



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Wales Pandemic Flu Preparedness Group

10:30am – 29th January 2018

Situation Room ECC(W)3

Minutes from the Meeting

Attendees:

David Goulding (DG)

Wyn Price (WP)

Marion Lyons (ML)

Name Redacted

- WG Health Emergency Planning Adviser
- WG Head of Resilience
- WG Public Health
- WG Social Services
- WG Health -Communications
- WG Health EP
- WG Health EP
- PHW – Public Health Wales
- Hywel Dda UHB – Dyfed Powys LRF
- PHW Emergency Planning Lead

1. Welcome

DG welcomed everyone to the meeting and following introductions, explained that the UK pandemic review was progressing at a pace and that it was important that the implications of the outcomes were properly considered in a Wales context, He added that this group had met previously to reflect on progress and that it was now timely to also include the chairs of the 4 LRF Pandemic Flu Groups.

LRF Attendance

It was noted with disappointment that three of the four LRF Chairs were not in attendance. WP confirmed that the LRF chairs had been invited and that no apologies had been received from them. Reference was made to LRF engagement being taken forward by DCLG in England and the need for Welsh Government to also engage with the LRFs in Wales. DG emphasised the importance of having the LRF chairs on the group and asked that this be re-enforced with them.

ACTION: WP to reiterate the importance of LRFs attendance.

2. UK Pandemic Flu Review and Work Plan

DG discussed the PFRB High Level Work Plan, advising that the Review Board had agreed to extend the time period into a second year to address ongoing deliverables. DG asked if there were any questions regarding the Work Plan, none were asked and added that the next UK Pandemic Flu Readiness Board would meet at the end of February. WP alluded to the difficult timescales for some areas being set centrally.

The meeting discussed the importance of operational delivery, through the UK Review some key pandemic influenza strategic policies and guidance are updated notably the UK Pandemic Influenza Framework 2011 and the Cabinet Office Pandemic Influenza Guidance to LRFS.

3. Wales Engagement in UK Review

WP advised that it was the perception at a UK level that Wales and other devolved governments are lagging slightly behind England in some areas such as legislation and health and social care surge planning due to a lack of resource.

DG felt that Wales may be structurally better placed than the other regions because the emergency planning networks and joint working is quite robust and there was the experience of swine flu and full participation in Exercise CYGNUS.

He felt it important to build on what we already have in place and where appropriate amend pandemic flu guidance to take account of the outcome of the UK review.

He felt that this Group with the involvement of LRF representatives offered an effective and efficient mechanism for addressing any operational changes necessary both within national arrangements and at a local level.

WP confirmed that relevant documents for each of the Pan Flu Work-streams had been shared with the group and Welsh Government was represented on all of the Pan Flu Readiness Board work streams.

WP said that it was important to engage with the Department of Health in the drafting of the Pan-flu Bill as it was vital the finalised Bill was fit for purpose and took account of devolved matters.

4. Work Stream Current Position

4.1 Health Care Surge and Triage

In the absence of Name Redacted our representative on this sub group, DG advised that NHS England had progressed in producing draft surge guidance that combines both NHS and social care. Welsh Government had been asked to give a view on the document and this had been done.