



Cynghrair Niwrolegol Cymru  
Wales Neurological Alliance

## **Annual Report 2019 and Financial Statement Cross-Party Group for Neurological Conditions**

### **Aims and Objectives**

#### **Aim**

To improve services for people affected by neurological conditions

#### **Objectives**

1. To engage and work in partnership with people affected by neurological conditions
2. To raise awareness of neurological conditions and their impact on individuals and their communities
3. To inform and influence the Welsh Government about the needs of people affected by neurological conditions
4. To support and promote appropriate research

### **Membership and Meetings of the group:**

The group will consist of Assembly Members drawn from at least three of the political parties represented in the National Assembly for Wales and representatives from the Wales Neurological Alliance Executive Committee. Meetings are open to the public, but specific invitations are sent to the member organisations of the Wales Neurological Alliance or others with an interest in neurological conditions, who the chair and secretary choose to specifically invite.

The members as of the inaugural meeting of the group in the fifth Assembly are:

Mark Isherwood AM, Welsh Conservatives (Chair)  
Dr. Dai Lloyd AM, Plaid Cymru  
Vikki Howells AM, Welsh Labour  
Lee Walkers AM, Welsh Labour  
Huw Irranca-Davies AM, Welsh Labour  
Angela Burns AM, Welsh Conservatives  
David Rees AM, Welsh Labour

Lynne Hughes, MS Society  
Ana Palazon, Parkinson's UK  
Dave Maggs, Headway  
David Murray, Cure Parkinson's  
Kevin Thomas, MND Association

Ann Sivapatham, Epilepsy Action  
Carol McCudden, Ataxia UK  
Kate Steele, Shine UK

The Neurological Conditions Cross Party Group meetings are open to the public and that invitations are sent to WNA member organisations and others with an interest in neurological conditions.

**Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year**

The group did not meet with any professional lobbyists. Details of voluntary and charitable organisations attending meetings can be found in the 'Membership and Meetings of the group' section of the report.

## **Meetings**

The Cross Party Group on Neurological Conditions decided that its focus for 2019 was to undertake an inquiry into progress made to date on implementing the Welsh Government's Neurological Delivery Plan.

The terms of reference for the inquiry were to examine the progress made in implementing the Neurological Delivery Plan in Wales including:

- To examine the progress made on implementing the plan across each of the local health boards.
- Whether Wales is on course to achieve the outcomes and performance measures, as set out in each of the chapters of the Delivery Plan, by 2020.
- Whether patients across Wales can access the care required (for example timely diagnosis, access to diagnostics and treatments, palliative and end of life care) in an appropriate setting and in a timely manner
- The level of collaborative working across sectors, especially between the NHS and third sector, to ensure patients receive effective person - centred care from multi-disciplinary teams.
- Whether the current level of funding for neurological services is appropriate, used effectively and provides value for money.

Written evidence was submitted to the inquiry by a wide range of stakeholders, including:

- Individuals living with neurological conditions;
- Charities representing people affected by neurological conditions;
- Royal Colleges;
- The Wales Neurological Alliance; and
- The Neurological Conditions Implementation Group.

Three oral evidence sessions were held, the purpose of this oral evidence session was to capture the views and experiences of a range of stakeholders about the implementation and impact of the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan. It also provided an opportunity to discuss practical solutions for future action. Attendees were asked to discuss the following:

**Question 1:** Do you feel the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan has delivered enough change for people with neurological conditions in Wales? Can you give examples to illustrate your answer?

**Question 2:** In what ways do you think the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan has been most successful? Can you give any examples?

**Question 3:** In what ways do you think the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan has been least successful? Can you give any examples?

**Question 4:** Do you have any suggestions for future action which could be taken to improve treatments, services and support for people with neurological conditions in Wales?

**Question 5:** Do you have any comments on the current level of funding for neurological services in Wales? What are your views on whether funding for neurological services is used effectively and provides value for money?

**Question 6:** Do you have any comments on the way in which the NHS works together with other organisations, like charities, in providing person centred care to people with neurological conditions?

The meetings were held on 4<sup>th</sup> July and 4<sup>th</sup> October, a further session was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November for members of the neurological Implementation Group to give evidence.

### **Financial Statement**

All costs are paid for by the Wales Neurological Alliance.

	<b>Accommodation and Catering Expenses</b>
North Wales Meeting – room hire and refreshments	£355.00
Meeting costs Cardiff	£179.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>£534.94</b>