

Chief Executive's Report – July 2017 Board

1. Meetings and Visits

Since the last Board, I have undertaken the following meetings and visits:

- **Health Education Wales** – this is a new body to be set up to manage training and development in the NHS – I met the project manager to pass on lessons learned from the establishment of NRW.
- **Continuous Improvement Practitioners** – I attended the ‘refresher’ session for CI practitioners within NRW, who continue to drive excellent projects which improve our efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Sport Wales** – a regular catch-up with Sarah Powell, the Chief Executive.
- **Welsh Government Sponsorship meeting** – these take place three times a year, centred on our performance reports, and provide an opportunity to discuss relevant issues.
- **Plantlife** – a fascinating visit with Marian Spain, CEO of Plantlife, and colleagues from the Gwent Wildlife Trust and NRW to two ‘Coronation Meadows’ near Monmouth. The first site, New Grove Meadows, is the Coronation Meadow for Monmouthshire and adjacent to NRW woodland, while the second, Wyeswood Common, is a recipient site and a pioneer of reversion having been a modern commercial agricultural holding before being bought by the Trust.
- **Cupcake Day** - I was pleased to contribute cakes made by the Roberts family to the annual Alzheimer’s Society cupcake day, which coincided with the launch of NRW’s Dementia Awareness Plan. NRW raised over £1,500 in total.
- **Institute of Civil Engineers** – I attended the annual ICE Annual Dinner.
- **CORWM** – I met with Campell Gemmell, Vice Chair of CORWM and former CEO of SEPA.
- **MS Society** – we were delighted to meet colleagues from the MS Society and to receive the ‘Employer of the Year’ award in recognition of the work done by NRW, and especially Mark Sabine, in supporting Allyn Hawkes following his diagnosis with MS.
- **National Assembly Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee** – NRW hosted a very successful visit for Committee members to the Spirit of Llynfi Woodland near Maesteg.
- **Natural England** – as part of our Transformation programme, we had an interesting discussion with the Natural England transformation team to share experience and insight on transformation and restructuring.

- **Welsh Language Commissioner** – catch-up with Meri Huws to discuss progress against Standards etc.
- **Crindau flood scheme** – I visited the Crindau scheme to look at progress. There are some difficult property issues associated with the scheme which will need to be resolved.
- **University Vice Chancellors group** – I met the VCs group to discuss progress with the Evidence Platform, which will be jointly funded by Universities, WG and NRW.
- **Dwr Cymru Welsh Water** – regular catch-up with CEO Chris Jones.

Emyr Roberts
July 2017