

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Health Emergency Preparedness Unit organises a Health Emergency Preparedness event each year, primarily for Wales NHS. This year it was agreed, with NHS Civil Contingency Executive leads, that we would focus on health preparedness requirements for an influenza pandemic.

2. Aim & Objectives

2.1 Aim

To examine health preparedness requirements for an influenza pandemic.

Objectives

- To consider pandemic risk and planning assumptions
 - To set out national and local health preparedness requirements
 - To consider the health challenges through each pandemic phase
 - To provide an opportunity for networking and sharing of information
- 2.2 A small planning group was established to develop a comprehensive programme to meet the aim and objectives above and to deliver the event.

3. Delegates

- 3.1 Four places were offered to each Health Board, Velindre NHS Trust, the Wales Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST) and Public Health Wales. Representatives from Police and Fire, along with Local Government and professional advisers and relevant policy leads from Welsh Government, were also invited to attend. A full list of attendees can be found at Appendix A.

4. Venue

- 4.1 The event was held in the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells..

5. Programme

- 5.1 The event ran from 0930 until 1530 and was in two parts. The morning was given over to key speakers from the NHS and Social Services and each covered the planning and response challenges for their service in relation to an influenza pandemic. A copy of the full programme can be found at Appendix B.

The Morning Session

- 5.2 A copy of the presentations is available, on request, from Welsh Government Health Emergency Preparedness Unit. The themes covered by each speaker were as follows:

a. Risks & effects of pandemic influenza – Dr John Watkins

- Current threats were described as –
- Genetic re-assortment