



# Newsletter

April 2022

## Welcome to the first edition of our refreshed NEP Newsletter!

This edition gives a brief high-level overview of what has been going on within the Programme over the past few months and our intention is to structure each subsequent newsletter - distributed on a bi-monthly basis, with an overview of what is going on within each of our individual work-streams – Demand & Capacity, Clinical Pathways, Workforce, Training & Development, Facilities & Infrastructure, and Informatics.

Our next newsletter will include a focus piece following the Endoscopy Workforce Planning event run by the Workforce, Training & Development work stream.

The National Endoscopy Programme was set up in 2019 to address the shortfall of endoscopy provision in Wales and to make recommendations on what action we should take on an all-Wales basis.

The pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing challenges in endoscopy waiting times for urgent, routine, surveillance and screening appointments, and the latest backlog trajectories demonstrate a deteriorating situation.

## Recovery Plan

In October 2021, the Minister for Health & Social Services for Wales approved the National Endoscopy Recovery Plan. The plan involves creating additional capacity regionally, to sit alongside local and national plans to improve endoscopy workforce availability and capacity.

Paul Mears (Chief Executive Officer for Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board) has been appointed as the Lead CEO to work with the National Endoscopy Programme to deliver the National Recovery Plan.

Since October, the Programme has been busy working with key stakeholders to develop the governance structure for the implementation phase of the plan. This includes the establishment of a National Operational Delivery Group to oversee the National developments of the plan; and three Regional Operational Delivery Groups, comprising of key Health Board Planning, Operational & Clinical representatives. The three Regional Operational Delivery Groups include the South West (Hywel Dda University

**This overall approach to the National Endoscopy Recovery plan will include the following components:**

- 1. Adoption of productivity and efficiency measures recommended by the National Endoscopy Programme that will enable the maximum output from existing capacity and the risk based management of the patient population.**
- 2. Health board initiated additional activity, delivered in the form of waiting list initiatives, insourcing, and outsourcing; including short term**

Health Board & Swansea Bay Health Board), the South East (Cardiff & Vale University Health Board, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, Powys Teaching Health Board and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board) and the North (Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board & Powys Teaching Health Board).

The role of the Operational Delivery Groups will be to review existing Health Board capacity and the provision of local plans to increase Endoscopy capacity, in order to identify the capacity deficit across the three regions. This will in turn lead to the development of regional solutions to accommodate the additional capacity required to deliver timely endoscopy services across Wales.

rental of staffed mobile units.

**3. Consideration of health board initiated business cases for additional, permanent endoscopy theatres on the existing NHS estate.**

**4. Procurement of managed service contracts to deliver any deficit in endoscopy theatre capacity, to be delivered in regional units.**

## Integrated Plan

In 2019, the National Endoscopy Programme action plan was published, which set out a phased improvement plan to support Health Boards to develop sustainable endoscopy services. This has formed the basis of our work within the Programme over last couple of years. Given the recent approval of the National Recovery Plan, the Programme Team has been busy developing an 'integrated plan' which combines components of the National Endoscopy Programme Action Plan and the National Recovery Plan. This new holistic plan will describe the key deliverables for the Programme over the next 12 months, which will involve working closely with local Health Boards and Regional Teams across Wales.

## Events



Symptomatic FI  
Learning Event  
27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**NEP Building the  
Future Endoscopy  
Workforce  
Together Event –  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

[Workforce,  
Training &  
Development Work  
stream webpage](#)

**APRIL 2022 –  
Bowel Cancer  
Awareness  
Month!!**

[Click here to visit  
Bowel Cancer UK](#)

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[Meet the team](#)



Hayley Heard –  
Programme Lead



Sara Edwards –  
Programme Manager



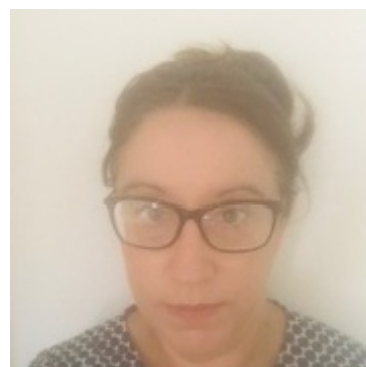
Dana Knoyle –  
Managerial Lead  
- Clinical Pathways



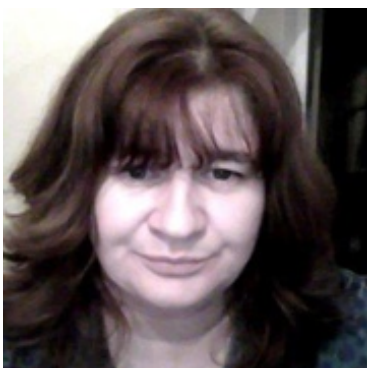
Naomi Davies - Senior  
Project Manager -  
Clinical Pathways



Darren Evans – Senior  
Business & Projects  
Manager



Kate Evans – Senior  
Workforce Lead –  
Workforce, Training &  
Development



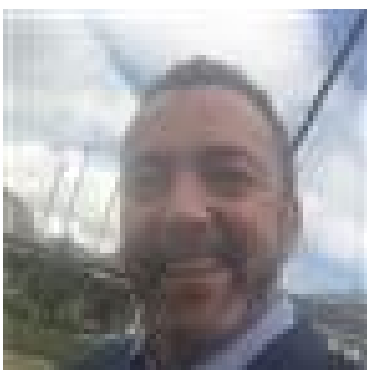
Linda Phillips – Senior  
Project Manager –  
Workforce, Training &  
Development



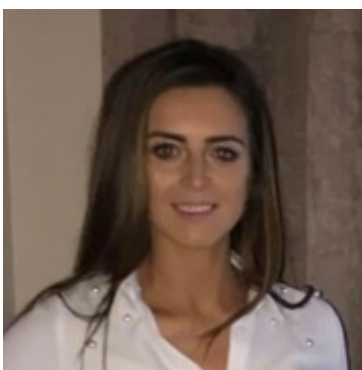
Ian Leigh –  
Improvement Manager –  
Demand & Capacity



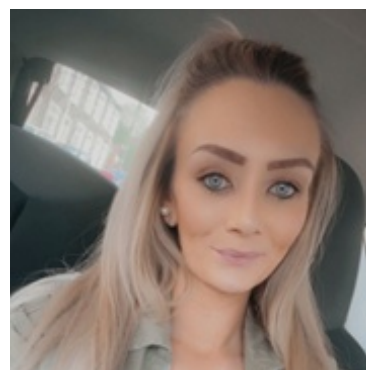
Julia Thomas – Senior  
Informatics and Data  
Specialist – Informatics



Lawrence Borge –  
Principal Project Manager  
– Informatics



Charlotte Dowling –  
Programme  
Administrator



Amanda Beckett –  
Senior Project Support  
Officer



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**A page with the most up-to-date NEP news and recovery guidance can be found on The NHS Wales Health Collaborative website.**

Visit our website

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