

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-26



Partneriaeth
Ranbarthol
Gorllewin
Morgannwg

West
Glamorgan
Regional
Partnership

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FOREWORD

by Cllr. Steve Hunt - West Glamorgan RPB Chair

As I reflect on my second year as Chair of this remarkable partnership, I continue to feel a strong sense of pride in what we achieve together. This year has once again demonstrated the value of partnership working, shared purpose, and the collective commitment to supporting our communities.

A particular highlight for me was the unpaid carers' 'Turning Vision into Action' event last September. It was a valuable opportunity to connect with so many of you in person, to listen, share experiences, and recognise the vital contribution of unpaid carers across our communities. The sense of openness and collaboration on the day was both encouraging and inspiring.

Like many organisations across the sector, we faced pressures over the winter period, with increased demand on services presenting challenges across the system. I am hugely grateful for the continued commitment shown in responding to these pressures and supporting our communities at a difficult time.

This has also been a year of change for the partnership, with new governance arrangements now in place. While we are still navigating these changes, there is a clear and shared commitment to making this new structure work effectively. I am confident that, over time, these arrangements will provide a strong and productive foundation for our future work.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone involved in the partnership - including our volunteers, whose contribution remains invaluable. Your time, energy and commitment continue to make a real difference.

I look forward to building on this year's progress as we continue working together to strengthen our partnerships and improve outcomes for the people we serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Hunt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

INTRODUCTION

The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership is one of seven ‘regional collaboratives’ across Wales.

Our membership comprises:

- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
- Swansea Council
- Third and independent sector partners, and
- Members of the community, including unpaid carers.

The objectives of the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) are to ensure the partnership works effectively together with the following responsibilities:

- To respond to the Population Needs Assessment carried out in accordance with section 14 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act of 2014.
- To plan and deliver initiatives using social value models to enhance health and social care.
- To ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements.
- To promote the establishment of pooled funds, where appropriate.
- To ensure that services and resources are used in the most effective and efficient way to improve outcomes for people across the region.
- To prepare an annual report for Welsh Ministers on the extent to which the Board’s objectives have been achieved.
- To provide strategic leadership to ensure that information is shared and used effectively to improve the delivery of services and care and support, using technology and common systems to underpin this.

VISION AND AIMS

The purpose of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board is to provide a strategic mechanism for co-ordinating a programme of transformation via a suite of programmes and projects.



Partners work together in new and innovative ways to deliver more seamless, preventative and community-based care.

VISION AND AIMS



We will drive transformational improvements in wellbeing, health and care for the population we serve through better practice, better services, better technologies and better use of resources.



We will change the way that we work with people, away from paternalistic care to shared responsibility and co-production.



We will manage our common resources collaboratively and pool resources whenever we can.



We will have a single and simple governance structure covering Public Service Boards, the Regional Partnership Board and sub-structures for the region.



We will secure the delivery of seamless care which will meet the outcomes that matter to the people we serve and support through integration, earlier intervention and prevention.

AREA PLAN

The Area Plan is the main strategic document that sets out how the Regional Partnership Board will improve health, care and wellbeing outcomes across the region over a multi-year period.

It establishes a clear, shared direction for all partners so that efforts are aligned around agreed priorities and population needs.

At its core, the purpose of the Area Plan is to translate evidence of need into coordinated action. It is informed by the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report, ensuring that priorities reflect the actual needs of people and communities. Through this, the plan identifies where change is required and sets out how partners will respond collectively.

The Area Plan also fulfils a statutory function under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. It describes how the RPB will meet legislative responsibilities, including improving wellbeing, promoting integration, and ensuring services are designed around people rather than organisations.

The overall aim of the Area Plan is to act as the single, overarching blueprint for regional health and care transformation - setting priorities, guiding investment, and coordinating collective action to improve outcomes and deliver more integrated, person-centred care across the West Glamorgan region.



AREA PLAN PRIORITIES

Another key purpose of the Area Plan is to provide a strategic framework for decision-making and investment. By defining regional priorities, it guides how resources are used across the system. It gives partners a clear mandate for action and supports consistent, joined-up decision-making across organisations.

In response to conclusions drawn from the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report, we have set out these four key **Area Plan priorities**.



Links to key West Glamorgan documents can be found below:

- [West Glamorgan Area Plan 2023-27](#)
- [West Glamorgan Area Plan - Action Plan](#)
- [Population Needs Assessment 2022-27](#)
- [Market Stability Report](#)

The following sections of the Annual Report outline the progress and achievements of the seven West Glamorgan regional programmes of work.

WELLBEING AND LEARNING DISABILITY

The Wellbeing and Learning Disability Programme sets out a clear programme of change for 2025–2026, focused on improving outcomes, experiences and independence for people with a learning disability across the region. The programme is grounded in a five year, coproduced Learning Disability Strategy and reflects what people with lived experience, families and carers have told us matters most.

The programme is driven by a shared regional vision:

In the West Glamorgan region, people with a learning disability have the right support to make their own choices to achieve a happy, healthy life that is meaningful to them.

They have opportunities to learn, work and actively contribute to their communities.

Coproduction has been embedded meaningfully throughout delivery, with people with learning disabilities actively shaping services, leading groups, influencing Easy Read communication and contributing to digital and service design.

The programme has demonstrated strong progress and impact across all priority areas, including transport, community inclusion, volunteering, housing and system coordination. Evidence shows reduced social isolation, improved emotional wellbeing, increased confidence and independence, and better access to services.

The Wellbeing and Learning Disability Programme provides a strong platform for continued improvement beyond 2025–2026. It demonstrates how partnership working, lived experience, leadership and preventative investment can deliver better outcomes for people while supporting a more sustainable and resilient system.

Further information on the programme's deliverables, including an overview of the hugely successful transport project can be found on the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership's website:

www.westglamorgan.org.uk/programmes/well-being-and-learning-disability-programme



FUNDED PROJECTS

Delivery during 2025-26 has focused on prevention, inclusion and place based approaches, alongside strengthening pathways for people with more complex needs.

20 projects are being delivered across West Glamorgan through a combination of statutory and third sector provision, supported by Regional Integration Fund (RIF) investment totalling £783,400.

Funded projects are split under the following strategic priorities:

- Transport
- Getting the Right Care and Support
- My Community
- Jobs and Volunteering
- My Home

Click on the images to the right to view two videos created by our Communications and Engagement team to highlight the impact of the work being undertaken, and the steps taken to improve meeting accessibility.

A detailed overview of the progress of the Wellbeing and Learning Disability Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change' document.

Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy:

[WB&LD Story of Change](#)



Gig Buddies Neath Port Talbot & Swansea
- RIF Project



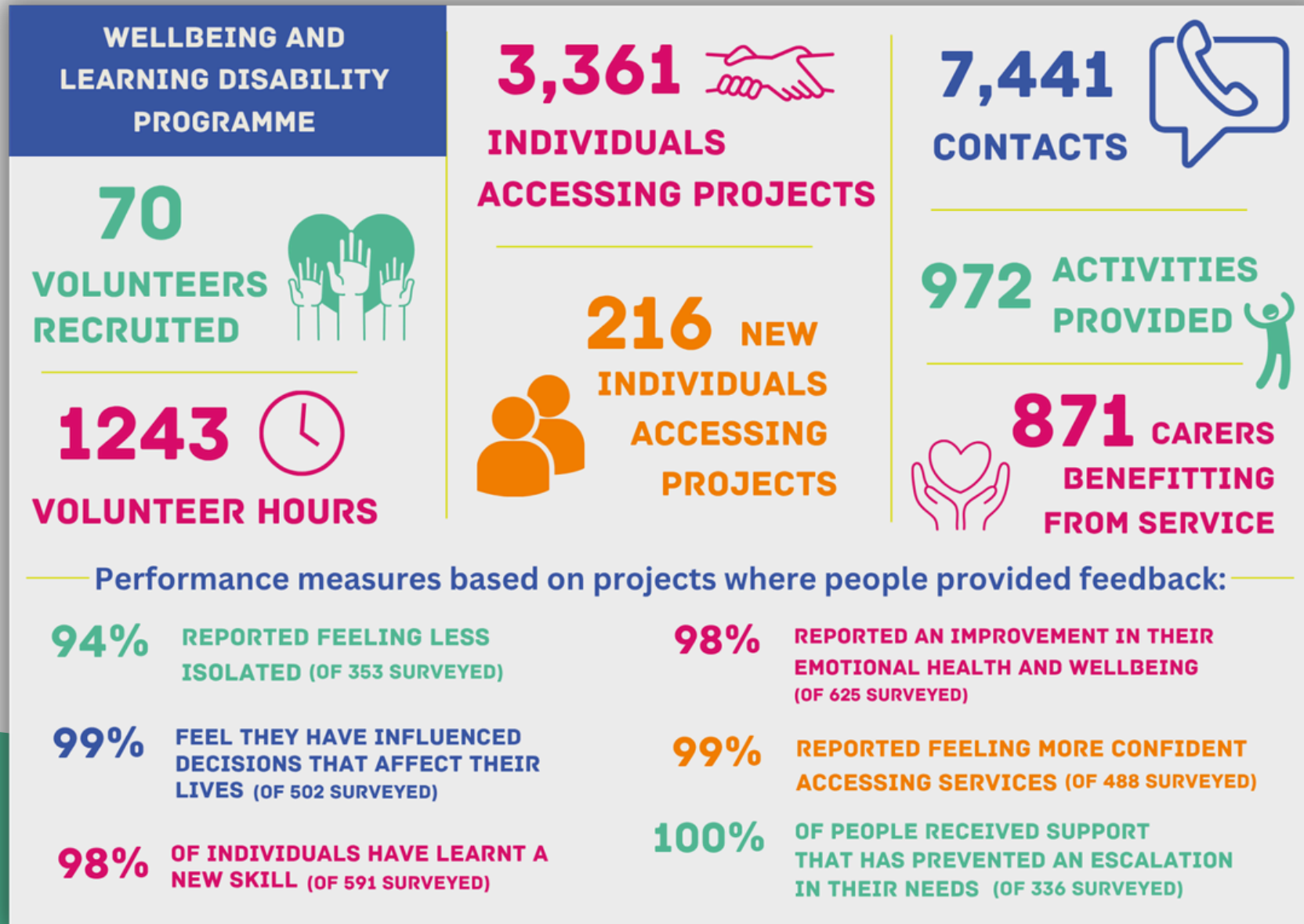
We use a device with cameras, microphones and speakers built-in which allows our guests to interact with people who choose to join online.

This device is called "The Owl"



Case Study: How We Make Meetings Accessible

The following infographic demonstrates the key outcomes of the WB&LD Programme in 2025-26:



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The West Glamorgan Children and Young People (CYP) Programme is delivering a clear and increasingly coherent shift towards earlier, more preventative, and more integrated support for children, young people and families across the region. Through strong partnership working, meaningful co production and targeted investment via the Regional Integration Fund (RIF), the programme is strengthening the system's ability to respond early, reduce escalation and improve outcomes for some of the most vulnerable children and families.

One of the most significant developments this year has been progress towards a regional 'No Wrong Door' approach for children and young people with emotional wellbeing and mental health needs. A joint regional response to the national inspection of CYP mental health services provided a catalyst for system change. The programme is now well placed to move from planning into testing and piloting, ensuring children and young people can access support regardless of where they first present.

The CYP programme is delivering measurable impact in terms of improving outcomes for care experienced children. Early help, edge of care support, kinship care and therapeutic services demonstrate consistently high satisfaction (typically 99%), strong prevention of escalation (around 89%) and improved emotional wellbeing and personal outcomes.

Our vision for this programme is that West Glamorgan will support children and young people to be safe, healthy, and prosperous.

To achieve this, we work closely with CYP, their carers, their families, local communities, and other important stakeholders, such as Education, in order to hear the 'voice of the child.'

The programme's learning is clear. Relationship based, trauma informed practice works. Early, accessible support delivered in trusted community settings prevents escalation and improves outcomes. However, progress continues to be constrained by workforce instability, rising complexity and demand, and wider system pressures. Addressing these challenges will require sustained investment, continued multi agency alignment and a focus on scaling what works.

Overall, the Programme is moving from establishment to maturity. It is increasingly delivering a preventative, coordinated and child centred system, strengthening outcomes locally while contributing learning and leadership nationally.

FUNDED PROJECTS

Delivery during 2025-26 has focused on delivering a clear shift towards earlier, more preventative and more integrated support for children, young people and families across the region.

22 projects are being delivered across West Glamorgan through a combination of statutory and third sector provision, supported by Regional Integration Fund (RIF) investment totalling £2.89m.

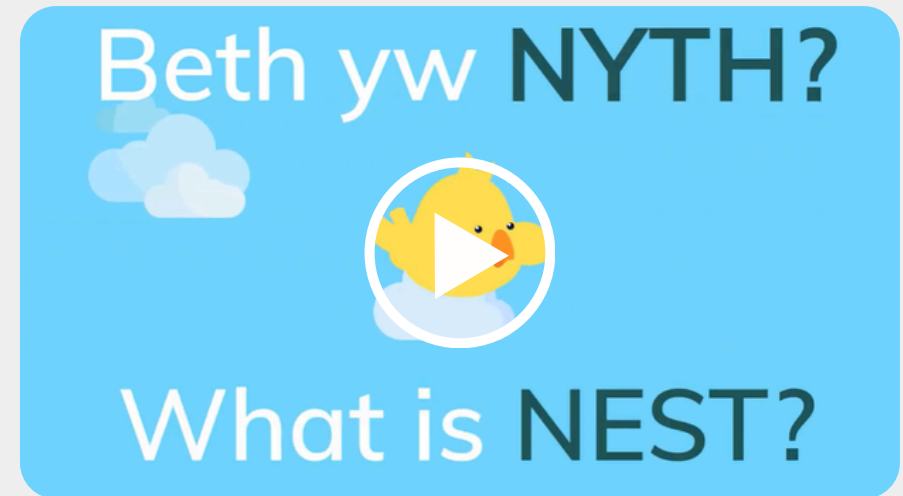
Funded projects are split under the following strategic priorities:

- **Prevention and Community Coordination**
- **Supporting Families to stay together safely**
- **Therapeutic support for care experienced children**

Click on the images to the right to view two powerful digital stories highlighting:

1. how the NYTH/NEST Framework is supporting children and young people's mental health across Wales.
2. the progress of a RIF-funded project delivered by the Western Bay Adoption Service.

A detailed overview of the progress of the CYP Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change' document. Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy: **[CYP Story of Change](#)**

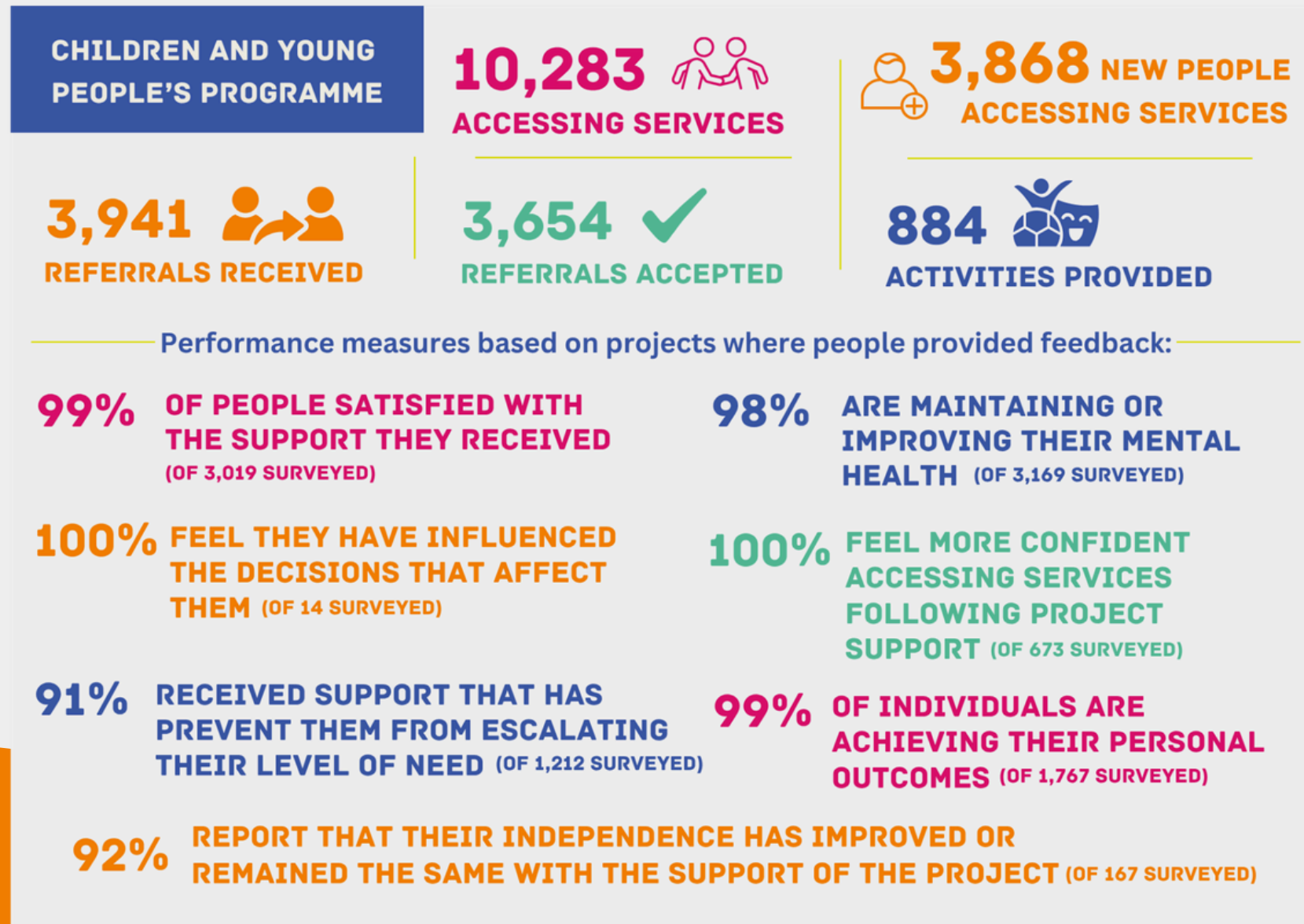


**NYTH/NEST Framework in Action
Case Study**



**Western Bay Adoption Service
- RIF Project**

The following infographic demonstrates the key outcomes of the CYP Programme in 2025-26:



CARERS

The West Glamorgan Carers Programme continues to strengthen a more coordinated and preventative system of support for unpaid carers across the region. Through delivery of the Regional Unpaid Carers Strategy, strong partnership working and targeted investment, the programme is improving how carers are identified, recognised and supported, enabling them to maintain their caring roles while sustaining their own wellbeing.

The programme is underpinned by a shared vision:

Unpaid Carers are identified, recognised, and supported to care. They have a life alongside caring and have a feeling of well-being throughout their caring journey.

There is a strong emphasis on enabling unpaid carers to connect with each other and build supportive networks. Investment in community-based provision is strengthening peer support, reducing isolation and supporting engagement with services, particularly for unpaid carers less likely to access statutory provision.

The programme recognises the diverse needs of carers across different life stages. Dedicated workstreams support young carers alongside a broader approach that supports adult carers, parent carers and those with additional needs.

Unpaid carers continue to face challenges in accessing timely information, navigating services and balancing caring responsibilities.

Click on the image below to view a video outlining the experience of Julie, a parent carer who participated in our engagement piece in 2025-26:



FUNDED PROJECTS

Unpaid carers across West Glamorgan play a vital role in supporting family, friends and communities, often alongside managing their own wellbeing and daily responsibilities. Through the Regional Integration Fund (RIF), the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership is investing in a coordinated programme of support to help unpaid carers sustain their role while maintaining a life of their own.

In 2025-26, £1,083,886 of RIF funding (6% of the regional total) is supporting a wide-ranging programme shaped by carers' priorities. Delivered by 11 partners across 22 projects, the programme provides accessible, community-based support through trusted third sector organisations. Services include information and advice, flexible short breaks, peer support, counselling and dedicated support for young carers.

A key focus has been improving flexibility in respite, giving carers greater choice and control over when and how they take a break.

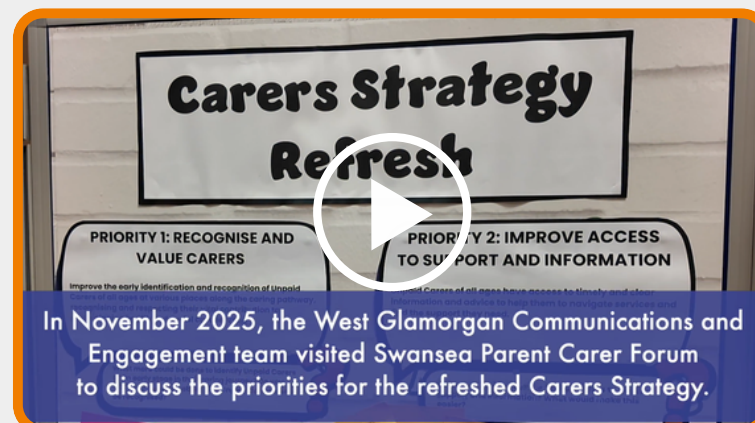
At the same time, investment in single points of contact and digital platforms is making it easier to find and access support quickly.

Community-based initiatives, including culturally specific groups and targeted projects, are helping reduce isolation and build connections.

A detailed overview of the progress of the Carers' Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change'. Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy: [**Carers Story of Change**](#)

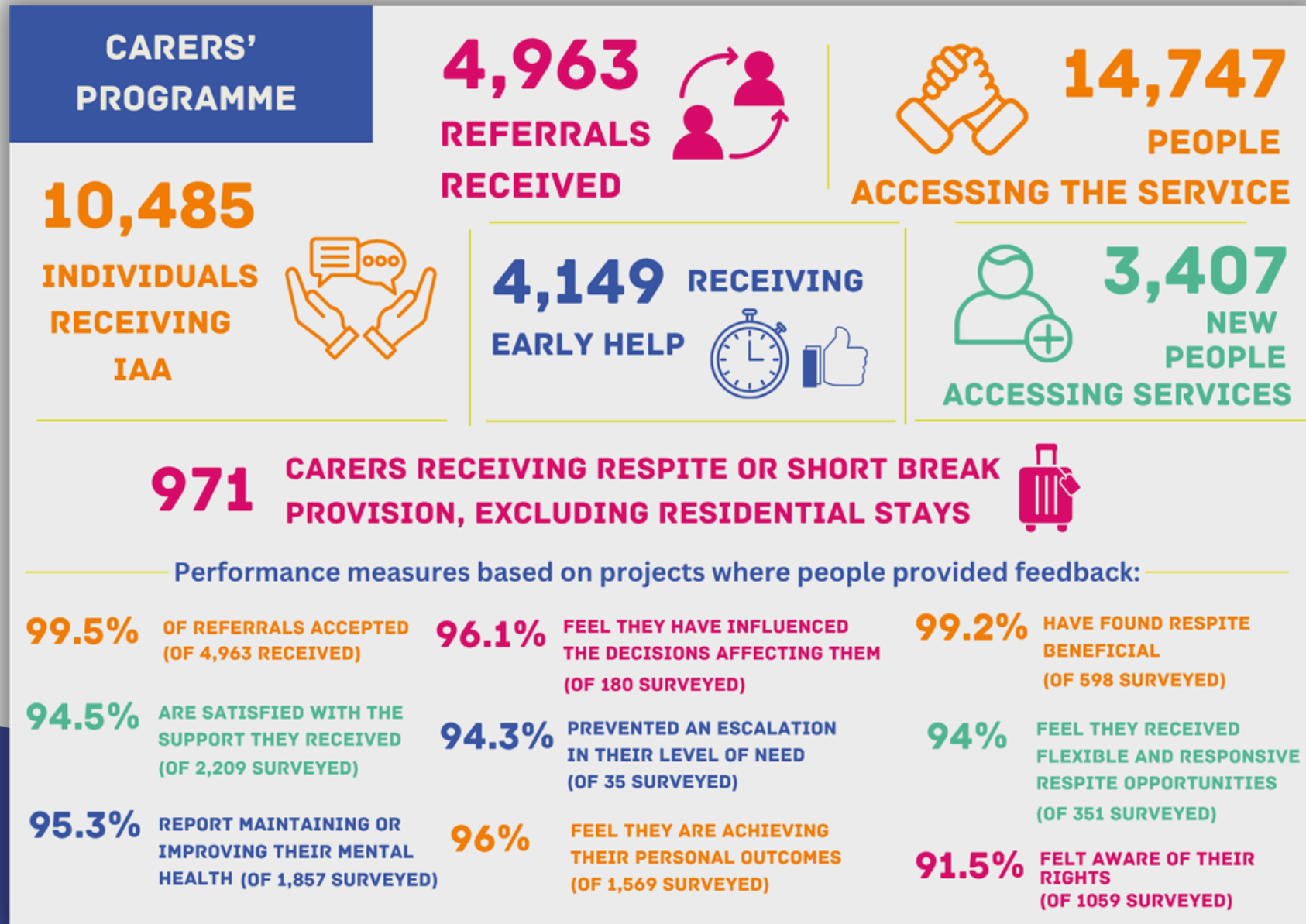


Unpaid Carers: Turning Vision into Action
18 September 2025



Unpaid Carers Strategy Engagement

The following infographic demonstrates the key outcomes of the Carers' Programme in 2025-26:



EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Programme remains a core strategic priority for the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership, responding to sustained demand and increasing system pressure while continuing to transform how people access support. The programme is focused on prevention, early intervention and ensuring people receive the right support at the right time, as close to their communities as possible.

A key focus has been on strengthening prevention and early intervention, supporting people to access help earlier and reducing reliance on specialist mental health services. Community based projects provide information, advice, peer support and wellbeing activities that help individuals build resilience, reduce isolation and maintain their mental health within their own communities.

The vision of the Emotional and Mental Wellbeing Strategy for the region is:

To have vibrant, diverse, and individually focused services which promote emotional and mental wellbeing, are delivered, and commissioned in a dynamic and integrated way, adopting innovative models, and promoting the strengths of communities to improve the lives of those in the region.

Improving access to services is also a significant area of development. The programme is progressing a 'no wrong door' approach, ensuring people can access support regardless of where they first seek help. This includes the continued development of the Sorted Supported digital platform: www.sortedsupported.org.uk

The programme is underpinned by strong partnership working across health, local authorities and the third sector, with a clear emphasis on coproduction and using lived experience to shape services. There is also a growing focus on improving data, evaluation and population insight to better understand need and inform future commissioning and planning.

While progress has been strong, challenges remain, including workforce pressures, short term funding and increasing complexity of need. Access to services also continues to be a key issue, with the absence of a fully developed single point of access contributing to delays and system fragmentation.

Overall, the programme is supporting a shift towards a more preventative, connected and sustainable system, helping people access support earlier, improving wellbeing in communities and reducing pressure on statutory mental health services.

FUNDED PROJECTS

There are currently 23 projects being delivered under the banner of Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health in West Glamorgan.

Of the 23 projects currently delivering against the objectives of the Emotional and Mental Wellbeing Strategy, 12 projects are funded via the Regional Integration Fund (RIF) and 11 projects are funded via the Swansea Bay University Health Board's Mental Health Services Improvement Fund (MHSIF). Total investment is £1,148,217.

These schemes all support the Regional Partnership's Strategic Priority 'Transforming Mental Health Services' and Model(s) of Care, 'Prevention and Community Coordination' and 'Promoting Good Emotional Health and Wellbeing'.

Click on the image to the right to view an impactful digital story highlighting the positive outcomes of the RIF-funded Hub delivered via the Jac Lewis Foundation.

A more detailed overview of the progress of the Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change' document.

Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy: [**EWMH Story of Change**](#)



The Jac Lewis Foundation is a charity that provides mental health and emotional well-being support for people going through tough times.



Jac Lewis Foundation - RIF-funded project

The following infographic demonstrates the key outcomes of the EWMH Programme in 2025-26:



DEMENTIA

The West Glamorgan Dementia Programme continues to play a vital role in improving the lives of people living with dementia and their unpaid carers across the region. During 2025-26, the programme delivered tangible improvements in access, quality and continuity of support, while laying strong foundations for the next phase of regional dementia transformation.

A predominant focus for this year continues to be the implementation of the all-Wales Dementia Standards and Action Plan. So much has been achieved this year by delivery partners, however feedback from service users and partners has confirmed that whilst partners across the region have achieved a large amount, there is still more to do, especially in relation to early diagnosis and supporting people to live at home for as long as possible.

The programme continues to develop the Regional Dementia Strategy, progress with this has been slower than anticipated due to resource issues, but developments are now progressing at pace.

The strongest impacts for the past year were seen across four interconnected themes:



Community Care and Support, where preventative services provided trusted, person centred support, helping people living with dementia and their carers sustain independence, wellbeing and connection to their local communities.



Dementia Friendly Communities, where accessible, welcoming community activity reduced isolation, strengthened social networks, and improved quality of life through meaningful engagement.



Assessment and Diagnosis, where targeted investment in Advanced Nurse Practitioners and Speech and Language Therapy improved timeliness, quality and experience within memory assessment pathways.



Post Diagnostic Support, where the Dementia Connector model ensured people received timely, personalised follow up after diagnosis, with named contacts and a focus on "what matters to me".

FUNDED PROJECTS

The programme supports partners across the region to deliver 16 third sector and statutory projects for those living with dementia or their unpaid carers and families. The types of projects include provision of information, advice and support, awareness raising, and targeted support and counselling. Total investment is £1,656,000

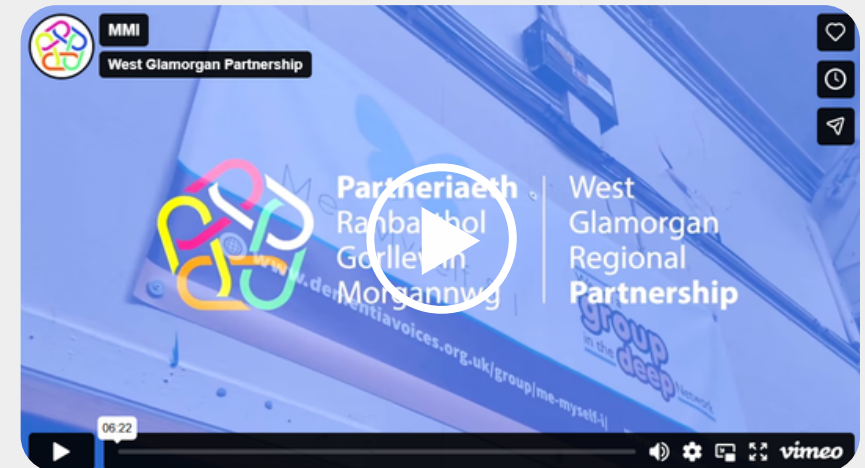
Of the 11 partners who are delivering the projects, many are third sector organisations who rely on the Regional Integration Fund (RIF) to continue to provide support services to those in the region affected by dementia. Many of these organisations have worked extensively in the West Glamorgan region and have the expertise and relationships to best support this cohort.

The projects are split under the four themes outlined on the previous page.

Click on the images to the right to view digital stories highlighting the achievements of two RIF-funded projects in the West Glamorgan region.

A detailed overview of the progress of the Dementia Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change'.

Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy: [Dementia Story of Change](#)

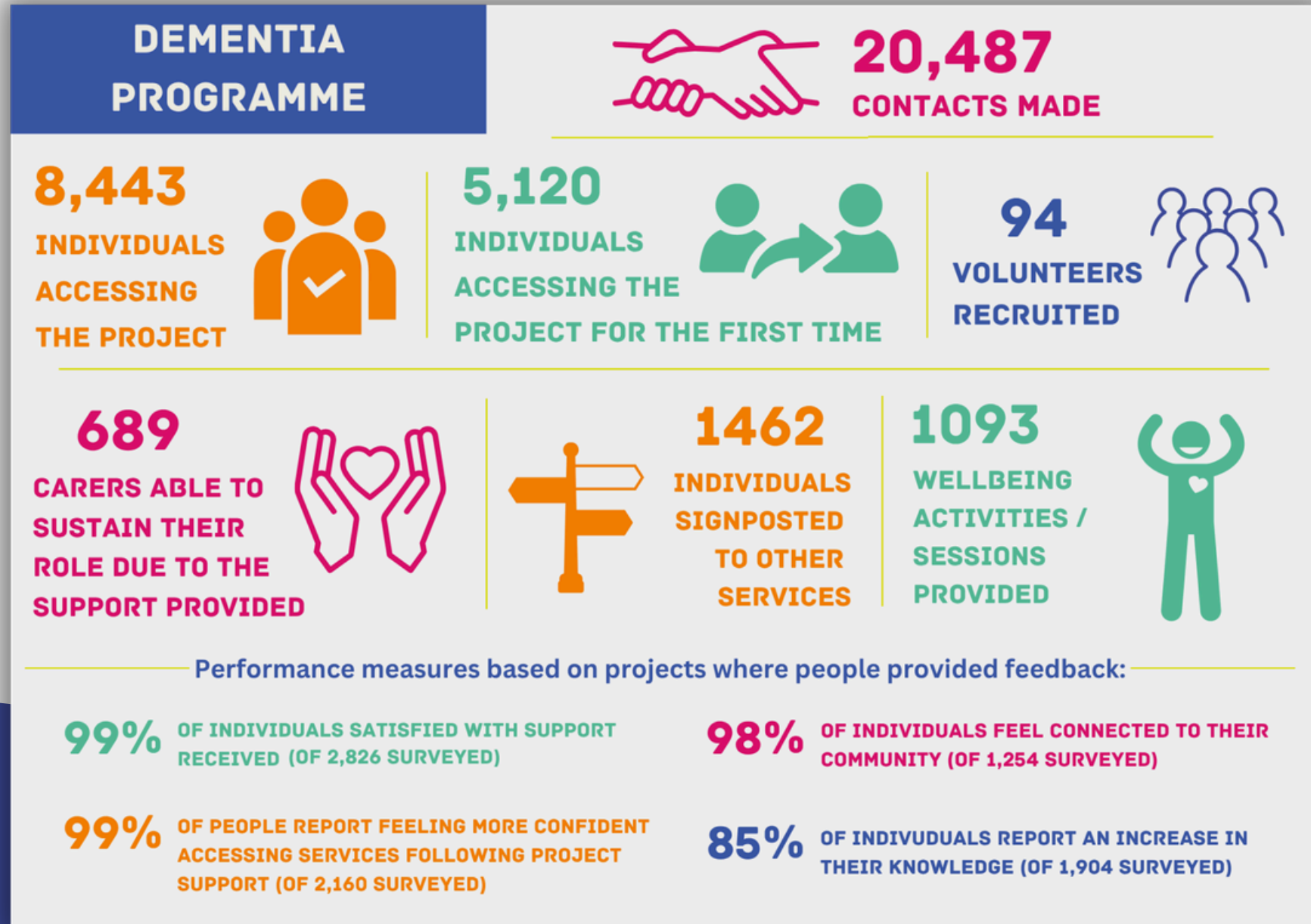


Me, Myself & I - Community Group



Musical Memories Choir 🎵

The following infographic demonstrates the key outcomes of the Dementia Programme in 2025-26:



COMMUNITIES AND OLDER PEOPLE

The West Glamorgan Communities and Older People Programme is aiming towards earlier, more preventative and more integrated support for older people across the region. Through strong partnership working and targeted investment via the Regional Integration Fund (RIF), the programme is strengthening the system's ability to help people remain independent for longer, reduce avoidable escalation of need and improve wellbeing and recovery closer to home.

The programme is underpinned by a shared vision of supporting older people to be safe, healthy and prosperous. Delivery spans prevention and early intervention, Home First and intermediate care, discharge support, post-diagnosis support, community wellbeing and services that reduce loneliness and isolation.

One of the most significant developments this year has been continued progress towards a stronger Home First model of care. Across intermediate care, discharge to recover and assess, community equipment and wider prevention services, the programme is supporting people earlier, closer to home and with better coordinated support.

Investment in prevention and early intervention is widening access to support in communities across West Glamorgan. Services such as Good Neighbour schemes, community wellbeing hubs, volunteering and local coordination are helping people feel less isolated, more confident and better able to manage day-to-day. These approaches are also identifying emerging needs earlier and connecting people to support before issues escalate.

Progress is, however, constrained by rising demand, increasing complexity of need, workforce and cost pressures, urgent discharge expectations and uncertainty over future funding. Sustaining and growing impact will require stable capacity, realistic resourcing and continued investment in prevention, community support and Home First pathways.

Overall, the programme is strengthening a more preventative, coordinated and community-based system across West Glamorgan. It is helping more people remain independent, recover safely at home, avoid unnecessary hospital use and stay connected to support in their communities, while also building stronger foundations for long-term system sustainability.

FUNDED PROJECTS

The Communities and Older People Programme comprises 21 projects with a total investment of £9.43m.

Delivery supports the programme's objectives, which are:

- To enable individuals to remain independent and in their own home for as long as possible.
- To increase Respite Services in line with rising demand.
- To develop and enhance prevention approaches to reduce the need for acute and long-term care.
- To reduce social isolation and loneliness.
- To develop and enhance falls prevention care.
- To ensure safe and timely discharge from hospital.
- To strengthen the 'Discharge to Recover and Assess' pathways and ensure the individual is supported in terms of what matters to them.

Case studies gathered have highlighted the following quotes from various project participants:

Thank you, this has been a massive help. Recovery has been hard, but the ladies from the company have been brilliant.

Community Wellbeing
Service

This place has given me confidence again. I can go out, meet people, and feel part of the community.

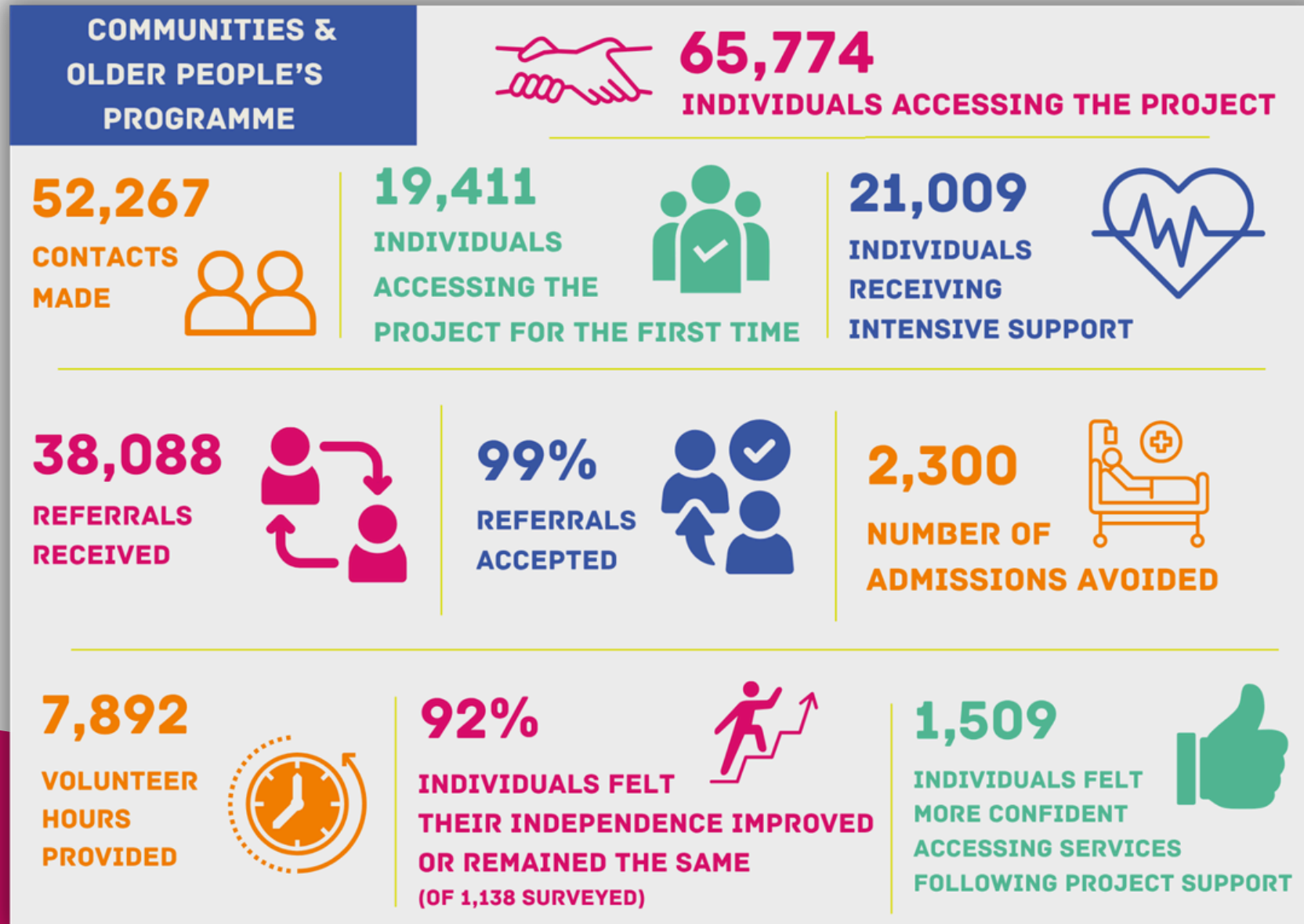
Our Elders: Our Heritage

Accept help and be willing to talk - the first few steps are the hardest. It's hard to talk when you're down, especially about the things that make us upset, but it's also needed to make things a little better.

Community Wellbeing
Service

A detailed overview of the progress of the Communities and Older People's Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change'. Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy: **[C&OP Story of Change](#)**

The following infographic demonstrates the key outcomes of the C&OP Programme in 2025-26:



NEURODIVERSE

The purpose of the West Glamorgan Neurodiverse (ND) Programme is to deliver a whole system shift towards early support, prevention and community based provision, ensuring that neurodivergent people can access the help they need regardless of diagnosis. It has been established to ensure that people who are neurodiverse have access to the services and support they need to participate fully within their communities and live fulfilled lives regardless of an assessment or diagnosis. Our ambition is a preventative model, wrapping services around neurodiverse individuals' way before there is any consideration of the need for assessment.

The aims of the Programme (included in the West Glamorgan Action Plan) are to:

- Ensure groups are formed at a local level to support social interaction, deliver information and advice assistance.
- Reduce the number of people waiting for an assessment.
- Develop and enhance the availability of preventative services that would enable neurodiverse people in their daily lives.
- Provide appropriate and timely access to mental health and well-being services.
- Improve child to adult transition services.
- Undertake further planning in terms of the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.

- Ensure a common understanding and consistency across the partners in the way the data is recorded and analysed.
- Engage with neurodiverse people and their carers to inform future development of services.
- Facilitate better sharing of information between partner organisations and people, particularly in terms of the services that are available across the region.

Feedback from individuals, families and professionals consistently highlights the value of timely, flexible and relational support, as well as the positive role that community based services play in reducing pressure on statutory pathways. However, significant challenges remain. Rising demand for assessment, workforce pressures, gaps in consistent baseline data and uncertainty around future funding continue to impact the pace of change and long term planning. These challenges reinforce the need to sustain a whole system approach, ensuring that assessment activity does not overshadow broader support.

Looking ahead, the programme will focus on embedding the Regional Neurodiverse work, strengthening community prevention, improving outcomes measurement and maintaining a clear emphasis on support first, not diagnosis first. Continued collaboration across partners will be essential to maintain momentum and respond effectively to growing demand.

FUNDED PROJECTS

During 2025-26, the programme strengthened its focus on needs-led support, co-production and partnership working, while considering targeted action to manage increasing demand for diagnostic assessment.

Across 2025-26, £414k was invested across three projects, including the Integrated Autism Service (IAS) and two third sector schemes, all delivered regionally.

This investment has supported young people, adults and families, with consistently high satisfaction levels, reduced isolation, improved wellbeing and increased confidence in navigating services.

Key Achievements:

- Strong representation of lived experience shaping programme priorities.
- Continued use of the national myth-busting communications programme, reinforcing access to support without diagnosis.
- RIF investment enabling IAS to expand assessment capacity and post-diagnostic support, improving regional waiting list intelligence.
- Autism Code of Practice Review evidences strong foundations in IAA and training, including access routes, partnership working, and workforce development.

Case studies gathered from funding recipients Autism Skills Development and Employment Support (ASDES) have highlighted the following quotes from participants:

By being able to provide dedicated 1:1 support in a range of different situations to meet needs, participants have been able to make progress in their lives.

Overall, this opportunity has greatly helped me to open up more in social settings and make my way in the world as an independent person.

The support I've had has enabled me to continue living a normal life despite facing difficulties.

A detailed overview of the progress of the Neurodiverse Programme can be found in the 'Story of Change'. Click on the following link to view a downloadable copy: [**ND Story of Change**](#)

CAPITAL

The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board continues to develop and deliver a Strategic Capital Plan to support the transformation of health and social care services across the region. Capital investment plays a key role in improving how services are delivered, ensuring that facilities and environments support people to live independently, access care closer to home, and receive support in the most appropriate setting.

The refreshed Strategic Capital Plan sets out the region's priorities for investment in buildings, infrastructure and equipment, aligned to the needs identified in the Population Needs Assessment and the ambitions of the Area Plan. It reflects a strong partnership approach, bringing together local authorities, the Health Board and wider partners to agree shared priorities and make the best use of available resources.

Over the past year, progress has been made in strengthening the regional approach to capital planning. This includes developing clearer processes for identifying and prioritising schemes, improving alignment between capital and revenue investment, and ensuring that proposals support integrated models of care. There has also been a continued focus on ensuring that capital investment supports prevention, early intervention and community based services, helping to reduce demand on hospital and residential care settings.

Investment is focused on creating environments that enable people to remain independent for longer, support the delivery of more personalised care, and improve the overall experience of services. This includes community based facilities, supported living developments and improvements to existing services.

The plan remains a live document and will continue to be updated to reflect emerging priorities, funding opportunities and changes in demand. The Regional Partnership Board is committed to ensuring that capital investment is targeted effectively, delivers value for money and results in tangible improvements for people and communities across West Glamorgan.

A copy of the Strategic Capital Plan can be found here:
[West Glamorgan Strategic Capital Plan.](#)

Examples of completed capital schemes are provided on page 28.

HENDY COTTAGES - SWANSEA

The Hendy Cottages scheme, delivered by Swansea Council through the Housing with Care Fund, has strengthened the region's community-based provision by delivering a four-bed respite facility for children and young people with complex needs, supporting care closer to home and reducing reliance on out-of-area placements. Operational from May 2026, the scheme contributes to regional priorities around integrated, preventative models of care by providing high-quality, purpose-built accommodation alongside therapeutic outdoor space to support improved wellbeing outcomes. Despite delivery challenges, including planning delays and structural issues, these were effectively mitigated through proactive programme management and strengthened multi-disciplinary collaboration, ensuring successful project completion.

The scheme has also delivered wider system benefits, including enhanced partnership working across capital and corporate services, local employment and skills development, and improved service resilience for families requiring respite support. Overall, Hendy Cottages represents a key investment in sustainable, integrated infrastructure aligned with West Glamorgan RPB priorities and Welsh Government objectives for supporting vulnerable children and enabling community-based care.



FAIRWAYS FAMILY SUPPORT HUB - NPT



The Fairways Family Support Hub has been transformed from a domestic-style building into a welcoming, professional space designed to better support children, young people and families.

Funded by the Welsh Government's Integration & Rebalancing Capital Fund (IRCF), the improvements have enhanced both the internal and external environment, strengthened safeguarding, and created a more purpose-driven, multi-agency setting aligned with early help and community-based support.

Key changes include a redesigned reception area offering a calm and dignified welcome, upgraded family and therapeutic rooms, improved safety through secure access points, and a refreshed exterior that helps the Hub feel more visible and trusted within the community.

Alongside these physical improvements, the Hub is increasingly supporting partnership working and collaborative service delivery. It is now used as a flexible space where professionals can share knowledge, deliver group-based interventions, and respond more effectively to the needs of families, particularly around early support and prevention. The enhanced environment has led to more positive interactions, stronger relationships and improved engagement, helping the Hub evolve into a shared community resource that promotes integrated working and better outcomes for families.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

The Communications and Engagement team is the public face of the partnership - ensuring clear, consistent messaging across organisations and communities.

The team works collaboratively to gather meaningful insights from stakeholders and people with lived experience, helping to shape more responsive services and strategies.

Alongside this, colleagues in the team are skilled in producing impactful digital stories that bring real experiences to life, clearly demonstrating the difference made by the regional programmes of work.

Key deliverables in terms of Communications for 2025–26 have been:

- Ongoing content management of the West Glamorgan website – www.westglamorgan.org.uk. This year saw the creation of the ‘Our Work’ page, which aims to better communicate ongoing and completed regional projects, allowing for a greater focus on outcomes.
- Delivery of social media activity on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#), our following is growing steadily and offers an opportunity for open dialogue online.
- The [Joint Working Journal](#), which highlights progress and outcomes of Steering Advisory Boards underwent a makeover in the summer of 2025 to become a vehicle for the distribution of more regular updates from the partnership. Utilising mailing list service Mailchimp has streamlined the creation of the bulletin and improved access to information.
- Production of distribution of the [West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Newsletter](#) – A new addition for this year is the Volunteer Representative Spotlights, where readers can get to know individuals volunteering across the partnership.
- Support for individual programmes of work with targeted communications assets (including the design of promotional materials).
- Producing a range of in-house digital stories showcasing the impact of Regional Integration Fund (RIF)-funded projects and sharing volunteers’ experiences, available to view on Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/westglamorgan>

ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

West Glamorgan's double-pronged approach to engagement and participation is designed to ensure activity is both purposeful and visible across the region.

Firstly, targeted engagement is undertaken in response to the specific requirements of individual work programmes, enabling focused involvement with the most relevant stakeholders and supporting the development, testing and delivery of key projects and strategies.

A programme of wider engagement activity is delivered through a consistent presence at local and regional events. This outward-facing approach helps to raise the profile of West Glamorgan, strengthen relationships with partners and community groups, and create opportunities for networking, conversation and insight gathering. Together, these two strands ensure that engagement is both strategically aligned and rooted in the communities the partnership serves.

In 2025-26, the team delivered a broad programme of engagement that combined targeted, programme-led activity with a strong community presence across West Glamorgan.



Attended 19
community
events across
the region



4 x West
Glamorgan
Workshops /
Focused Sessions



1 x Regional
Unpaid Carers
Event (150+
participants)



Combined reach
of over
2300 people

TARGETED ENGAGEMENT

The annual 'Unpaid Carers: Turning Vision into Action' event on 18th September 2025 was pivotal in launching the refresh of the regional Carers Strategy.

[Click here](#) to view a video summary of the day.

Follow-up engagement workshops in November, December, and January deepened exploration of themes and tested ideas with unpaid carers in group settings. The team leveraged established community networks to reach unpaid carers. Further contributions were gathered via talking heads videos, audio recordings and an online survey shared widely via social media.

A range of additional targeted engagement activity was undertaken across specific programmes during 2025-26. Within the Wellbeing and Learning Disability programme, engagement has focused on improving accessibility through the development of Easy Read materials, recognised as a key priority within the Regional Learning Disability Strategy. A significant milestone was the establishment of the Easy Read Task and Finish Group, bringing together statutory partners, third sector organisations and people with lived experience, supported by leadership from a Volunteer Representative with a learning disability.

For the Dementia programme, activity centred on gathering lived experience to inform the emerging Dementia Strategy. Work across Swansea and Neath Port Talbot tested whether proposed priorities reflected what matters most to individuals, with feedback reinforcing key themes around access to services, clear information and support for unpaid carers. This programme of activity also included a visit to Swansea's Dementia Hwb by Sarah Murphy MS (Welsh Government Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing), and Rhian Bowen-Davies (Commissioner for Older People in Wales).

Engagement in the Children and Young People's programme was shaped by the Welsh Government NYTH/NEST framework and focused primarily on emotional wellbeing and the role of the 'trusted adult'.

Further information on the NYTH/NEST principles can be found at:
[NYTH/NEST Framework - gov.wales](https://gov.wales)



RPB SELF ASSESSMENT

Following completion of the Regional Partnership Board self assessment in April 2024, an action plan was developed to address a number of key areas for improvement.

Areas of focus include board member competence, accountability, confidence, workforce planning, use of intelligence, engagement with the wider sector, strengthening of the regional narrative, and enhancing communication and public voice.

Significant progress has been made during 2025-26, with a particular focus on strengthening the effectiveness and confidence of board members through the development of a comprehensive training and induction programme. This programme, alongside the production of supporting materials and improved access to resources, has now been completed and has strengthened members' understanding of their roles, responsibilities and the wider regional partnership arrangements.

Improvements have also been made in enhancing communications and engagement (see pages 29-33), including strengthening links with partners' communications channels. Visibility of the partnership's work is increasing through regional and national newsletters and more digital content to highlight the impact of the regional programmes of work in a relatable way.

Work has also progressed to better understand and demonstrate the contribution of the voluntary, community and independent sectors, alongside ongoing development of outcomes and 'difference made' measures to evidence impact.

The action plan continues to be monitored as a live document, ensuring that the remaining areas for improvement (including strengthening accountability mechanisms and embedding consistent use of available resources) are taken forward.

POOLED FUNDS AND JOINT COMMISSIONING

The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board continues to use pooled funds as a key mechanism to support integration and joint commissioning across health and social care. These arrangements enable partners to align resources, reduce duplication and deliver more coordinated, person-centred services that improve outcomes for people and communities.

A number of established pooled fund arrangements remain in place across the region, including Intermediate Care Services between Swansea Bay University Health Board and both Swansea Council and Neath Port Talbot Council, the Joint Community Equipment Store and the Regional Adoption Service. These continue to provide a strong foundation for collaborative working and integrated service delivery.

Over the past year, progress has been made in strengthening the approach to joint commissioning and developing new pooled fund arrangements aligned to key regional programmes.

Within the Communities and Older People's programme, partners have continued to build on existing pooled fund arrangements, with a focus on improving community based support, reducing reliance on residential care where appropriate, and enabling people to remain independent for longer. This includes closer alignment of commissioning approaches and improved coordination between partners.

Following the establishment of the Transforming Complex Care programme, partners have brought together a more coordinated and strategic approach to commissioning services for people with complex needs. This has included progressing a shared approach to commissioning supported living, residential care and day opportunities, alongside detailed financial analysis.

Within the Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health programme, progress has been made in developing the approach to joint commissioning and exploring options for pooled funding, with a particular focus on strengthening third sector provision that supports therapeutic interventions in community settings. This has included a programme of exploratory work and engagement with partners and stakeholders to better understand current provision, identify gaps, and shape future models of support.

While challenges remain, including the complexity of aligning systems and financial pressures across partner organisations, the region has made progress in strengthening joint commissioning with the ambition to expand the use of pooled funds. This reflects a shared commitment to delivering more integrated, effective and sustainable services, and to improving outcomes for the people of West Glamorgan.



The West Glamorgan Network of Voices aims to bring people and organisations together to shape regional services.

Sign up via the form within the web page linked below: 

[West Glamorgan Network of Voices](#)

This document is available in different formats.

Please contact the West Glamorgan Programme Office with details of your requirements:

 **west.glamorgan@swansea.gov.uk**