

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2024

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ON WOMEN'S HEALTH
29TH JANUARY 2025

GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICE HOLDERS

CHAIR

JENNY RATHBONE MS

SENEDD MEMBERS

SIONED WILLIAMS MS

JOYCE WATSON MS

RHUN AP IOWERTH MS

SARAH MURPHY MS

DELYTH JEWELL MS

LLYR GRUFFYDD MS

JOHN GRIFFITHS MS

SECRETARIAT

LUCY WARD, BRITISH PREGNANCY ADVISORY SERVICE (BPAS)

OTHER MEMBERS

ALISON SCOULLER (SOCIALIST HEALTH ASSOCIATION CYMRU)

AMANDA DAVIES (SWANSEA BAY UHB)

ANDREW MCMULLAN (BPAS)

BARBARA STREET (ACTION FOR CHILDREN)

BECCI FROST (PMDD AWARENESS)

BRONWEN DAVIES (ABORTION RIGHTS CARDIFF)

BRONWEN JONES (AM STAFF)

CRAIG LAWTON (BMA WALES)

DEBBIE SHAFFER (FTWW)

DEE MONTAGUE-COAST (FTWW)

DR ALAN TREHARNE (HYWEL DDA UHB)

DR CAROLINE SHERF (CARDIFF AND VALE UHB)

DR HELEN BAYLISS (CWM TAF MORGANNWG UHB)

DR HELEN MUNRO (HYWEL DDA UHB)

DR JAN GARROD (NHS WALES)

DR JANE DICKSON (ANEURIN BEVAN UHB/FSRH)

DR RACHEL GILMORE (CWM TAF MORGANNWG UHB)

DR SALLY KIDSLEY (HYWEL DDA UHB)

DR SARAH PITTS (CARDIFF AND VALE UHB)

ELIZABETH EVANS (BETSI CADWALADR UHB)

ELIZABETH SMITH (ENDOMETRIOSIS UK)

FAYE FARTHING (ENDOMETRIOSIS UK)

HELEN PERRY (NYAS)

HILARY WATSON (WOMEN'S EQUALITY NETWORK WALES)

JADE HEFFRON (ENDOMETRIOSIS UK)
JUDY THOMAS (COMMUNITY PHARMACY WALES)
JULIE RICHARDS (ROYAL COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES)
KAREN LOGAN (ANEURIN BEVAN UHB)
LARA MORRIS (FTWW)
LESLEY BLOWER (ABORTION RIGHTS CARDIFF)
LISA HUMPHREY (HYWEL DDA UHB)
LISA NICHOLLS (FTWW)
LISA HENRY (PUBLIC HEALTH WALES)
LORRAINE JOOMAN (ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSES)
LOWRI JACKSON (ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS)
LUCY DOBBINS (BETSI CADWALADR UHB)
MICHELLE MOSELEY (ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSES)
PAULINE BRELSFORD (ABORTION RIGHTS CARDIFF)
RACHAEL CLARKE (BPAS)
RHIANYYD WILLIAMS (TUC)
ROSEMARY CUTMORE (BPAS)
SARAH HATHERLY (WELSH SENEDD)
SARAH THOMAS (NATIONAL FOSTERING NETWORK)
SHARON VINE (CWM TAF MORGANNWG UHB)
SOPHIE MASSON (THINK EDI)
STACEY KEANE (ROYAL COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES)
TINA FOSTER (TGP CYMRU)
VIVIENNE ROSE (BPAS)

GROUP MEETINGS SINCE THE LAST AGM

MEETING 1

Meeting Date

15th January 2024

Attendees

Jenny Rathbone MS
Sioned Williams MS
Ioan Bellin – Office of Delyth Jewell MS
Sarah Hatherly – Senedd Research
Amanda Davies – Swansea Bay UHB
Bronwen Davies – Abortion Rights Cardiff
Alison Scouller – Socialist Health Association Cymru
Andrew McMullan – BPAS
Tessa Marshall – Breast Cancer Now
Kayleigh Williams – Community Pharmacy Wales
Helen Perry – NYAS
Pauline Brelsford – Abortion Rights Cardiff
Georgia Walby – Long Covid Wales
Jan Russell – WAMES
Louise Morgan – Long Covid Wales
Ruth William – Long Covid Wales

Dee Montague-Coast – FTWW
Rebecca Davies – Action for M.E
Julie Richards – Director, RCM
Debbie Schaffer – FTWW
Lucy Grieve – BPAS

Summary of issues discussed

- Topic on Long Covid, CFS, ME and the effect on women
- Presentations by Jan Russell from WAMES, Rebecca Davies from Action for ME, and Georgina Walby, Ruth William, and Louise Morgan from Long Covid Wales
- Group discussion focussed on support needed for frontline workers that may suffer from one of these conditions, as well as the length of time taken to be diagnosed in many instances. Points were also raised about the work being done by the Welsh Government, as well as recent advances in the field of women's health that may help us tackle the issues in the future.
- Bronwen Davies asked if we had received a response from the Minister about abortion progress in Wales following the letter written in November. Lucy Grieve is to chase at report back.

MEETING 2

Meeting Date

21st February 2024

Attendees

Jenny Rathbone MS
Eluned Morgan MS
Sian Gwenllian MS
Sioned Williams MS
Helen Fychan MS
Bronwen Davies – Abortion Rights Cardiff
Tessa Marshall – Breast Cancer Now
Viv Rose – BPAS
Alice Fairman – BPAS
Diana Dobryzynska – BPAS
Caroline Sherf – Cardiff and Vale UHB
Judith Cutter – Cardiff and Vale UHB
Sarah Thomas – NFWI
Hanna Andersen – WEP
Rachael Joseph – FTWW
Georgina Forbes – Aneurin Bevan UHB
Beth Hales – FTWW
Anna Cooper - FTWW
Amanda Davies – Swansea Bay UHB
Debbie Shaffer – FTWW
Alison Scouller – Socialist Health Association Cymru
Meena Upadhyaya – FTWW

Lucy Grieve – BPAS
Lisa Nicholls – FTWW
Carina Harigan – FTWW
Willow Holloway – Disability Wales
Dr Aimee Grant – Swansea University
Ceilidh Harris Al Amoodi – SANDS
Sarah Ford – FTWW
Rosie Walworth – RCOG
Dee Montague – FTWW
Sarah Griffith – Cardiff Metropolitan University
Rachel Hawks – Verity PCOS
Jade Heffron – Endometriosis UK
Sofia Gamiero – Cardiff University
Donna Davies – FTWW
Jane Dickson – Aneurin Bevan UHB
Jill Rundle – NWFU Wales Committee
Councillor Jasmin Chowdhury – PHW
Rhiannon John – FTWW
Julie Richards – FTWW
Helen Perry – NYAS
Sarah Anne Evans – FTWW
Louise Evans – FTWW
Jacky Boivin – Cardiff University
Judith Cutter - RCM

Summary of issues discussed

- Development of the Women's Health Plan for Wales
- Remarks by Minister for Health and Social Care, Elenud Morgan MS
- Open discussion formed the majority of the meeting and focused on the timeline for development of the plan and implementation, as well as the postcode lottery of abortion services across Wales. Questions were also raised around the discovery report and the importance of co-production with specialist organisations (such as endometriosis and breast cancer charities that work directly with those with lived experience)
- Letter of response from the Welsh Government about abortion care targets was disseminated amongst CPG members and was noted by people in the meeting

MEETING 3

Meeting Date

18th July 2024

Attendees

Jenny Rathbone MS
Sioned Williams MS
Hannah Jarvis – Office of Laura Ann Jones MS
Jenny Shaw – FTWW
Elizabeth Bruen – Cardiff & Vale UHB

Eimar Mulholland – Hywel Dda UHB
 Alison Scouller – Socialist Health Association Cymru
 Lara Morris – FTWW
 Bronwen Davies – Abortion Rights Cardiff
 Rachel Joseph – Cardiff University
 Sarah Hill – UHW
 Carly Crocker – Endometriosis Wales
 Andrew McMullan – BPAS
 Amy Dowzell – FTWW
 Annie Roberts – FTWW
 Debbie Shaffer – FTWW
 Sarah Thomas – NFWI
 Dee Montague-Coast – FTWW
 Jo Campion – Endometriosis UK
 Louise Evans – FTWW
 Lydia Sold-Evans – FTWW
 Toria Collins – FTWW
 Katherine Gale – NHS Wales
 Cath – WRN Wales
 Helen Munro – NHS Wales
 Chloe Middleton – FTWW
 Catherine Wadmore – FTWW
 Emily Manning – FTWW
 Julie Richards – RCM
 Helen Evans – FTWW
 Lucy Ward – BPAS

Summary of issues discussed

- Topic of endometriosis
- Presentations by Debbie Shaffer from FTWW, Rachel Joseph from Cardiff University, and Dr Helen Munro from NHS Wales'
- Discussion focused mainly on the diagnostic and treatment time in Wales and the lack of resources despite assurances from the government. A number of members shared stories of their own battles with endometriosis, and nurses also shared their own experience of working within the service. Cost of specialist services raised as a large contributing factor to delays in diagnosis. It was decided that the CPG would write to the government about endometriosis and the timeline for the implementation of endometriosis-specific nurses in health boards
- Bronwen from Abortion Rights Cardiff wanted an update from the questions that were asked to the Minister at the February meeting about abortion targets and mid-trimester commissioning. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Minister before the next meeting regarding this and questions arising about endometriosis

MEETING 4

Meeting Date

28th November 2024

Attendees

Jenny Rathbone MS
Sioned Williams MS
Laura Anne Jones MS
Rebecca Steinfeld – BPAS
Haleema Khan – NHS Confederation Wales
Catherine Larkman – WRN Wales
Andrew McMullan – BPAS
Rachael Clarke – BPAS
Bronwen Davies – Abortion Rights Cardiff
Debbie Shaffer – FTWW
Libby Humphries – Cardiff University
Leanne Prigent – NHS Wales
Molly Fenton – LYP Campaign
Eileen Munson – Menopause Specialist
Rhiannon Fisher – FTWW
Alison Scouller – Socialist Health Association Cymru
Annie Roberts – Wales Online
Viv Rose – BPAS
Emily Manning – Endometriosis UK
Pauline Brelsford – Abortion Rights Cardiff
Louise Allen – NHS Wales
Sally Irving – NHS Wales
Dr Jane Dickson – NHS Wales AB UHB
Dr Amanda Davies – NHS Wales SB UHB
Bianca Armitage – RCM

Summary of issues discussed

- Topic of contraception
- Presentations by Dr Rebecca Steinfeld from BPAS, Louise Allen from the Welsh Government/Cardiff and Vale UHB, and a pre-recorded video from Professor Christopher Barratt
- Discussion focused mainly on the increasing role of the pharmacy in the provision of contraception across Wales. Barriers such as finance and medicine licensing were also raised.

PROFESSIONAL LOBBYISTS, VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND CHARITIES WITH WHOM THE GROUP HAS MET DURING THE PRECEDING YEAR

The NGOs linked to the group are listed above as members and/or when they have attended our regular meetings. No special meetings were held with NGOs or lobbyists.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE WOMEN'S HEALTH CROSS-PARTY GROUP

2024 CALENDAR YEAR

Chair: Jenny Rathbone MS

Secretary: Lucy Ward, British Pregnancy Advisory Service

	DETAILS	COST
Expenses	Cost of refreshments and canapes for in-person meeting at the Senedd for February meeting	£297.90
Cost of all goods	No goods purchased	£0
Benefits received by the group of individual members from outside bodies	No benefits received.	£0
Any secretariat or other support	No support charged	£0
TOTAL COST		£297.90