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NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

Population assessment update

November 2017 (Issue 12)

Regional plan update

The consultation on the population assessment regional plan has now closed. Thank you to everyone who has taken part.

We'll now amend the plan before it makes its way through the approval process. It will be published 1 April 2018 on our website www.northwalescollaborative.wales.



HMP Berwyn – North Wales Prison in Wrexham, 3D view

What is the secure estate?

The secure estate includes:

- prisons;
- approved premises, supervised hostel-type accommodation for the supervision and rehabilitation of offenders;
- youth detention accommodation; and
- bail accommodation: for people who would normally be living in the community on bail or Home Detention Curfew but do not otherwise have a suitable address or they need some extra support.

Spotlight on... the secure estate



HMP Berwyn

HMP Berwyn in Wrexham opened in February 2017. Until then, there was no prison in North Wales. The new prison gives offenders the opportunity to be held closer to their homes which is an important factor in reducing re-offending. It also aims to improve Welsh language provision in the secure estate.

The prison is a Category C closed prison holding adult male offenders. Category C prisoners are: “those who cannot be trusted in open conditions but who do not have the resources and the will to make a determined escape attempt”.

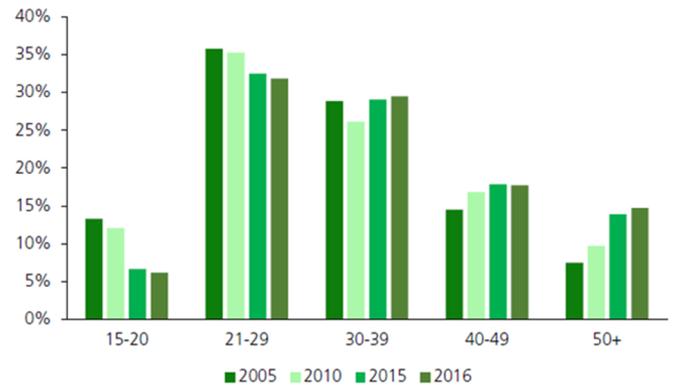
It is a training and resettlement prison where the focus is on the education, training and resettlement of offenders. Working with the children and families of the men in custody will be a key feature of the prison.

A detailed North Wales Prison Health Needs Assessment and Adult Social Care Prison Strategy were carried out to inform the development of the prison.

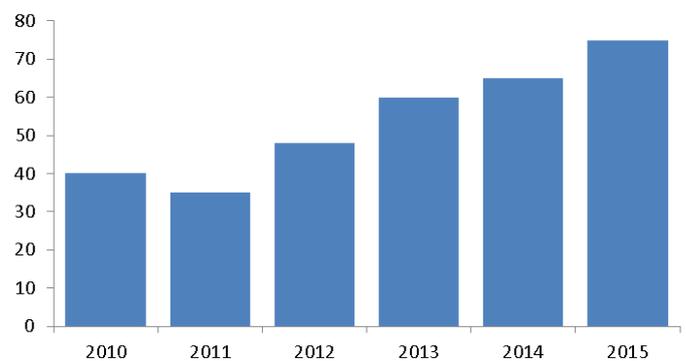
What we found out

- The number of prisoners from North Wales is usually between 760 and 850, of which 40-50 are female, 60-70 are young offenders and 50-60 are high security.
- The number of people held in prison has been increasing.
- The prevalence of mental illness, substance misuse and learning disabilities is higher among the adult prison population than the general population.
- The prison population made up of offenders aged 50 years or over has increased proportionately more than any other age group, which has implications for social care.
- Less than one percent of the total prison population have one or more personal care needs. The proportion increases with age with 13% of people age 65-74 and 23% of people aged over 75 having personal care needs.
- Children with a parent in prison are twice as likely as other children to experience conduct and mental health issues and three times more likely to offend themselves. An estimated 7,000 children in North Wales could be affected by a parent in prison.

Prison population by age, UK, 2005 to 2016



Custodial sentences less than 6 months, women, North Wales



- There's been a steady increase of women sentenced to six months or less. These figures are troubling when the majority of women sentenced to custody have committed non-violent offences and many are held a significant distance from their families causing significant disruption to family life and the process of rehabilitation.

Policy and legislation

- Under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 councils have to assess and meet the care and support needs of people in the secure estate.
- For adults, this means supporting people in the secure estate within the county boundary regardless of where they live. Then when offenders are planning to be released and resettle in the community the duty will move to the council where they are planning to relocate.
- For children under 18, the local council where the child was resident must continue to meet their care and support needs even if they are detained elsewhere in England or Wales.

What we think should happen

- More consultation with people affected, including service users.
- Collect more information about the social care needs of remand prisoners.
- Work with the courts to make sure the needs of disabled people are met on admission to the secure estate.
- Work with prisons in South Wales to share learning.
- Better understanding of the social care needs of women and young people.
- Provide better support for children and families and look at developing a regional approach to this.
- Work with children and families can help reduce re-offending and have positive outcomes for the well-being of children and families.
- Have good systems in place to prevent homelessness by engaging with people who are leaving the secure estate at the earliest possible opportunity. This means the referral can be made to the appropriate council and the correct support put in place.
- Provide continuity of care from prison to the community so that any health gains made while in prison are sustained on release.

Provision for women and young people

- There are no female prison facilities in Wales or Youth Detention Accommodation in North Wales.
- Women from North Wales often serve their sentences in HMP Styal in Cheshire.
- Young people are often placed some distance from North Wales. Young offenders can have very complex needs which are exacerbated by being placed out of area.
- The difficulties this causes include the impact on the children and families' of prisoners; rehabilitation; and, Welsh language provision.

North Wales Prison Health Needs Assessment

Prisoners tend to have: significant levels of poor mental health and personality disorders; an increased risk of self-harm and suicide; significant levels of substance misuse, alcohol misuse and tobacco use; high levels of multiple chronic conditions in older prisoners; significant levels of premature, 'accelerated', ageing and significant levels of preventable illness and disability; high levels of blood-borne viruses; little evidence to suggest routine access to primary and secondary preventative services and interventions prior to prison; and low levels of literacy and numeracy.

There are links between poor health and reoffending and offenders can find it more difficult to access mainstream help than the general population.

Public Health Wales (2015)

Themes

- Children & young people
- Older people
- Health, physical disabilities & sensory impairment
- Learning disability & autism
- Mental health
- Carers
- Violence against women, domestic abuse & sexual violence
- Homelessness
- Veterans
- People in the secure estate

More information

Population assessment and area plan toolkits:

www.socialcare.wales/hub/hub-resource-sub-categories/planning-and-promoting

Part 2 Code of Practice:

www.socialcare.wales/hub/sswbact-codes

Area plan guidance:

<http://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/170206statutory-guidanceen.pdf>

Dewis Cymru (services available to meet the needs identified in the assessment):

<https://www.dewis.wales/>

Contact us

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Background to the population assessment

The population assessment pulls together information about people's care and support needs and the support needs of carers in North Wales. It aims to show how well people's needs are being met and the services we will need to meet them in future. Local authorities in North Wales worked together with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), supported by Public Health Wales, to produce the assessment which is a requirement of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (2014).

The population assessment will be used to make decisions about the services we need to provide in North Wales to meet people's care and support needs and the support needs of carers. It will help us make decisions about where to use our resources, meet other requirements of the act and inform the work of the Regional Partnership Board.

We have used all kinds of evidence to identify what's needed and asked people what they think is important including people who currently use care and support services, the North Wales citizen's panel, and staff who deliver services in the local authorities, health, private and voluntary sectors.

Next, we will write a regional area plan setting out the range and level of services councils and local health boards propose to provide or arrange in response to the population assessment. This has to be finished by 1 April 2018.

