held on 3 July 2025 – noted for information</p> <p>H25/33.2 Minutes of the Planning, Population Health and Partnership Committee (PPHPC) held on 3 July 2025 – noted for information</p>	
<p>H25/34 Summary of information to be included in Chair's report to the Board</p> <p>The Forum wish to Advise members of the Board that HPF noted several challenges raised by various professional representatives including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> North Wales Local Medical / Primary Care representative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing workforce shortages. Slippage of work from other areas, without the associated remuneration / appropriate resource allocation. Nursing Representative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursing members of the Royal College of Nursing voted overwhelmingly to reject the 2024/25 pay award. There is current conversation relating to next steps but there is the protentional for this to include progression to a ballot for industrial action. Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Representative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst there has been some reduction in out of area placements as a result of targeted efforts, use has plateaued at a level that remains unsustainable from a clinical and financial perspective. An improvement plan has been developed. Midwifery Representative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted the planned National Perinatal Assurance Assessment to be led by an Independent Chair. The assessment and will include a focus on governance processes, leadership, service user experience and a clinical notes review. HPF noted continued ongoing recruitment process challenges across all professional groups, exacerbated by a pack of training / clinical placement opportunities in some areas. 	

H25/35 Date of next meeting: Friday 5 December 2025 - 9.30-12.30 via MS Teams	
HPF/IMTP Workshop: December 2025 – Date TBC	