



**Agenda Item**

2.3

**Joint Commissioning Committee**

**Director of Commissioning for Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups Report**

<b>Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting</b>	18/03/2025
<b>Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status</b>	Open/ Public
	Not Applicable
<b>Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author</b>	Shane Mills, Director of Commissioning for Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups
<b>Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter</b>	Shane Mills, Director of Commissioning for Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups
<b>Noddwr yr Adroddiad / Report Sponsor</b>	Stacey Taylor, Interim Chief Commissioner

<b>Pwrpas yr Adroddiad / Report Purpose</b>	For Noting Choose an item.
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<b>Engagement (internal/external) undertaken to date (including receipt/consideration at Committee/Group)</b>		
<b>Committee / Group / Individuals</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
JCC Senior Leadership Team Management Meeting	10/03/2025	Noted

<b>Acronyms / Glossary of Terms</b>	
CPTSD	Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
HB	Health Board
JC	Joint Committee
JCC	NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee
MBU	Mother and Baby Unit
MHLDVG	Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups
MSU	Medium Secure Unit
NHSE	NHS England
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centres
SLT	Senior Leadership Team
TSW	Traumatic Stress Wales
WG	Welsh Government
WHSSC	Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee

## 1. SITUATION

The purpose of this report is to provide the Joint Commissioning Committee (JC) members with an update on key issues of the Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups Directorate that have arisen since the last JC meeting which took place on 21 January 2025.

## 2. BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups Directorate

The Directorate is responsible for commissioning:

- High secure services for adults with a mental illness or learning disability
- Medium secure services for adults and children with a mental illness or learning disability
- Hospital services for children with mental illness
- Hospital services for adults and children with an eating disorder
- Eating Disorder Outreach Services
- Perinatal inpatient services
- Low secure single commissioner consideration project
- NHS 111 press option 2 for mental health
- Forensic Adolescent Community Teams
- Hospital services for adults with a neuropsychiatric disorder
- Gender identity disorder services for adults and children
- Futures programme jointly with the Royal College of Psychiatrists Wales
- Hospital services for deaf persons with a mental illness
- Traumatic Stress Wales (TSW) Programme
- Commissioning some aspects of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC)

Since being established the Directorate has:

- Agreed with Health Boards (HBs) commissioning intentions for 2025/2026 which incorporates all the predecessor organisations strategies and work programmes
- Had several meetings of the MHLDVG Commissioning Group with HB representation
- Revised the Directorate risk register and aligned it to the proposed commissioning intentions
- Agreed a new Directorate staffing structure
- Agreed areas for improved efficiency/productivity for 2025/2026

## **2.2 Perinatal Mental Health**

Further to the update given to the JCC in 2024, the development of the new Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) unit in Chester has commenced. The provisional operational date is October 2025. As this unit is located in England but will cater to mothers from Wales, arrangements have been made to ensure that Welsh patients feel as connected to Wales as possible. These arrangements include:

- Interior bilingual signage
- Care plans translated into Welsh
- Information leaflets translated into Welsh
- Availability of Welsh-speaking staff
- Job advertisements provided in Welsh
- Including desirability criteria in job descriptions for staff to speak Welsh.

NHS Wales and NHS England (NHSE) commissioners have ensured that the 'expert by experience' group remains actively engaged and includes representatives from North Wales.

## **2.3 Traumatic Stress Wales**

Traumatic Stress Wales (TSW) was established in April 2020, is funded by Welsh Government (WG) and was hosted by the predecessor organisation the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC).

TSW defines itself as a 'national quality improvement initiative that works through a network of easily accessible, locally based services centred around the people they are trying to help with streamlined care pathways to avoid unnecessary repeated referral and assessment'. TSW aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages living in Wales who have been affected by traumatic events. It also aims to raise trauma-informed awareness and practice across Wales and has a particular focus on those at risk of developing or with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or complex post-traumatic stress disorder (CPTSD).

The initiative covers children, young people and adults and received £1.724 million of funding in 2024/25 from WG, of which £0.9 million is provided by the JCC to the HBs to fund the additional staff required to deliver the required services.

The creation of the JCC has led to the implementation of a new, overarching governance and accountability structure and it necessary to review the particular governance and reporting arrangements for a number of specific services. A review of TSW started in December 2024 to consider the optimum delivery mechanism for the national objectives of TSW and the adequacy of the systems and controls in place within the JCC in relation to the management of TSW.

The review has now been completed and is in draft form. During the review the reviewer spoke to over 25 stakeholders, including TSW staff, HBs, WG and the NHS Executive Strategic Programme for Mental Health. The review recommended

that discussions take place to see if there was a more appropriate delivery organisation for TSW and in order to provide rapid recommendations to the JCC preliminary conversations will take place with other organisations through March and April 2025.

### 3. KEY RISKS / MATTERS FOR ESCALATION

The JC scheme of delegation gives the JCC the responsibility for the commissioning of the NHS aspects of SARC. The responsibility for this programme of work is currently resides with the NHS Executive, which intend to close the extant programme and transfer the legacy actions to the JCC. During the transition it has become apparent that there are a number of significant outstanding actions such as future funding, programme and partner expectations which will require further discussion. The WG has also been requested to review the objectives of the Welsh Sexual Assault Services Programme, provide advice on future objectives and provide legal advice on NHS liabilities for these services.

### 4. ASSESSMENT

<b>Objectives / Strategy</b>	
<b>Dolen i Amcan (au) Strategol CBC / Link to JCC Strategic Objectives(s)</b>	Maximise Value
	Ensure Quality
<b>Dolen i Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol – Nodau Llesiant / Link to Wellbeing of Future Generations Act – Wellbeing Goals</b> <a href="#">150623-guide-to-the-fg-act-en.pdf</a> <a href="#">(futuregenerations.wales)</a>	A Healthier Wales
	If more than one applies please list below:
<b>Dolen i Hwyluswyr Ansawdd</b> <i>(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Enablers of Quality</i> <a href="#">(Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))</a>	Whole-systems Perspective
	If more than one applies please list below:
<b>Dolen i Feysydd Ansawdd</b> <i>(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) /</i>	Effective
	If more than one applies please list below:

<b>Link to Domains of Quality</b> <i>(Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))</i>	
<b>Effaith Amgylcheddol/ Cynaliadwyedd (5R) / Environmental /Sustainability Impact (5Rs)</b>	No - Not Applicable
	If more than one applies please list below:
<b>Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Ansawdd</b> <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Ansawdd? / Quality</i> <i>Have you undertaken a Quality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Cydraddoldeb</b> <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb? / Equality</i> <i>Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Outcome:
	If no, please include rationale below:  Update report to the JCC
<b>Cyfreithiol / Legal</b>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Enw da / Reputational</b>	Outcome:
	If no, please include rationale below:  Update report to the JCC
<b>Effaith Adnoddau</b> <i>(Pobl /Ariannol) / Resource Impact</i> <i>(People / Financial)</i>	There are no specific legal implications related to the activity outlined in this report.
<b>Enw da / Reputational</b>	There is no direct impact on the reputation of the Joint Committee as a result of the activity outlined in this report.
	However, many of the areas within MHLDVG have specific areas of interest and have additional public scrutiny
<b>Effaith Adnoddau</b> <i>(Pobl /Ariannol) / Resource Impact</i> <i>(People / Financial)</i>	There is no direct impact on resources as a result of the activity outlined in this report.

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Joint Committee is asked to:

- **Note** the report.

## 6. NEXT STEPS

- **Traumatic Stress Wales** - To present the full report on the findings of the internal audit review to the CTMUHB Audit & Risk Committee meeting in May 2025.
- **Sexual Assault Referral Centres**- To present an update on the transition arrangements to the next JCC in May 2025.