



# Greener Primary Care Wales Framework and Award Scheme



## Project Background:

In April 2019 the Welsh Government declared a climate emergency and committed to achieving a carbon neutral public sector by 2030. In March 2021 the [NHS Wales Decarbonisation Strategic Delivery Plan](#) was published.

A scoping exercise was undertaken by the Primary Care Division, Public Health Wales to review the resources available to support primary care take action on environmental sustainability. Nothing suitable for all primary care contractors was identified. As a result, the development of a bespoke framework and award scheme that could be used by all 4 contractors was approved by the Strategic Programme for Primary Care.

## Project Outcomes:

The objective of 5% of professional contractors across Wales registering with the framework was achieved ahead of schedule by early August.

General Practices were by far the most engaged contractor type, with over 14% across Wales registering (see graph opposite).

Around a third of registered practices have begun recording progress against actions via the digital framework.

Contributing towards achieving legally binding targets regarding the public sector in Wales reaching net-zero carbon emissions by 2030.

## Key Conclusions:

Overwhelming support for the agenda has been shown at a strategic and frontline level.

Co-production and an already developed framework has ensured good engagement within the busy primary care settings.

## Project Aims/Objectives:

To test the implementation of a national environmental sustainability Framework and Award Scheme which enables primary care contractors in Wales to take collective action at a practice level.

5% (Approx. 100) of professional contractors across Wales register to the Greener Primary Care Framework and Award Scheme, in the first year.

Increase capability and capacity of the primary care workforce in Wales in responding to the climate emergency.

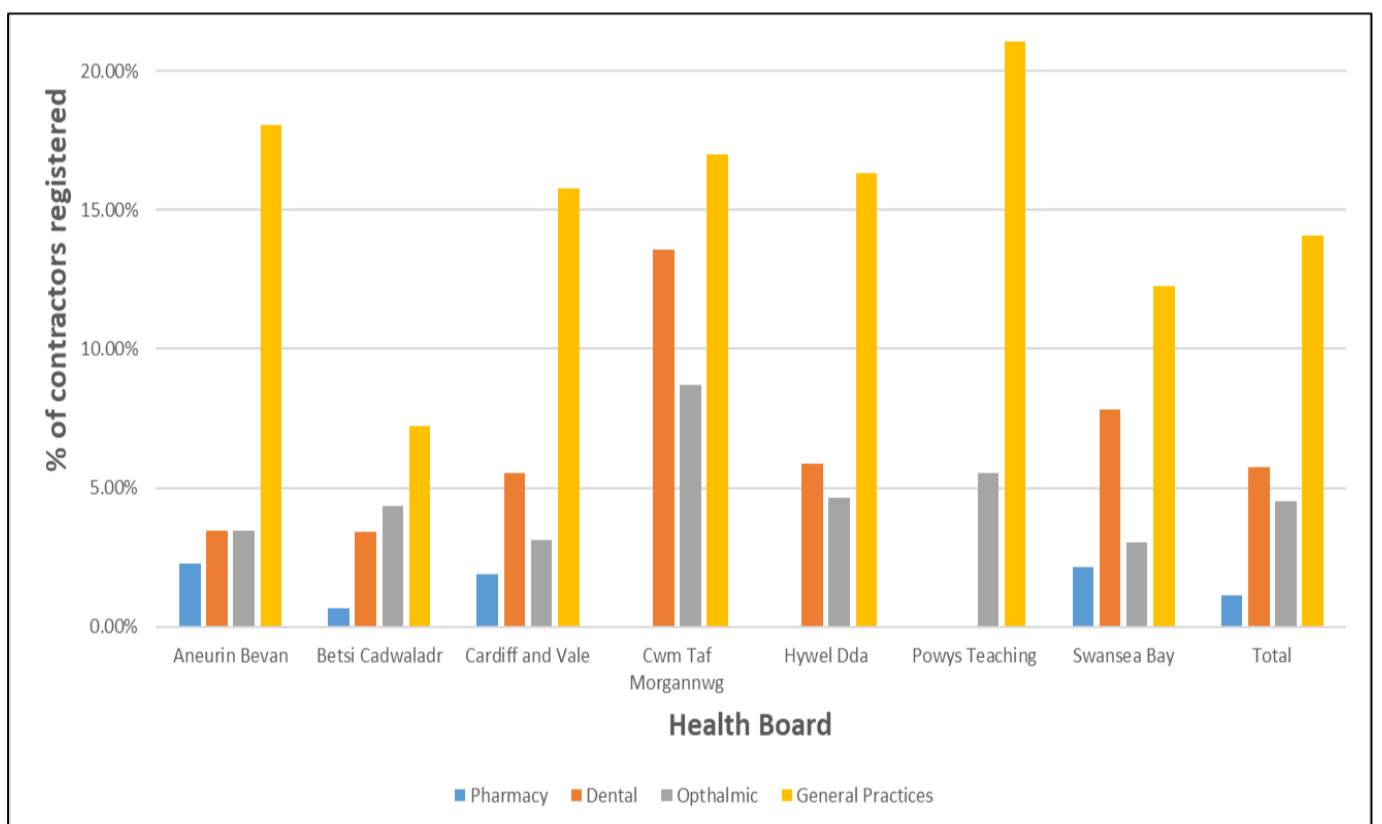
## Project Approach:

An initial draft of the framework was co-produced with stakeholders via an Expert Group.

A pilot of the digital framework was conducted between December '21 and April '22.

A soft launch was held in May '22, followed by a national launch in June '22.

Ongoing engagement with the primary care frontline workforce continues to inform the development of the framework.



## Next Steps:

October '22 will see the framework close for evidence submissions. Audits will then take place during November to determine award levels.

Practices achieving bronze, silver or gold will be recognised.

The existing framework will be reviewed in late '22 in collaboration with the Expert Group.

A yearbook celebrating the success of '22 and highlighting case studies will be published in early '23.

The framework will re-open early '23.

## Project Impact:

Capability and competency building within the primary care workforce and its strategic stakeholders via awareness raising sessions, education and implementation.

Wider impact: Influencing legislation relating to GP improvement grants, allowing grant money to be used towards climate mitigation. National recognition from the Head of Ophthalmic Services in Northern Ireland congratulating Wales on "leading the way" following the publication of the [Optometry Today article](#). Pharmacy: *Delivering a Healthier Wales 2025 Goals* includes action for community pharmacy to sign up to scheme.

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