

Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales Implementation Toolkit

What is the International Health Coordination Centre?

The International Health Coordination Centre (IHCC) is a whole of NHS Wales programme of work, established in 2013 following recommendations set out by the Welsh Government policy document 'Health Within and Beyond Welsh Borders: an Enabling Framework for International Health Engagement' (Welsh Government, 2012).

It serves as a focal point for information sharing, knowledge exchange, collaboration and networking for NHS Wales across the UK, Europe and the world. It promotes, facilitates, and enables international partnerships, capability and capacity building, and good governance. Through these operations, the IHCC aims to maximise potential gains for Wales, to reduce duplication of efforts and resources, and to support a health system which is globally responsible, as well as more equal, resilient, and prosperous.

The IHCC has a distinct position, sitting between government, the health system and other relevant sectors. Its work is enabled by Public Health Wales, in collaboration with the Welsh Health Boards and NHS Trusts. Part of the IHCC's role is to implement the Charter for International Health Partnerships.

What is the Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales?

In partnership with national and international stakeholders, the IHCC developed the **Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales** (the Charter) in 2014 (IHCC, 2014). The Charter sets out common values and principles for international work across the NHS, based on Wales' history of accomplishment and learning in this area and outlines the four foundations of successful international health partnerships:

1. Organisational Responsibilities

2. Reciprocal Partnership Working

3. Good Practice

4. Sound Governance

It ensures a standard level of partnership working, and that the broader principles and values of the NHS are reflected in our international health activity.

The Charter benefits Wales by ensuring that engaging in international activity is carried out in a way that protects and enhances Wales' international reputation, and produces demonstrable gains both to Wales and its partners abroad. It also supports the delivery of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

Implementing the Charter for International Health Partnerships in Wales

Sound governance is essential for the successful implementation of the Charter. By working together on International Health, NHS Health Boards and Trusts in Wales have developed tools, guidance and documents, along with useful links in the form of the Charter Implementation Toolkit

The toolkit is designed to assist signatories to the Charter to successfully and consistently implement it. It has been developed in collaboration with the Welsh Health Boards and Trusts.

Each section contains detailed guidance documents. The documents will be enriched and added to continuously.

01 Organisational Responsibilities

Strong organisational engagement and commitment are essential for successful international health partnerships. This may include support for the special leave, provision of resources to support partnership development and Exec-level reporting processes on international partnerships. Implementing this Charter principle supports the Well-being of Future Generation Act goals, as highlighted in figure 1.

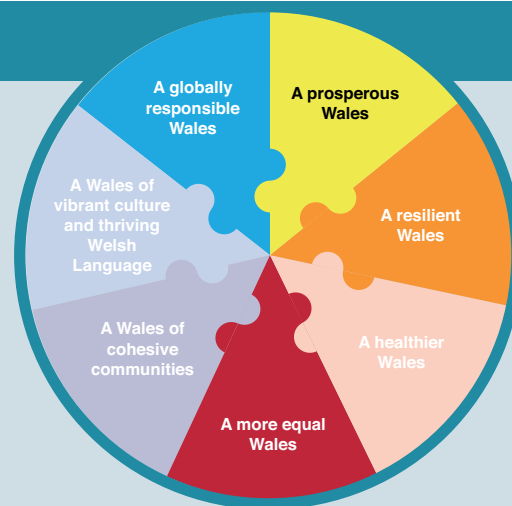


Figure 1: Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act Well-Being Goals

The toolkit covers areas including:

		Topic Area
Organisational Responsibilities	OR1	Special Leave
	OR2	Continued Professional Development (CPD)
	OR3	Mutual Learning and Sharing Lessons Learned
	OR4	Environmental Impact
	OR5	Meeting the World Health Organization (WHO) Standards on Donations
	OR6	Code of Practice for International Recruitment
	OR7	International Emergency Humanitarian Response
	OR8	International Health Lead

02 Reciprocal Partnership Working

A collaborative relationship between two or more parties is based on trust, equality, joint respect and understanding. The Charter is working to build strong, active and trusting partnerships with health organisations across Wales, the UK and around the world. This will lead to improved global health outcomes. Implementing this Charter principle supports the Well-being of Future Generation Act goals, as highlighted in figure 2.

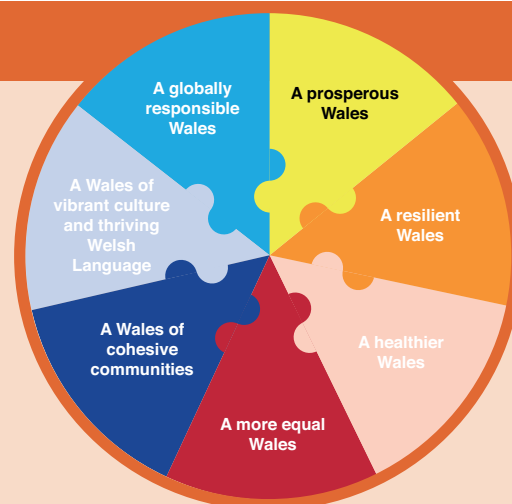


Figure 2: Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act Well-Being Goals

The toolkit covers areas including:

		Topic Area
Reciprocal working	RW1	Improving Lives and Do No Harm
	RW2	Respect, Fairness and Equity
	RW3	Managing Risk in Professional Travel
	RW4	Health Systems in Developing Countries
	RW5	Identify Opportunities
	RW6	Diaspora

03 Good Practice

The Charter priorities an evidence-based approach, underpinning all new policies, programmes and interventions. It searches for positive results to be celebrated and implemented widely; and fosters an open non-blame culture willing to learn when things do not go to plan. This is essential for effective and collaborative teams, organisations and projects. Implementing this Charter principle supports the Well-being of Future Generation Act goals, as highlighted in figure 3.

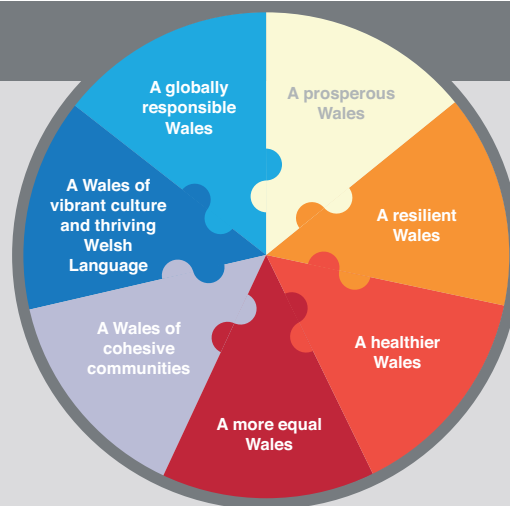


Figure 3: Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act Well-Being Goals

The toolkit covers areas including:

		Topic Area
Good Practice	GP1	Quality and Evidence Based Practice
	GP2	Needs Assessment
	GP3	Monitoring and Evaluation
	GP4	Engaging the Whole Organisation through Global Citizenship

04 Sound Governance

Clearly agreed aims, objectives and areas of responsibility for all partners involved in a partnership are essential. The Charter drives the development and implementation of sound governance models that facilitate transparent, effective partnerships with clear lines of responsibility and accountability. Good governance is fundamental to improving health outcomes around the world. Implementing this Charter principle supports the Well-being of Future Generation Act goals, as highlighted in figure 4.

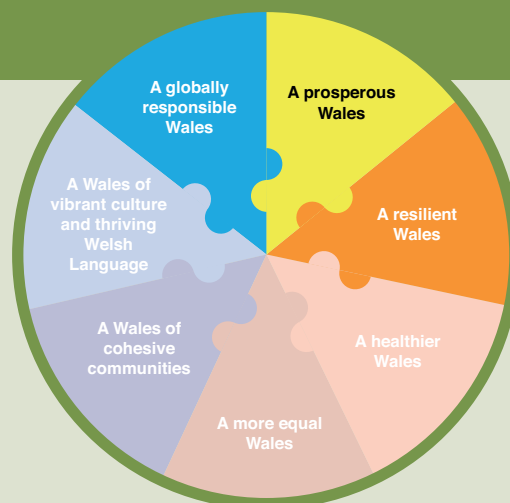


Figure 4: Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act Well-Being Goals

The toolkit covers areas including:

		Topic Area
Sound Governance	SG1	Formal Arrangements
	SG1.1	Draft Memorandum of Understanding
	SG1.2	How to set up an international health group
	SG2	Risk in Partnerships
	SG3	Cost Effectiveness and Efficiency
	SG3.1	WHO Investment guide
	SG4	Reporting Impact