

Overview Breakout Group 1 responses

Comments on the Grading Scale

- Preference for a 5-point scale over the binary Yes/No model used by Welsh Government.
- The 5-point scale allows for nuanced assessments and avoids premature rejection of projects.
- No project should score a 5; if perfect, it may not require RIF funding.
- Concerns about consistency and robustness in applying the scale.
- Need for clear definitions of terms like 'integration', 'priority population groups', and 'regional'.
- Questions around who will score the projects and how decisions will be made.

What Evidence Could Be Gathered to Support the Response

- Qualitative evidence: 'Most significant change' stories, 'magic moments', case studies, lived experience narratives.
- Quantitative evidence: KPIs such as bed days saved, days enabling independence, days at home.
- Social value assessments and social return on investment (e.g., Progression project).
- Cluster profiles from Public Health.
- Cost savings and cost avoidance models, with caution about shifting costs.
- Need for standardized templates or frameworks for evidence submission.
- Importance of evidencing consequences if funding ends.
- Recognition that preventive outcomes are hard to measure, especially at population level.

Opportunities and Challenges

Opportunities:

- Clarify interdependencies between projects, including capital links.
- Share learning and good practice across regions.
- Strengthen integration and collaboration regionally.
- Benefits realization work to demonstrate value.
- Post-RIF phase offers a chance to collect better data from the start.

Challenges:

- Workforce anxiety and recruitment issues due to short-term funding.
- Political risks from potential changes in Welsh Government priorities.
- Capacity constraints; service delivery prioritised over collaboration and reporting.
- Lack of electronic data systems for community health services.
- Misalignment between local delivery and regional/national expectations.
- Unclear scoring process and burden of reporting on project leads.