

## Guidance Note 4: Delivery models and procurement

The statutory guidance requires plans to include details on how services will be procured or arranged to be delivered. It is expected that you seriously consider options for alternative delivery models, in line with the duties under section 16 of the *Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act.* 

Joint area plans may also draw on any commissioning strategies or market position statements that have been developed and should also set out details of the types of services to be arranged or procured, e.g. by: private sector providers, third sector providers or via alternative delivery models

You may also wish to make reference to services which you identify as no longer being able to meet care and support needs identified in their population assessment, and could therefore be decommissioned.

This section of your plan provides your first opportunity to declare publicly how you intend arranging and delivering any new or different services, including potentially decommissioning some. You may not be clear enough at this stage to commit to a specific model in which case you are advised to explain that to be the case. Where you have already decided, it would be helpful to provide a very brief explanation of the thinking behind your decision, such as 'We believe the third sector is best placed to provide this service because it has experience of delivering similar services elsewhere.'

You are not required to explain precise procurement details, e.g. that you will be placing a notice in the European journal. Procurement in the context of your plan should be taken to mean clarifying the model of delivery, e.g. via a social enterprise, and summarising the approach you intend taking to arrive at this position. It is not about the professional and technical aspects of procurement at this stage although you are strongly advised to seek advice and assistance from your procurement specialists at an early stage.

## Alternative delivery models

In order to meet the duties within section 16 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, these plans will need to actively consider the options for social enterprises, co-operative organisations, co-operative arrangements, user led services and the third sector. You will need to describe how you are meeting this duty in section 2.6 of the template and state the delivery model in the table in section 2.10. You should consider utilising your Social Value Forums to develop ideas and options around section 16, which also provides a direct governance link back to your Regional Partnership Board.

We have included some helpful links below to support your thinking on options for alternative delivery models.

Population Assessment Toolkit Help Guide: Social Enterprises

https://socialcare.wales/cms\_assets/hub-downloads/Population\_Assessment\_Toolkit.pdf

Care to Co-operate: Support and advice on setting up social enterprises and co-operatives

http://wales.coop/care/

## **Technical Guidance**

The Act encourages fresh and innovative thinking about delivery models and you are advised to ensure you have considered all possibilities. See <a href="http://gov.wales/docs/phhs/">http://gov.wales/docs/phhs/</a> publications/151125pt2socialen.pdf for Welsh Government's technical briefing.

Ultimately, however, deciding on the most appropriate model is a matter for the Regional Partnership Board.

## **Reflective questions**

- Have you decided on your preferred delivery model yet?
- Have you clarified your intentions sufficiently in your plan?
- Are you clear that procurement details in this context should concentrate on broad intentions rather than technical aspects?
- Can you demonstrate that you have complied with the Act's requirements to consider new and different models of delivery?
- Have you included services you intend decommissioning or restructuring?

