



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

Public Health Wales: **Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible**

Our International Health Strategy as
an Enabler of Our Long Term Strategy

2023 – 2035



Public Health Wales: **Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible**

Our International Health Strategy as an Enabler of Our Long Term Strategy

2023 – 2035

Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn y Gymraeg / This document is available in Welsh

Authors

This report has been developed by the International Health Team, Policy and International Health, WHO Collaborating Centre on Investment for Health and Well-being Directorate, Public Health Wales: Dr. Liz Green, Dr. Emily Clark, Laura Holt, Abigail Malcolm, Golibe Ezenwugo, Daniela Stewart, Dr. Mariana Dyakova.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to those who contributed their knowledge from across Public Health Wales and to the many external stakeholders for participating in the survey, interviews and mapping exercises which underpin this strategy. Many thanks to Dr. Sumina Azam, National Director of Policy and International Health WHO Collaborating Centre Directorate, Public Health Wales.

Citation:

Green L, Clark E, Holt L, Malcolm A, Ezenwugo G, Stewart D and Dyakova M (2023). Public Health Wales: Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible Our International Health Strategy as an Enabler of Our Long Term Strategy 2023 – 2035. Cardiff, Public Health Wales NHS Trust.

ISBN 78-1-83766-264-7

© Public Health Wales NHS Trust 2023. Material contained in this document may be reproduced under the terms of the Open Government Licence (OGL) www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/ provided it is done so accurately and is not used in a misleading context.

Acknowledgement to Public Health Wales NHS Trust to be stated.

Copyright in the arrangement, design and layout belongs to Public Health Wales NHS Trust.

Contents

Executive Summary	2
I. Introduction	4
II. Aims	6
1. Maximise benefits for the health and well-being of the people in Wales	6
2. Develop globally responsible people and organisations	7
3. Respond to global health threats and benefit from international opportunities	7
III. Looking back	8
Examples of International factors that relate to the Long-Term Strategy's Strategic Priorities	10
From Global to Planetary Health	14
Wales as part of the wider UK global health and international development approach	14
IV. Creating the Strategy	15
Methodology	15
V. Making it Happen	16
Enabling International Health Activities	16
Considerations in the delivery of the International Health Strategy	19
VI. Conclusion	20
VII. Glossary	21
References	22



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

Who we are and what we do

We are Public Health Wales – the national public health organisation for Wales. Our purpose is working together for a healthier Wales. We are working towards a Wales where people live longer, healthier lives and where everyone has fair and equal access to the things that lead to good health and well-being.

Our [Long-Term Strategy \(2023-35\)](#) sets out our vision for achieving a healthier future for people in Wales by 2035. This International Health Strategy is an enabling strategy which helps us deliver our Long-Term Strategy and its strategic priorities.

Executive Summary



We have developed a refreshed International Health Strategy for Public Health Wales. Our international health vision is to be a globally connected and inspiring national public health organisation, working towards a healthier and fairer Wales to address worldwide challenges and shared goals.

The global political, social, and environmental context has dramatically changed since the original International Health Strategy in 2017 with UK's withdrawal from the EU ('Brexit'), the COVID-19 pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis and increasing instances of extreme weather events due to climate change.

Many beneficial examples of international health collaboration have taken place since 2017 and this Strategy aims to build on these and enable the delivery of the Long-Term Strategy through its implementation. International health working can range from research partnerships, sharing of mutual knowledge via digital meetings to joint training and collaboration on projects and other activities. This learning can then be implemented in Wales to improve population health and well-being and reduce inequalities. It can support us to be a globally connected national public health agency, using innovative approaches and our international expertise, helping to prevent disease, promote and protect health, provide system leadership, and specialist services. This strategy shows how we will work with partners such as public health institutes, Welsh Government and others to enable international health activity and partnership working.

The aims of the Strategy are to:

- Maximise benefits for the health and well-being of the people in Wales
- Develop globally responsible people and organisations
- Respond to global health threats and benefit from international opportunities.

To develop our Strategy, we have concentrated on enabling international health working that aligns with Public Health Wales' six strategic priorities as set out in our Long-Term Strategy (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: Public Health Wales' priorities for population health in Wales.



The six enabling international health activities are:

1. Strengthen partnerships, collaborations, and networks
2. Drive best practice and innovation
3. Build globally responsible citizens through building relationships nationally and internationally and fulfilling international commitments
4. Provide an 'International Health Community of Practice'
5. Create an international health repository and Newsletter
6. Support international opportunities for funding and capacity building

We will facilitate the delivery of our Strategy through focusing on activity which is useful, meaningful, and can mobilise knowledge and actions to benefit the people of Wales. Example include: strengthening partnerships, collaborations and networks by providing space for teams to connect and learn from one another through a network of practice; updating the Charter for International Partnerships Toolkit with new resources to enable cross collaboration; sharing insight and learning via newsletters and providing information on best practice and how it can be adapted to Public Health Wales' context; and highlight funding and training opportunities which are resource efficient. Enhancing and strengthening international health partnerships and working across the organisation is essential to meet complex challenges, maximise opportunities for population health and reduce health inequalities in the future.

I. Introduction

'No one is safe until everyone is safe'

Tedros Ghebreyesus,
Director General,
World Health Organization



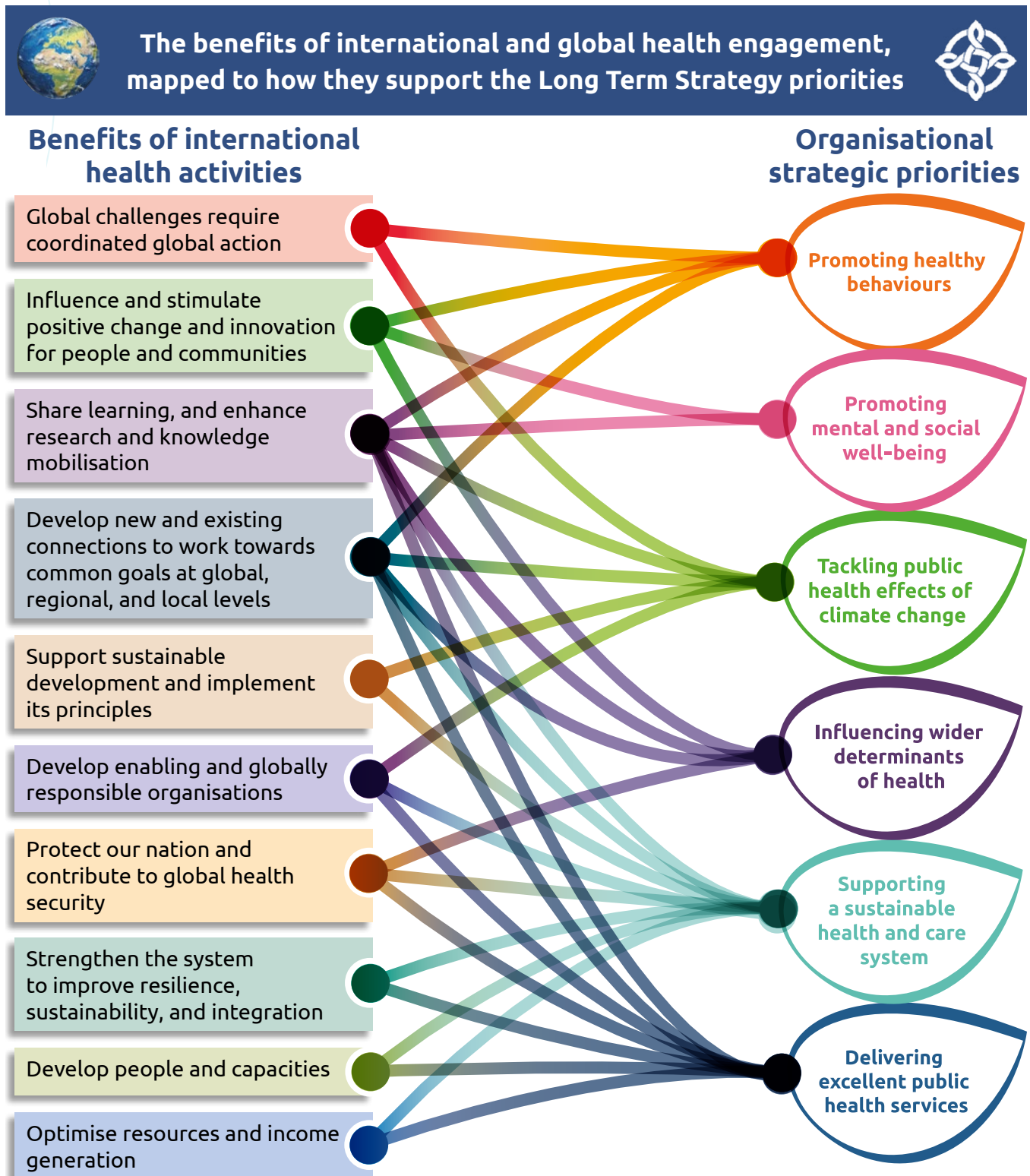
International health offers a myriad of opportunities to support Public Health Wales, NHS Wales, and our key stakeholders and partners to achieve a healthier future for Wales, leaving no one behind.

Despite significant achievements in Wales, there are still challenges, including the persistence of poverty and inequality gaps. Life expectancy can differ by up to 7.5 years between the most and least deprived communities.ⁱⁱ Inequality also carries an economic burden also, costing the NHS in Wales an estimated £322 million.ⁱⁱⁱ To make progress towards equity, social justice, and better health, active global engagement is crucial to better understand and address these issues.

For example, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates global health co-operation in practice and the benefits it brings to the people of Wales. The pandemic response brought together health researchers and system leaders across borders to share learning, ideas, information, medicines and vaccinations. Working collaboratively towards a common global goal was a strong focus of the pandemic recovery process. By working with international partners, we in Wales can increase our participation in the global health security agenda, to better protect our population and others, working towards a world which is safer and more secure from threats such as antimicrobial resistance, zoonotic diseases, biosafety and biosecurity.

Realising the benefits of international and global health engagement is essential for Public Health Wales to achieve its function, vision, mission, strategic priorities and well-being objectives^{iv} (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Benefits of international partnership and global health engagement enabling our organisational priorities



II. Aims



The International Health Strategy will enable the organisation to maximise the benefits and opportunities offered by international health work undertaken to support the delivery of the Long-Term Strategy strategic priorities.

The aims of the Strategy are:

1. Maximise benefits for the health and well-being of the people in Wales

Collaborative partnership working means we can learn from international organisations and apply this to the Welsh perspective, helping us identify areas for change to benefit population health.¹

For Public Health Wales and Wales

Bring in international learning, collaboration and horizon scanning to inform different ways of thinking, to protect, improve and promote health and well-being of the people in Wales, strengthen our (public) health system; and reduce health inequities.

For Beyond Welsh borders

Help strengthen Wales' and Public Health Wales' role as a 'live innovation site' and leader in public health innovation, policy and practice, sharing and contributing to population health globally.

¹ Quote from the consultation responses

2. Develop globally responsible people and organisations

Global health inequalities are systematic and unfair. As a globally responsible Wales, we can contribute to understand and address these inequalities and learn from our partners abroad.²

For Public Health Wales and Wales

Help champion the organisation as a system lead for population health, sustainable development, equity and diversity, forward and outward looking, continuously learning, improving and innovating.

Help upskill our public health professionals, building their confidence and value as part of a global public health community, doing their best in an exciting workplace.

Beyond Welsh borders

Contribute to the global health agenda, including implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and supporting global health workforce development and capacity building.

3. Respond to global health threats and benefit from international opportunities

Recognising our roles as global citizens and for global solidarity on health issues that interact at global, national and local levels.³

For Public Health Wales and Wales

Help strengthen Wales' public health system capacity and capability to address and respond to global health challenges and threats.

Facilitate opportunities for international learning and research, income generation, and reciprocal partnerships to support building a healthier and more equal Wales.

Beyond Welsh borders

Place Wales as a global influencer in addressing global challenges, such as the climate emergency, global health security, health inequalities and the burden of disease.

The International Health Strategy will contribute to, and has been developed to align with, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act^v and Sustainable Development Goals^{vi}, Wales International Strategy^{vii} and the Charter for International Health Partnerships^{viii}.

² Quote from the consultation responses

³ Quote from the consultation responses

III. Looking back

Wales' global health history dates back to 1985 with the unique Dolen Cymru Health Link^{ix}. NHS Wales' commitment to international health was further established in the Welsh Government document, *Health Within and Beyond Welsh Borders: An Enabling Framework for International Health Engagement*^x. More recently, there have also been calls from Welsh Government to raise Wales' international profile^{xi} and to have a more coordinated approach to international activity in Wales^{xii}.

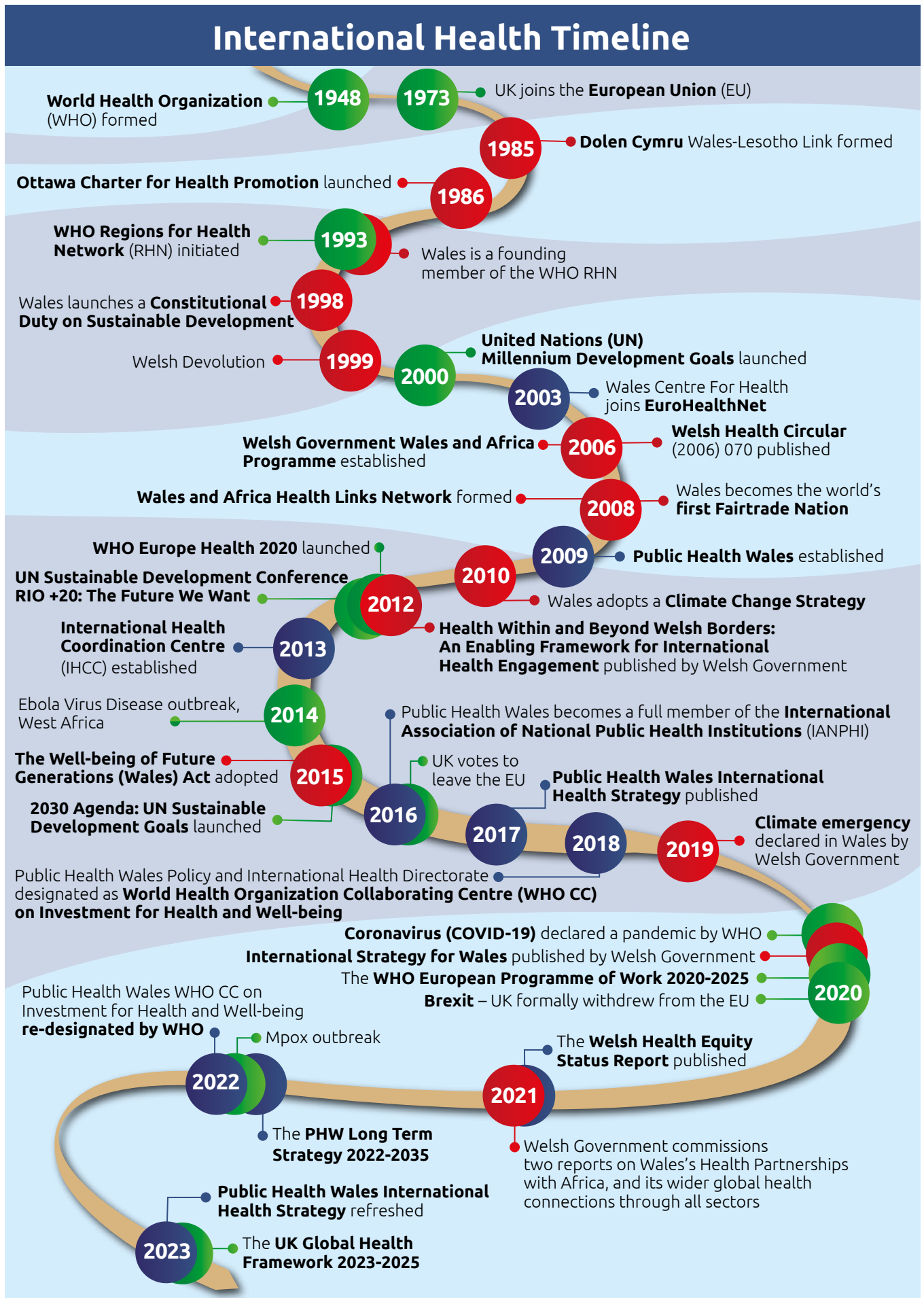
Since 2017, Public Health Wales has delivered its Strategic Priorities^{xiii} through activities such as:

- International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) organisational lead and co-chair of IANPHI National Focal Point network
- Designating 2018 and re-designating 2022 a WHO Collaborating Centre on investment for Health and Well-being
- Facilitating a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Welsh Government and WHO Regional Office for Europe 2020 and Renewal 2023
- Re-signing of the Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales 2019 and facilitating implementation across the NHS
- International Horizon Scanning and Learning Reports 2020-23, including informing the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery
- Global Citizenship Modules 2021
- A leadership role in the global Nursing Now campaign
- Progressing leading international research and best practice, including in the areas of Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs), public health genomics, safeguarding, health equity, etc.
- Hosting and facilitating international placements for public health training and professional development
- Producing an international health newsletter and disseminating opportunities and learning across key partners in Wales and the UK
- Exploring and utilising international solutions, opportunities and learning to help support sustainable workforce recruitment and retention

Case studies developed for this Strategy highlight how Public Health Wales has addressed pressing challenges, in addition to developing our workforce through an enhanced network of partnerships and connections (Annex I, boxes 8.1-8.8). *For example*, the **Improvement Cymru** directorate have been collaborating with a US company to support NHS Wales in managing the pressures around patient flow in hospitals, reduce system wide pressures and strengthening the resilience of services.

A timeline of our international health milestones is depicted in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3. International Health Timeline



Examples of International factors that relate to the Long-Term Strategy's Strategic Priorities

Global challenges and opportunities, and relevant organisational examples:



1 Influencing the wider determinants of health

- **Cost of living crisis** – Variable economic recovery from the pandemic will disproportionately affect disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, with consequences for health.
- **Health equity** – The 2022 SDG report highlights stark inequalities for example, childhood mortality rates are 14 times higher in sub-Saharan Africa than in Europe.^{xiv}
- **Conflict** – Two billion people live in countries affected by conflict with direct and indirect impacts on health and which can lead to displacement and migration.
- **Migration** – The number of forcibly displaced people globally was higher than ever in 2022, at over 100 million.^{xv} Changes in infrastructure and services will be needed to manage people's needs and respond to changing disease epidemiology.^{xvi xvii}

Organisational examples:

- Our Health Protection and Screening Services and IANPHI lead, played a significant role in supporting and learning from the Polish experience of the Russian-Ukraine war.
- We are identifying solutions with WHO for health equity and supporting the NHS and wider system in Wales to reduce the health gap.



2 Promoting mental and social well-being

- **Info-demic** – The rapid availability of vast amounts of information, both accurate and inaccurate has clouded public understanding of public health messages and contributed to mistrust of authorities.^{xviii}
- **Well-being Economy global movement** – Creating an economy for all in which the rules, norms and incentives are set up to deliver quality of life, mental and wider well-being in harmony with our environment and building sustainable and resilient communities and societies, rather than only economic growth.
- **WHO Pan-European Mental Health Coalition** – A collaboration of national leaders, professionals, members of civil society, and experts dedicated to improving mental health and placing it at the top of the policy agenda.

Organisational examples:

- We are established as global leaders in the fields of tackling Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and providing multi-sectoral trauma informed services.
- We are members of the Five Nations Public Mental Health Network.
- We are developing Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment, produced a Trauma Informed Framework and progressing work on mental health and well-being with the WHO and international partners.



3 Promoting healthy behaviours

- **Health promotion and disease prevention tackling the burden of non-communicable disease (NCDs)** – High levels of health harming behaviours, such as smoking, alcohol misuse, low physical activity and poor nutritional diet are of increasing concern.
- **WHO Flagship Initiative on Healthier Behaviours: incorporating behavioural and cultural insights** – Barriers to optimal health can be avoided or corrected by building a better understanding of social, behavioural and cultural factors.

Organisational examples:

- Establishing a Behavioural Science Unit with leading WHO and international role
- We work to ensure Wales remains among the leading countries globally in tackling these issues, such as through tobacco legislation.
- Tackling key risk factors, such as obesity, and promoting healthy behaviours, through learning from global evidence, practice and approaches.



4 Supporting the development of a sustainable health and care system focused on prevention and early intervention

- **Strengthening public health systems, capacities and workforce** - A global shortage of 10 million health care professionals is predicted by 2030, by the World Health Assembly.^{xix}
- **Digital health** - Encompasses mobile health (mHealth), electronic health (eHealth), health information technology (IT) or personalised medicine. In 2020, the WHO published a five-year Global Strategy on Digital Health, as a critical enabler for the achievement of the triple billion targets by 2023.^{xx}
- **Building a person-centred integrated systems for health and well-being as a Foundational Economy** – This includes Value-Based, long-term and intermediate care, integrated care and work across health and social care.

Organisational examples:

- We are strengthening our national and global role as a live innovation site for sustainable, Value-Based, and equity-oriented spending and investment in health and well-being through our WHO Collaborating Centre
- Providing system leadership on a range of designated risks, including Health Care Acquired Infections (HCAI) and Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) and vaccine preventable diseases.
- A leadership role in the global Nursing Now campaign.



5 Delivering excellent public health services to protect the public and maximise population health outcomes

- **Global health security** - The health impact of globalisation is highlighted through the rapid spread of communicable diseases, most notably exemplified through the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **The European Immunization Agenda 2030** - This WHO European Flagship Initiative sets a new course to address inequalities in vaccination coverage between and within countries.

Organisational examples:

- We have reviewed UK-wide plans for pathogen genomics services and have identified, where possible, a shared roadmap for service development/adoption.
- Working with key partners, for example through the UK Health Protection Committee and Four Nations Oversight Group.



6 Tackling the public health effects of climate change

- **Climate emergency** – Declared by Welsh Government in 2019^{xxi}, it impacts across all SDGs and is a huge threat to human and planetary health. It is a '*crisis multiplier*', having the greatest effect on the most vulnerable.
- **One Health** - Focus on optimising the interdependent health of people, animals and ecosystems, demands multi-sectoral action and an integrated approach^{xxii}.

Organisational examples:

- We are following the IANPHI roadmap for action on health and climate change that sets out how National Public Health Agencies have a critical role as key climate actors.
- Our Health and Sustainability Hub supports Public Health Wales to meet its duties under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and to address issues related to climate change and decarbonisation.
- We used tools such as Health Impact Assessment to support public bodies and Public Services Boards who have a responsibility to develop climate change adaptation plans at a local level to consider the health, wellbeing and equity impacts of these.



7 Enabling the successful delivery of our strategy

- **Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 2030** - A 2022 review of the United Nations 2030 Agenda^{xxiii} identified plateaued or stalling progress towards most of the 17 Goals.^{xxiv}
- **Triple Billion Targets**^{xxv,xxvi} - The three targets below form the central priorities of the WHO 2020-25 European Programme of Work 'United Action for Better Health'.^{xxvii}



Benefitting from universal health coverage



Better protected from health emergencies



Enjoying better health and well-being

Organisational examples:

- The International Health Coordination Centre (IHCC) is working across the NHS, developing and sharing opportunities, tools and resources, such as the Global Citizenship modules, toolkits, internships and study visits.
- We are supporting Wales' leading international role in building Well-being Economies with the health sector as its key driver, working with key partners and networks, such as the Welsh Government, health boards, WHO, IANPHI, EuroHealthNet and international expert groups.
- We are increasing the application of behavioural science in policy and practice, to optimise impact on health and well-being, co-produced with national and international stakeholders.



From Global to Planetary Health

The terms ‘global health’ and ‘international health’ are often used interchangeably, yet there is a distinction between them (Table 1). Throughout this strategy we recognise and reflect the global movement towards achieving ‘One Health’ and ‘planetary health’ in the context of sustainable development.

Table 1. Definitions used in the Public Health Wales International Health Strategy

International Health	International health commonly covers issues that occur outside of one’s own country, including cross-border cooperation, and is sometimes used in reference to working with developing nations and foreign aid efforts
Global Health	“The area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide”, including one’s own country, where problems can transcend national borders and have a global impact ^{xxviii}
Planetary Health	“The achievement of the highest attainable standard of health, well-being, and equity worldwide through judicious attention to the human systems—political, economic, and social—that shape the future of humanity and the Earth’s natural systems that define the safe environmental limits within which humanity can flourish. Put simply, planetary health is the health of human civilisation and the state of the natural systems on which it depends” ^{xxix}
One Health	“An integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimise the health of people, animals, and ecosystems. It recognises the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and inter-dependent.” ^{xxx}

Wales as part of the wider UK global health and international development approach

Wales’ and Public Health Wales’ international partnerships and collaboration also include working **across the UK four nations**, exploring, sharing and learning for the benefit of the whole-of-UK population. The International Health Strategy has reflected and aligned with the **UK Global Health Framework**^{xxxi} and approach to international development and co-operation and we link continuously with relevant UK organisations and networks. *For example*, we are working closely with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) in England, which also has a UK wide brief for many global health issues. The Devolved Nations share developments and opportunities through a **UK Four Nations Global Public health forum** where Public Health Wales is part of and contributes.

IV. Creating the Strategy

Methodology

The International Health Strategy refresh has been developed through a scoping review, mapping of international activity across the organisation (See, Annex II, Technical Supporting Information), and an extensive engagement and consultation exercise via surveys and key informant interviews. A thematic analysis was undertaken to uncover the benefits, barriers, opportunities, and priorities of international health, all of which are reflected in this strategy. The data was then triangulated with relevant legislation (and scoping review). Detailed methodology and findings are available in Annex I, Technical Supporting Information.

As part of extensive engagement with a wide range of stakeholder across Public Health Wales several key cross-cutting challenges and themes for international health activity have been identified and reflected in this refresh. Findings demonstrated that international work often occurs through pockets of excellence and due to a lack of a strategic approach, the sharing and impact have remained limited.

Action areas within international health work include both addressing challenges (health inequalities, post-pandemic pressures, and migration) and making optimal use of opportunities (achieving benefits for the health of people in Wales, supporting collaborative learning, and enabling Wales to contribute to global challenges), and align with the engagement findings.

V. Making it Happen

The Public Health Wales International Health Strategy supports the practical delivery of Public Health Wales' Long-Term Strategy strategic priorities as well as in collaboration with key national and international stakeholders. The International Health Strategy also supports wider NHS international engagement through the IHCC and the Charter for International Health Partnerships implementation. The Policy and International Health Directorate and its International Health team have a continuous role to drive and support the implementation of the strategy through cross-organisational and Wales engagement, and also linking globally.

Enabling International Health Activities

The Strategy will be delivered through the following **six international health activities** (including but not limited to):

1. Strengthen and develop new and existing mutually beneficial and respectful interdisciplinary **partnerships, collaborations, and networks**.
2. Explore, share, and apply international learning and research to drive evidence-informed **best practice and innovation, promoting equity and social justice and contributing to the global community**.
3. Promote a collaborative and inclusive organisational culture for **globally responsible citizens through building relationships nationally and internationally and fulfilling international commitments**.
4. Provide a space and support for sharing, exploring synergies, knowledge exchange, networking and building on our organisational assets, establishing an '**International Health Community of Practice**'.
5. Showcase achievements and opportunities through an **International Health repository and Newsletter**, demonstrating that activities don't always require travel.
6. Identify and support **international opportunities for funding and capacity building**, including staff recruitment, retention and continuous professional development.

These are underpinned by **shared values and ways of working**:



Public Health Wales values and people's promise



Sound governance to maintain good reputation and minimise risks and threats



Linking in with other enabling strategies, building on synergies and mutual benefits

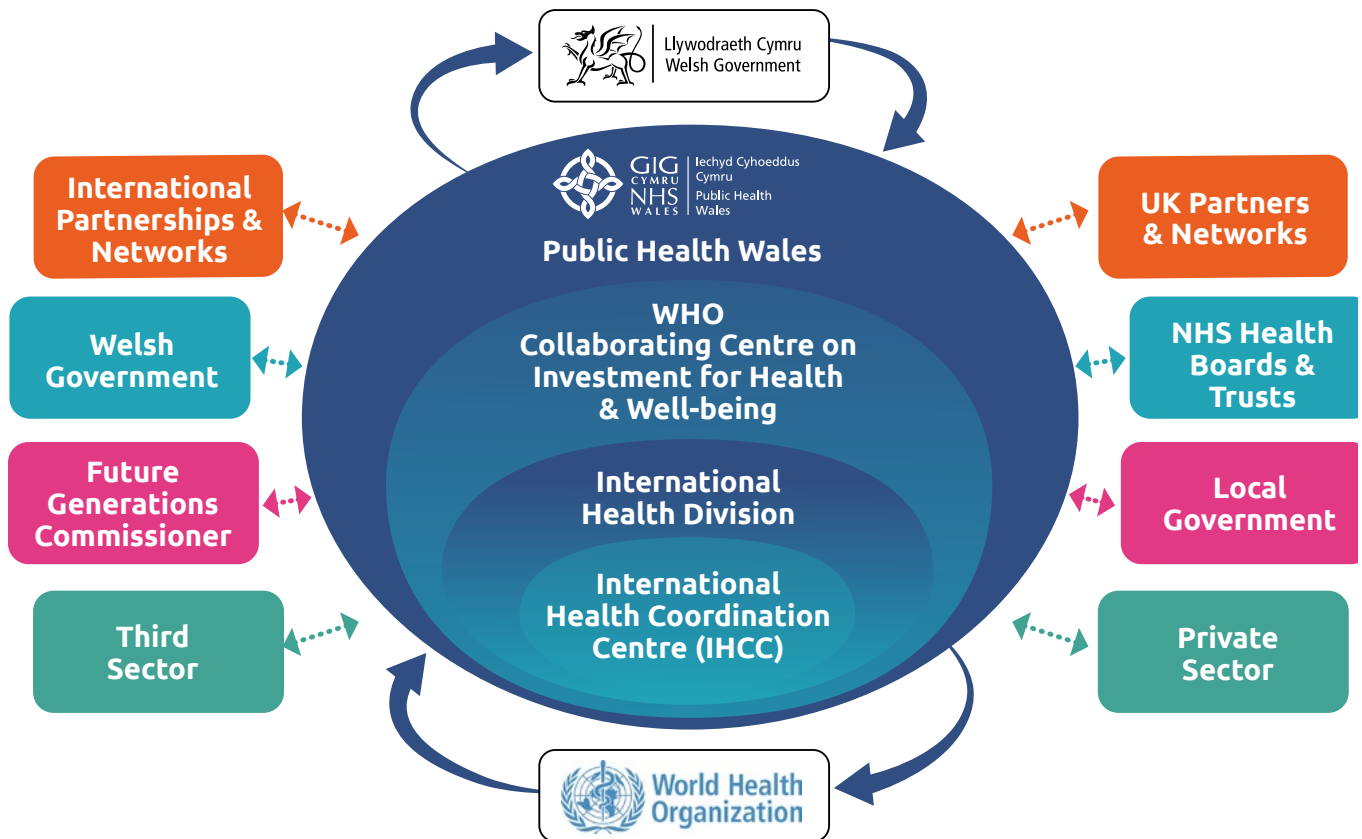


Allocating resources to support the organisation and staff to implement the strategic priorities through an international lens

Implementation Pathway

The implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this enabling strategy will be developed to align with and support the organisational Long-Term Strategy implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The Policy and International Health Directorate, including the IHCC and International Health team, will continue to serve as a focal point for mapping, mobilisation, facilitation, communication and support across the organisation, and linking nationally and internationally with key stakeholders and strategic partners and networks (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Public Health Wales stakeholder map



International Public Health Community of Practice

The Community of Practice will be a platform for those involved in international and global health activity across Wales. It will be a platform for shared learning, uncovering opportunities and challenges, and a place to promote best practice.

NHS International Health Activity Group

This overarching group will be organised and chaired by Public Health Wales and will provide a strategic role in guiding the future direction of international engagement and collaboration, ensuring alignment with national and organisational strategic priorities. The group will consist of relevant representatives from Public Health Wales, Welsh Government and the NHS and key public, academic and third sector stakeholders.

There are many strands to the implementation of the International Health Strategy in order to enable the Long Term Strategy. This includes developing leadership for international health and an implementation plan for this and also creating tools and spaces to support the delivery of both strategies. Figure 5 depicts these strands.

Figure 5. International Health Strategy implementation



Considerations in the delivery of the International Health Strategy

Resource and Demand Implications

Public Health Wales aspires to scale up its international function and assets to become an innovative forward looking public health system leader for international and global health work across the NHS and Wales, providing leadership, coordination, and expertise. To do this, we need to strengthen our organisational commitment and responsibility, to ensure sustainable capacity and the best use of available resources to maximise impact and value for money.

There has been a surge in expectation and demand on the international function. This requires prioritisation and focus to maximise benefits to the organisation, to the NHS and Wales, and external partners. It also calls for working more closely with our Local Public Health Teams, Welsh communities and Local Government, academic, third and private sectors, utilising new opportunities, combining efforts and bringing in external funding. Both national and international approaches need to be applied together to build additional resources:

National:

- Strategic input from Welsh Government to develop capacity and strengthen Public Health Wales' international role, including maximising IHCC function across the NHS.
- Operational input from Public Health Wales to support international engagement and work across the organisation through resources for strategic partnerships and staff development, and the enabling role of the Policy and International Health Directorate.
- Stakeholder input from across the public, academic, third and private sectors for example through joint research grants and programmes of work; or exploring business approaches, such as public-private partnerships.

International using UK, European and global sources of income generation, such as:

- Participating in joint international research and policy projects.
- Developing and marketing of innovative services, methods and approaches.
- Utilising commercial and trade opportunities.

VI. Conclusion



There is a strong need to consolidate and co-ordinate our organisational international health offer within the UK and global context in order to maximise benefits and opportunities for the people of Wales while minimising threats and harms.

This enabling strategy supports implementation of our Long-Term strategy across the organisation, building synergies, sharing learning and strengthening our global role, partnerships and influence.

We will work together with our partners to achieve healthier and fairer populations, communities, economies and planet for the current and future generations, within and beyond Welsh borders.

VII. Glossary

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is the ability of a microorganism, such as bacteria, viruses, and some parasites to stop an antimicrobial, such as antibiotics, antivirals and antimalarials from working against it. As a result, standard treatments become ineffective, infections persist and may spread to others.

Biosafety and **biosecurity** are related but differing concepts. Biosafety aims to reduce or eliminate exposure of individuals and the environment to potentially hazardous biological agents through the implementation of control and containment protocol. Biosecurity is the prevention of loss, theft or misuse of microorganisms and biological material and research related information through limiting access to facilities, biological materials and research-related information (CDC).

Brexit is a term used to describe the UK's exit from the European Union on 31 January 2020, following a referendum in June 2016.

Communicable diseases or infectious diseases are caused by pathogenic microorganisms, such as bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi; the diseases can be spread, directly or indirectly, from one person to another.

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), also known as chronic diseases, tend to be of long duration and are the result of a combination of genetic, physiological, environmental and behaviours factors.

The **European Union (EU)** is a unique economic and political union between 27 European countries that together cover much of the continent. The EU was created in the aftermath of the Second World War. The first steps were to foster economic cooperation: the idea being that countries that trade with one another become economically interdependent and so more likely to avoid conflict. The result was the European Economic Community (EEC), created in 1958, and initially increasing economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Since then, a huge single market has been created and continues to develop towards its full potential. The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020 ("Brexit").

Global health is the area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide, including one's own country, where problems can transcend national borders and have a global impact.

International health more commonly covers issues which happen outside of one's own country, including cross-border cooperation and is sometimes used in reference to work with developing nations and foreign aid efforts.

One Health describes an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimise the health of people, animals, and ecosystems. It recognises the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and inter-dependent. The goal of One Health is to encourage the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines, working locally, nationally, and globally to achieve the best health for people, animals, and our environment.

Planetary Health is the achievement of the highest attainable standard of health, well-being, and equity worldwide through judicious attention to the human systems, political, economic, and social, that shape the future of humanity and the Earth's natural systems that define the safe environmental limits within which humanity can flourish. Planetary health is the health of human civilisation and the state of the natural systems on which it depends.

Zoonotic diseases are infectious diseases of animals that can cause disease when transmitted to humans.

References

- i World Health Organization (2021). WHO Director-General's keynote speech at the St Petersburg International Economic Forum '21. Available from: <https://www.who.int/director-general/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-keynote-speech-at-the-st-petersburg-international-economic-forum-21> (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- ii Office for National Statistics (2022). Health state life expectancies by national deprivation quintiles, Wales: 2018 to 2020. Available from: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthinequalities/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesbynationaldeprivationdecileswales/2018to2020> (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- iii Kadel R, Darlington O, Allen J, et al. (2021). Cost of Health Inequality to the NHS in Wales Report 1 Cost Associated with Inequality in Hospital Service Utilisation to the NHS in Wales. Available from: <https://phw.nhs.wales/publications/publications1/cost-of-health-inequality-to-the-nhs-in-wales/> (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- iv Public Health Wales (2023). Our Long-Term Strategy 2023 to 2035. Available from: <https://phw.nhs.wales/about-us/working-together-for-a-healthier-wales/> (Date accessed: 04/08/2023)
- v Welsh Government (2015). Well-Being of Future Generations Act (Wales). Available from: <https://www.gov.wales/well-being-of-future-generations-wales> (Date accessed: 01/08/2023)
- vi United Nations (2015). Sustainable Development Goals. Available from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/> (Date accessed: 01/08/2023)
- vii Welsh Government (2020). International Strategy for Wales. Available from: <https://www.gov.wales/international-strategy-for-wales> (Date accessed: 31/07/2023)
- viii Couzens L, Bellis MA, Mably S, et al. (2014). Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales. Available from: <https://phwwhocc.co.uk/resources/charter-for-international-health-partnerships-in-wales/> (Date accessed: 01/08/2023)
- ix Dolen Cymru Wales Lesotho Link (1985). Available from: <https://www.waleslesotholink.org/> (Date accessed 24/01/2017)
- x Welsh Government (2012). Health within and beyond Welsh borders: an enabling framework for international health engagement. Available from: <https://www.internationalhealth.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/1100/120626frameworken.pdf> (Date accessed 20/10/2016)
- xi Welsh Government (2020). International Strategy for Wales. Available from: <https://www.gov.wales/international-strategy-for-wales> (Date accessed 03/04/2023)
- xii Chalmers K, Okea B, Tropical Health Education Trust (2021). International Health Activity in Wales Review. Available from: <https://www.thet.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/International-Health-Activity-in-Wales-Rapid-Review.pdf> (Date accessed 17/04/2023)
- xiii Dyakova M, Couzens L, Bellis MA (2017). Public Health Wales: Our International Health Strategy 2017-2027. Available from: <https://phwwhocc.co.uk/resources/public-health-wales-our-international-health-strategy-2017-2027/> (Date Accessed: 01/08/2023)
- xiv United Nations (2022) The Sustainable Development Goals Report. Available from: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2022.pdf> (Date accessed 17/04/2023)
- xv United Nations Environment Programme (2022) Adaptation Gap Report 2022. Available from: https://www.unep.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report-2022?gclid=EAIaIQobChMiv9S13dfO_QIVCu_tCh2niQDyEAAAYASAAEqK2H_D_BwE (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- xvi World Bank Blogs (2021) Millions on the move: What climate change could mean for internal migration. Available from: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/millions-move-what-climate-change-could-mean-internal-migration> (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- xvii Chalmers K, Rutherford A, THET Policy and Learning Team (2022) Public Health Wales International Health Strategy: mid-term global scoping review.
- xviii WHO. Infodemic. https://www.who.int/health-topics/infodemic#tab=tab_1 (Date accessed 04/04/2023)
- xix WHO, World Health Assembly 2022. Global strategy on human resources for health: workforce 2030. Report by the Director General. Available from: https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA75/A75_15-en.pdf (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- xx World Health Organization (2021) Global Strategy on digital health 2020 -2025. Available from: <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/documents/g4dhdad2a9f352b0445bafbc79ca799dce4d.pdf> (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)

- xxi Welsh Government (2019). Welsh Government makes climate emergency declaration. Available from: <https://www.gov.wales/welsh-government-makes-climate-emergency-declaration> (Date accessed: 17/04/2023)
- xxii WHO (2020). WHO Manifesto for a healthy recovery from COVID-19. Available from: <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/who-manifesto-for-a-healthy-recovery-from-covid-19> (Date accessed: 04/04/2023)
- xxiii United Nations (2015). Sustainable Development Goals. Available from: <https://www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300> (Date accessed 11/02/2016)
- xxiv United Nations (2022) The Sustainable Development Goals Report. Available from: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2022.pdf> (Date accessed 17/04/2023)
- xxv World Health Organization (2019). Thirteenth General Programme of Work (2019-23). Available from <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do/thirteenth-general-programme-of-work-2019---2023> (Date accessed 03/04/2023)
- xxvi World Health Organization (2020). The Triple Billion Targets: Q+A. Available from: <https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/the-triple-billion-targets> (Date accessed 04/03/2023)
- xxvii World Health Organization EURO (2021). European Programme of Work 2020-2025: United Action for Better Health. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/339209/WHO-EURO-2021-1919-41670-56993-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y> (Date accessed 03/04/2023)
- xxviii Koplan JP, Bond TC, Merson MH, et al. (2009). Towards a common definition of global health. *Lancet*. 373 (9679): 1993–5. Available from: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19493564/> (Date accessed: 31/07/2023)
- xxix Whitmee S, Haines A, Beyrer C, et al. (2015). Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch: report of The Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission on planetary health. *Lancet*. Available from: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60901-1](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60901-1) (Date accessed 30/01/2023)
- xxx World Health Organization (2021). Tripartite and UNEP support OHHLEP’s definition of “One Health”. Available from: <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-12-2021-tripartite-and-unep-support-ohhlep-s-definition-of-one-health> (Date accessed 30/01/2023)
- xxxi Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and Department of Health and Social Care (2023). Global Health Framework: working together towards a healthier world. Available at: [Global Health Framework: working together towards a healthier world - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/global-health-framework-working-together-towards-a-healthier-world)



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

Public Health Wales
Number 2 Capital Quarter
Tyndall Street
Cardiff CF10 4BZ
Tel: +44 (0)29 2022 7744

phw.nhs.wales