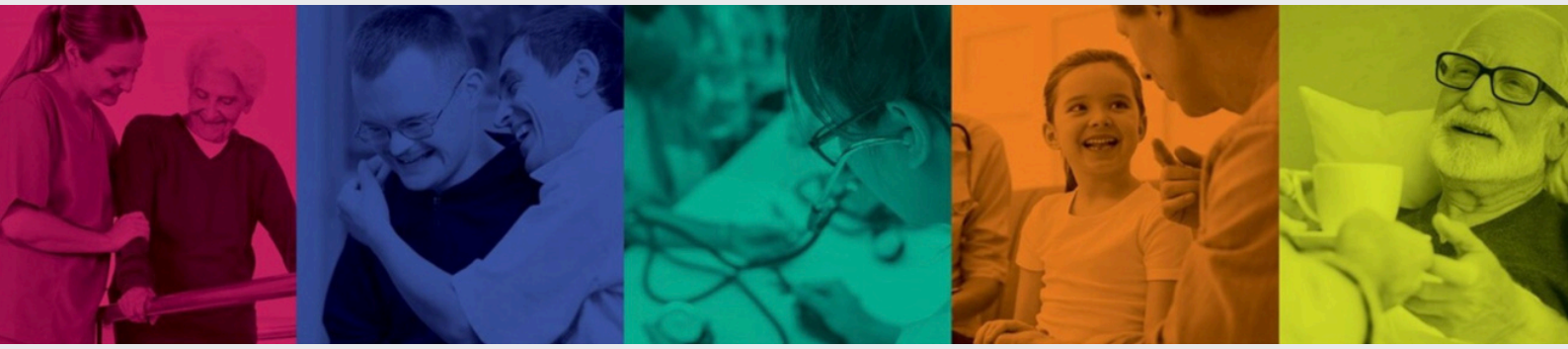
WEST GLAMORGAN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Partneriaeth Ranbarthol Gorllewin Morgannwg | West Glamorgan Regional Partnership

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026



IN THIS ISSUE:

WELLBEING & LD PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

MIND'S BIG MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY

MEET OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBER!

WEST GLAM GOVERNANCE CHANGES

BUILDING A CULTURE OF CLEAR COMMUNICATION

TASK AND FINISH GROUP MAKES HEADWAY WITH EASY READ IMPLEMENTATION

Welcome to the spring 2026 edition of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Newsletter!

In this issue we're highlighting some amazing achievements within the **Wellbeing and Learning Disability Programme**, which continues to move forward with real purpose, delivering meaningful improvements in accessibility and partnership working across the region.

We're also excited to welcome a **new colleague** to the West Glam team (see page 3 for an introduction to Luke!).

IMPROVING ACCESS THROUGH EASY READ

Our Wellbeing and Learning Disability Programme is making great progress in delivering against the priorities of the Regional Learning Disability Strategy. A new **Task and Finish Group** has now been set up to promote the use of Easy Read across health and social care services in our region.

We spoke with Neil Williams, a volunteer representative with a learning disability who has taken up the role of Chair of the Task and Finish Group...

Continued overleaf

WHY IS EASY READ IMPORTANT?

"Easy Read is important for people who don't understand documents with jargon and abbreviations, because it explains things a lot better than a normal document. Chairing a meeting is brilliant because I feel involved and I'm not out of the picture. People with learning disabilities need to be able to share their voice so they can get their opinions across.

Without their opinions, we wouldn't know anything!"

- Neil Williams

One of the key actions of the Task and Finish Group is to work with the West Glamorgan Communications and Engagement Team to produce a **digital story** raising awareness of the importance of providing Easy Read materials. We'll bring you more on this on our social media channels as work progresses, so keep an eye out!

LYNSEY'S AWARD NOMINATION!

We'd like to say a huge congratulations to **Lynsey Hargreaves**, West Glamorgan Project Manager, on her nomination for the Community Transport Association's **'Community Transport Ally of the Year**' award!

Lynsey played a central role in our regional transport project, which focused on improving access to transport for people with a learning disability.

Through her leadership, she brought together individuals, community groups, and organisations to identify barriers and co-create practical solutions.

An overview of the transport project and its outcomes can be found on our website - **click here to view**.

Lynsey's nomination is a testament to her hard work and dedication. We are incredibly proud of her and wish her the best of luck for the awards ceremony in Manchester in June - Pob lwc, Lynsey!

MIND'S BIG MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY

Mind's Big Mental Health Survey is your chance to speak about your experiences of mental health and navigating mental health services.

The insights shared will inform Mind's annual **Big Mental Health Report** which is used by decision makers to make real choices about the mental health system.

Here's what you need to know to take part:

- You have to be 16+ living in England or Wales
- You have to have experience using or trying to use either primary care services (like your GP or practice nurse), secondary care services (like Community Mental Health Teams), or charity mental health support services in the past 12 months.

The survey closes on **4 May 2026.** It should take no longer than 15-20 minutes to complete.
All responses are anonymised and anything you share will not affect the services you receive.

Take the survey today → **https://bigmentalhealthsurvey.co.uk/**

MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBER!

We are pleased to welcome our new Project Manager, **Luke Rees** to the West Glam family!

Luke joined us in March 2026 and will be overseeing the delivery of the '**No Wrong Door**' Project, which focuses on improving outcomes for children, young people and families.

Luke comes to us with an impressive background, having overseen numerous children's and young people's mental health services at Platfform. Over the past five years, he has dedicated himself to ensuring that children and young people receive timely support, with an emphasis on making services both accessible and person-centred.

Luke is genuinely enthusiastic about the opportunities his new position presents. He is eager to develop a new model to guarantee that all support services can be accessed throughout the region via the 'No Wrong Door' approach, ensuring that individuals receive the right support from the right service at the right time.

When not at work, Luke is often found outdoors. He enjoys taking his dog for walks on the beach or swimming, cycling, and running around the Gower as he enjoys training for his endurance events.

We're excited to work with our new colleague and look forward to seeing how this area of work progresses.

REFRESHING OUR REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

The past few months have seen some significant changes within the partnership space as we have reviewed our governance arrangements to support more effective regional working.

The changes are designed to improve coordination between partners, with clearer reporting lines and more robust monitoring of progress, risks and outcomes.

The new approach will centre around three Programme Boards: **Older People**, **Transforming Mental Health** and **Transforming Complex Care**. These areas were chosen as they represent the most significant pressures across health and social care and require urgent, coordinated action.

Work relating to **Learning Disability, Dementia, Children and Young People**, and **Neurodiverse** communities will continue to progress, with each area now reporting into the most appropriate Programme Board. The **Carers Partnership** will also remain in place and will report directly to the Leadership Steering and Advisory Board.

The refreshed arrangements provide a solid foundation for collaborative working and will help ensure that our programmes of work continue to move forward with clarity and shared purpose.

For more information on the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership, please email west.glamorgan@swansea.gov.uk

This Newsletter is available in different formats - please contact us with details of your requirements.