

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**  
**PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION**  
**by**  
**COUNTY COUNCILLOR MYFANWY ALEXANDER**  
**PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

**January 2022**

**REPORT AUTHOR: Michael Gray, Head of Adult Services**

**REPORT TITLE: The continued impact of COVID-19 on Provision of Daytime Opportunities in Powys**

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**REPORT FOR: Decision**

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This report further considers the impact of COVID-19 upon the provision of day services in Powys.
- 1.2. A re-assessment of the viability of opening day centres and day services was undertaken on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021. On 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021, a Portfolio Holder delegated decision determined that day services were to remain closed for a further 6 months from 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021. This took the maintained closure to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022.<sup>1</sup> This decision acknowledged the inability of opening up day settings to previous levels during the pandemic and it was agreed that this position would be reviewed on a monthly basis.
- 1.3. The service has continued to review this position. Since the latest portfolio holder decision, Powys has had to contend with the newer Omicron variant. This development has resulted in the highest COVID infection rates since the beginning of the pandemic. As of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the incidence (per 100,000 population) is 1811.5. In addition, as

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<sup>1</sup> [The Impact of COVID-19 on Provision of Daytime Opportunities in Powys- Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Welsh Language - Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2021](#)

of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the percentage of COVID tests that were positive in the last 7 days was 50.2%.

- 1.4. The new variant has resulted in increased staffing absences across provider services. In addition, those staff who were formerly on the shielding patient list have been contacted by Welsh Government and instructed to stay 2 metres- or three steps away- from people they don't live with. This affects 4 staff members in the service.
- 1.5. The Welsh Government remains at alert level 2, although given the sustained increase in infection rates, The Welsh Government are clear that we all have a responsibility to help minimise risk by protecting ourselves, our employees and residents. With this in mind, the Government have advised that from 27<sup>th</sup> December 2021, people should reduce the amount of people they meet.<sup>2</sup>
- 1.6. This addendum to the Portfolio Holder report from 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 therefore asks for the Portfolio Holder's agreement to maintain closure of day centres and day services for a further 6 months, up to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022. This acknowledges the increase in infection rates since the last portfolio holder report, which is has also led to further constraints on staffing availability within the service. As before, this position is reviewed on a monthly basis.
- 1.7. Should it be determined that day centres and day services can be safely opened after 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022, it should be noted that this may coincide with a period where many staff traditionally take annual leave. Therefore, there may be a staggered opening of these settings to account for the necessary staffing to resident ratios that are required.

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<sup>2</sup> [Alert level 2: guidance for employers, businesses and organisations \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#)