

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN RURAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

#### Between

- (1) **HYWEL DDA LOCAL UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD** whose registered office is at Corporate Offices, Ystwyth Building, Hafan Derwen, St David's Park, Jobswell Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3BB
- (2) **POWYS TEACHING HEALTH BOARD** whose registered office is Neuadd Brycheiniog, Cambrian Way, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7HR
- (3) **BETSI CADWALADR UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD** whose registered office is Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2PW
- (4) **WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS TRUST** whose registered address is H.M Stanley Hospital, St Asaph, Denbighshire, LL17 0RS
- (5) **Y COLEG CYMRAEG CENEDLAETHOL** whose registered office is Y Llwyfan, Heol y Coleg, Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 3EQ
- (6) **ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY** whose administrative offices are at Old College, King Street, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 2AX; and
- (7) **SWANSEA UNIVERSITY** being an Institution established by Royal Charter of Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP; and
- (8) **UNIVERSITY OF WALES: TRINITY SAINT DAVID** whose administrative offices are at University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter Campus Ceredigion, SA48 7ED (hereinafter referred to as "UWTSD"); and
- (9) **CARDIFF UNIVERSITY** whose administrative offices are at Main Building, Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3AT; and
- (10) **BANGOR UNIVERSITY** whose administrative offices are at College Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DG; and
- (11) **CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL** whose administrative offices are at Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron, Ceredigion, SA46 0PA; and
- (12) **POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL** whose administrative offices are at Powys County Hall, Spa Road East, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5LG and
- (13) **GWYNEDD COUNCIL** whose administrative offices are at Gwynedd Council, Shire Hall St, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SH

Date Memorandum is to take effect: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016; and

1. This Memorandum of Understanding signifies a statement of intent to collaborate, but is not a legally binding document.
2. This MoU represents a declaration of common intent between the parties into:
  - a) The sharing of relevant information with the aim of identifying the needs, capabilities and future opportunities of the parties.
  - b) Establishment of appropriate mechanisms to ensure an effective working collaboration between the parties.
  - c) Oversight of existing collaborative arrangements between the parties.
  - d) Identifying and pursuing further collaborative opportunities aligned to the objectives of the collaboration.
3. It recognises the intention of the Health Boards and Trust that are members of the The Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative, Y Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, the Universities across Wales and Local Authorities across Mid Wales to establish a relationship to co-operate in establishing the Centre for Excellence in Rural Health and Social Care and to work together for their mutual benefit as described in Schedule 1. The parties may also seek to encourage and develop collaborative activities in various ways, including the exchange of scholarly ideas/expertise, the support of specific discipline interaction, workforce development, organisational development, research and development, innovation and the development of programmes and projects.
4. A separate legal agreement for the Centre for Excellence in Rural Health and Social Care will be required between Hywel Dda University Health Board on behalf of the Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative as the statutory host organisation for The Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative. The financial considerations associated with collaboration will be dealt with separately via the legal contract.
5. All parties recognise the value of this Memorandum of Understanding in promoting collaborative working to establish the Centre for Excellence in Rural Health and Social Care, but any promotional material/activity which includes reference to individual organisations must be sent to the other parties for approval before use.
6. This Understanding is for 2 years in the first instance, and will be reviewed thereafter. Each party has the right to discontinue the arrangements subject to a period of 3 months' notice being given. The Understanding may also be terminated at any time by mutual consent of all the parties.
7. In any cases of discontinuance, the parties will honour agreed commitments either via the accepted arrangements or suitable alternatives negotiated at that point.

## **SCHEDULE 1 – Proposed Vision for the Centre for Excellence in Rural Health and Social Care (CfERH)**

The vision of the CfERH is to lead the way in accessing and undertaking relevant research to inform the models of prevention, treatment and care that need to be implemented to improve the health and wellbeing of the communities and population within Mid Wales. In collaboration with partner organisations, the CfERH will inform the development of services that deliver appropriate access to services, based on principles of informed patient choice, prevention, diagnosis and self-care.

The CfERH will establish a network of relevant individuals, research units and groups, from within Wales and further afield to access and verify evidence to support the research, innovation and development agenda and enable decision-makers and policy colleagues to be fully cognisant of the scope, opportunities, issues and challenges in implementing prudent healthcare within the context of a rural environment.

The CfERH will also work with professional bodies and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to ensure that structured education and training programmes for doctors, dentists, nurses, midwives, pharmacists, allied healthcare professionals, paramedics, optometrists, social care staff and any other relevant professional groups devising or delivering care to our rural communities are available to equip them with the skills and knowledge to deliver high quality care in rural areas.