Sustainable Investment in Health: A Case Study from Wales

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World Health Organization
Collaborating Centre on Investment for Health and Well-being
The case for sustainable and fair investment for health and well-being is stronger than ever

Globally, in Europe, the UK and Wales

- Doing business as usual is unsustainable with high costs for individuals, families, communities, society, the economy and the planet

- Investing in health and well-being, particularly in prevention and early intervention, enables sustainable development and prosperity for all

Cost to society and the economy

If obesity rates continue to rise, the cost to society and the economy in Wales could reach £2.4 billion by 2050.

Greater socioeconomic inequality = Poorer economic growth

Estimated costs of health inequalities to the Welsh economy
- £1.8 - £1.9 billion productivity losses per year
- £1.1 - £1.8 billion lost taxes and welfare costs per year

Bringing social and economic returns**

Investing in targeted interventions + universal childcare + paid parental leave in Wales could save £72 billion over 20 years from the costs of social problems in health care, education and criminal justice.

Every £1 invested in parenting programmes to prevent conduct disorder saves the NHS in England £8 over 6 years.

World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Investment For Health and Well-being
Synergy on Global – European – National – Organisational level

‘Prosperity For All’
the national strategy

The strategy sets out how we will deliver for Wales during this term and set long-term foundations for the future.

A Healthier Wales:
our Plan for Health and Social Care

A globally responsible Wales
A prosperous Wales
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
A resilient Wales
A Wales of cohesive communities
A healthier Wales
A more equal Wales
What does it mean to ‘make the case for investment’ and why?

✓ Change the narrative
From spending and funding to investment

✓ Show the wider returns / benefits
Social + Economic + Environmental

✓ Making the case = advocating for
Using the universal language of numbers, visuals, stories – better communication

✓ Working across sectors and levels
Investing not only in the health care sector but across different sectors and levels
prevention approach + integration of care
Two brief examples
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Wales
First ACEs Survey for Wales
Formal Partnership Agreement with South Wales Police
Police Innovation Funds to Wales (£330,000 over 2 years)
(ACE Hub Established)
Serious Violence Task Force (England & Wales)
‘Early Action Together’ launched (£6.9m over 3 years)
Formal Partnership Agreement with All Wales police and criminal justice
All Wales Serious Violence Working Group
Violence Prevention Unit
Working to achieve a healthier future for Wales
The Journey So Far

- *A Healthier Wales*: Health Strategy emphasising prevention and early intervention and enabling policy context in Wales
- *Burden of Disease* in Wales undertaken by us in 2018 and additional evidence series
- Advice to Government on an investment proposal for a step change in prevention to improve population health in Wales 2018
- 2019: £10m prevention and early years allocation into the health system and partners aligned to prevention priorities in *Building a Healthier Wales*
- Request from Minister for Health and Social Services to tackle £9bn NHS allocation and shift to prevention
- March 2019: galvanising event cross sector, 5 priorities agreed
- April 2019: Minister establishes *Building a Healthier Wales Coordination Group*
- Aligning system levers and drivers for managed shift to prevention
Thank you for listening. Any questions?