

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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### CROSS-PARTY GROUP ON WOMEN'S HEALTH 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025

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#### GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICE HOLDERS

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##### 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 SCULLER (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)

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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 SENEDED)  
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)

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## GROUP MEETINGS SINCE THE LAST AGM

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### MEETING 1

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#### Meeting Date

15<sup>th</sup> 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

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### Meeting Date

21<sup>st</sup> 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 – NWFI 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

18<sup>th</sup> 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 Date**

28<sup>th</sup> 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  
Rhianon 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.

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

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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.

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

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**2024 CALENDAR YEAR**

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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
<b>TOTAL COST</b>		<b>£297.90</b>