ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS FEDERATION CYMRU

NEWSLETTER

ahpf Cymru . Wales

Edition 4 Spring 2026

Campaign Success!

Chief Allied Health Professions Officer Role Advertised by Welsh Government

In our last newsletter, AHPF Cymru expressed concern that a successor to Ruth Crowder had not been appointed by the Welsh Government leaving AHPs unrepresented. Whilst the role remains vacant, in the last weeks, we've had more encouraging news – with the role being advertised.

This followed an unprecedented campaign by AHPF Cymru. We worked with our members, politicians, and other stakeholders to ensure Welsh Government moved forward on this appointment. A number of Written and Oral Questions were posed by Mabon ap Gwynfor MS on the subject, most recently in the Senedd Chamber.

We received a response to our letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services, Jeremy Miles MS. As the dial had not moved, we decided as a Forum to ask the members of our respective organisations to write an open letter to the Cabinet Secretary. We shared this earlier in the year and are grateful to everyone who took the time to sign.

Keeping the pressure on the Cabinet Secretary, we also worked with the journalist, Will Hayward, who covered the lack of progress towards the appointment of a new Chief Allied Health Professions Officer in his Newsletter – which is widely read by politicians and their staff.

We are delighted that following the campaign, we met with Welsh Government officials and the post was advertised on 9th of March with a deadline of the 23rd of March. AHPF Cymru has been invited to have a seat on the stakeholder panel for the interviews.

We have offered anyone who is looking to apply for this important post to contact us for further background information, and support in applying through the civil service recruitment process. You can find out more information about this

2026 Political Party Conference Season & Ongoing Engagement

At the start of what is going to be an exciting year in Wales, the political party conference season has just concluded – with each party well progressed in their preparations for the upcoming election campaign.

We attended conferences held by the Welsh Conservatives, Plaid Cymru, and the Welsh Liberal Democrats. Welsh Labour decided not to hold a Spring Conference, and we are yet to have any details of a Green Party Wales Conference. Reform UK haven't held a pre-election conference, but instead hosted a manifesto launch, which we attended.

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To remind you, the five key areas of the AHPF Cymru manifesto that we have shared with political parties are:

1. A National Workforce Strategy for AHPs.

2. Timely access to AHP services for those working in health and social care.

3. Expand access to the AHP professions through exploring routes, in consultation with the professions, such as degree apprenticeships.

4. Ensure that services within the community are delivered within suitable buildings.

5. Allow patients the right to access AHP services as part of their treatment pathway.

We have also seen the publication of two party manifestos for the Welsh Parliament / Senedd Cymru elections on the 7th of May 2026.

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2026 Political Party Conference Season & Ongoing Engagement

The Welsh Conservatives were first out of the blocks. Following our work, they have committed to:

"Develop a workforce strategy, with safe staffing levels, for Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) in the Welsh NHS to support people to stay active for longer and in work supporting the Welsh economy, maximising prevention, early intervention and rehabilitation"

Reform UK followed quickly afterwards. Despite their manifesto not directly referencing AHPs, they have committed to:

"WORKFORCE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY: The NHS's greatest asset is the doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals who put in superhuman efforts to keep Wales healthy… Reform will implement a comprehensive workforce review across NHS Wales to quantify gaps and set realistic trajectories for filling them."

We continue to provide briefings to individual parties on these manifesto asks and will continue to do so, during the election period.

Alongside our work with individual political parties, we have continued to represent AHPs with our current Senedd Members. In December, we were at the Senedd, talking to them about our key aims and objectives, as outlined above, as well as launching our new infographic[JC1] . We received a wholly positive response, and are looking forward to future engagement with Members of the Seventh Senedd.

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Engagement with Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW)

We wrote to Alex Howells, the Chief Executive of Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) about the appointment of their new Director for nursing and AHP's. This role was advertised as requiring a nursing qualification, excluding appointments from within our workforce. As a result of our letter, Paul Smith (RCOT on behalf of AHPF Cymru) was invited to participate in the interview process and was able to quiz candidates. Whilst not ideal, we still see this as a positive indication of our rising profile within NHS Wales.

AHPF Cymru Explainer

The Allied Health Professions Federation (AHPF) is a UK-wide organisation that brings together the 14 professional bodies representing Allied Health Professionals (AHPs). The AHPF provides collective leadership and representation on common issues that impact its member professions. The AHPF Board annually reviews work plans for AHPF Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, which share the same purpose of collective leadership and accordingly allocates an annual budget for them to deliver their work plan. AHPF Cymru is the newest member of the federation and formally launched in March 2025.

What we do

AHPF Cymru's vision is that the Allied Health Professionals workforce is positioned to improve the health and well-being of the population in Wales. We exist to provide collective AHP leadership and representation to influence national policy and guidance at a strategic level. Member organisations nominate representatives, often their Policy Officer or a similar role, who are empowered to contribute to discussions and make decisions on Federation business on behalf of their professional bodies.

The Federation works as a multi-disciplinary platform to identify and address issues that affect all AHP professions, influence Welsh Government policy through constructive engagement, and strengthen links with wider UK and devolved AHP networks. Through this work, AHPF Cymru aims to ensure that AHPs are recognised as a credible, strategic partner in the planning, management and delivery of health and social care in Wales.

We hold regular Board meetings in Wales and feed into the work going on across the UK as part of the AHPF Board (Caroline, our Chair attends this). We use our Board in Wales to make decisions about the types of campaigns we want to run, and what overarching issues for AHPs we can address. If you have a particular issue, you think should be raised, please contact your professional organisations representative.

How do I find out more?

We have a website and regularly post on Instagram and LinkedIn. Your professional organisation will also be able to give you regular updates and you should liaise with them about our work, in the first instance. You can find their contact details below.

The British and Irish Orthoptic Society	Craig Murray chair@orthoptics.org.uk
The British Association of Dramatherapists	Martin Cope MartinCope@badth.org.uk
The British Association for Music Therapy	Greg Hanford greg.hanford@wales.nhs.uk
The British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists	Dave Gamble dave.gamble@bapo.com
The British Dietetic Association	Fergus Turtle f.turtle@bda.uk.com
The British Psychological Society	Manel Tippett manel.tippett@bps.org.uk
The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy	Calum Higgins higginsc@csp.org.uk
The College of Paramedics	Tom Taylor tom.taylor@collegeofparamedics.co.uk
The Royal College of Occupational Therapists	Paul Smith paul.smith@rcot.co.uk
The Royal College of Podiatry	Tess Saunders Tess.Saunders@rcpod.org.uk
The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists	Caroline Walters caroline.walters@rcslt.org
The Society of Radiographers	Caroline Hurley carolineh@sor.org
The British Association of Art Therapists	Sarah Challenger sarah.challenger@baat.org
The Institute of Osteopathy	Alison Robinson Canham alison@iosteopathy.org

FFEDERASIWN PROFFESIYNAU PERTHYNOL I IECHYD CYMRU

CYLCHLYTHYR

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Rhifyn 4 Gwanwyn 2026

Llwyddiant yr Ymgyrch!

Llywodraeth Cymru yn Hysbysebu Swydd Prif Swyddog Proffesiynau Perthynol i Iechyd

Yn ein cylchlythyr diwethaf,mynegodd AHPF Cymru bryder nad oedd Llywodraeth Cymru wedi penodi olynydd i Ruth Crowder gan adael AHPs heb gynrychiolaeth. Er bod y swydd yn dal yn wag, cawsom newyddion mwy calonogol yn yr yr wythnosau diwethaf – gyda'r swydd yn cael ei hysbysebu.

Roedd hyn yn dilyn ymgyrch fawr gan AHPF Cymru. Buom yn gweithio gyda'n haelodau, gwleidyddion a rhanddeiliaid eraill i sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn symud ymlaen ar y penodiad hwn. Gofynnodd Mabon ap Gwynfon AS nifer o Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig a Llafar yn Siambr y Senedd.

Cawsom ymateb i'n llythyr at Jeremy Miles AS, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Gan nad oedd pethau i'w gweld yn symud, fe wnaethom fel Fforwm benderfynu gofyn i'n haelodau i ysgrifennu llythyr agored at Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet. Cafodd hyn ei rannu yn gynharach yn y flwyddyn a rydym yn ddiolchgar i bawb a lofnododd.

Gan gadw'r pwysau ar Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet, fe wnaethom hefyd weithio gyda'r newyddiadurwr Will Hayward, a rododd sylw i'r diffyg cynnydd wrth benodi Prif Swyddog newydd i'r Proffesiynau Perthynol i Iechyd yn ei Gylchlythyr. Caiff ei Gylchlythyr ei ddarllen yn eang gan wleidyddion a'u staff.

Roeddem yn falch iawn i ni gael cyfarfod gyda swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn dilyn yr ymgyrcha hysbysebwyd y swydd ar 9 Mawrth gyda dyddiad cau o 23 Mawrth. Gwahoddwyd AHPF Cymru i fod yn aelod o'r panel rhanddeiliaid ar gyfer y cyfweliadau.

Rydym wedi cynnig i unrhyw un sy'n dymuno gwneud cais am y swydd bwysig hon i gysylltu â ni am fwy o wybodaeth gefndir a chefnogaeth i wneud cais drwy'r broses recriwtio'r gwasanaeth sifil. Mae mwy o wybodaeth am hyn ar gael yma.

Tymor Cynhadledd y Pleidiau Gwleidyddol 2026 ac Ymgysylltu Parhaus

Ar ddechrau'r hyn fydd yn flwyddyn gyffrous yng Nghymru, mae tymor cynadleddau'r pleidiau gwleidyddol newydd ddod i ben – gyda phob plaid wedi symud ymlaen yn eu paratoadau ar gyfer yr ymgyrch etholiadol sydd i ddod.

Buom yng nghynadleddau'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, Plaid Cymru a Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru. Penderfynodd Llafur Cymru beidio cynnal Cynhadledd Wanwyn eleni ac ni chawsom unrhyw fanylion hyd yma am Gynhadledd Plaid Werdd Cymru. Nid wnaeth Reform UK gynnal cynhadledd cyn-etholiad, ond yn hytrachwedi cynnal lansiad maniffesto, y gwnaethom ei fynychu.

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I'ch atgoffa, y pum maes allweddol o faniffesto AHPF Cymru yr ydym wedi'u rhannu â phleidiau gwleidyddol yw:

1. Strategaeth Gweithlu Genedlaethol ar gyfer AHPs.

2. Mynediad amserol at wasanaethau AHP i'r rhai sy'n gweithio ym maes iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol.

3. Ehangu mynediad i'r proffesiynau AHP trwy archwilio llwybrau, mewn ymgynghoriad â'r proffesiynau, megis prentisiaethau gradd.

4. Sicrhau y caiff gwasanaethau yn y gymuned eu darparu mewn adeiladau addas.

5. Rhoi hawl i gleifion gael mynediad at wasanaethau AHP fel rhan o'u llwybr triniaeth.

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Cafodd maniffestos dwy blaid hefyd eu cyhoeddi ar gyfer etholiadau Senedd Cymru ar 7 Mai 2026.

Y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig oedd y cyntaf. Yn dilyn ein gwaith, maent wedi ymrwymo i:

"Datblygu strategaeth gweithlu, gyda lefelau staffio diogel, ar gyfer Gweithwyr Proffesiynol Perthynol i Iechyd (AHPs) yn GIG Cymru i gefnogi pobl i aros yn egnïol am gyfnod hirach ac mewn gwaith yn cefnogi economi Cymru, gan wneud y mwyaf o atal, ymyrraeth gynnar ac adsefydlu"

Dilynodd Reform UK yn fuan wedyn. Er nad yw eu maniffesto yn cyfeirio'n uniongyrchol at AHPs, maent wedi ymrwymo i:

“STRATEGAETH CYNALIADWYEDD Y GWEITHLU: Ased mwyaf y GIG yw’r meddygon, y nyrsys, a’r gweithwyr gofal iechyd proffesiynol eraill sy’n gwneud ymdrechion enfawr i gadw Cymru’n iach...Bydd Reform yn gweithredu adolygiad gweithlu cynhwysfawrar draws GIG Cymru i fesur bylchaua gosod llwybrau realistig i’w llenwi.”

Rydym yn parhau i roi gwybodaeth i bleidiau unigol ar yr hyn y gofynnir amdano yn y maniffestos a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny yn ystod cyfnod yr etholiad.

Ochr yn ochr â'n gwaith gyda phleidiau gwleidyddol unigol, rydym wedi parhau i gynrychioli AHPs gyda'r ASau presennol. Buom yn y Senedd ym mis Rhagfyr yn trafod ein nodau ac amcanion allweddol, fel yr amlinellir uchod, yn ogystal â lansio ein ffeithlun newydd. Cawsom ymateb cadarnhaol iawn ac edrychwn ymlaen at gyswllt gydag ag ASau’r Seithfed Senedd yn y dyfodol.

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Ymgysylltu ag Addysg a Gwella Iechyd Cymru (AaGIC)

Fe wnaethom ysgrifennu at Alex Howells, Prif Weithredwr Addysg a Gwella Iechyd Cymru (AaGIC) ynglŷn â phenodi eu Cyfarwyddwr Nyrsio ac AHP newydd. Hysbysebwyd y swydd hon fel un sy'n gofyn am gymhwyster nyrsio, a byddai hynny yn eithrio penodiadau o'n gweithlu ni. Fel canlyniad i'n llythyr, gwahoddwyd Paul Smith (RCOT ar ran AHPF Cymru) i gymryd rhan yn y broses gyfweld a chafodd gyfle i holi ymgeiswyr. Er nad dyma'r sefyllfa ddelfrydol, rydym yn dal i weld hyn fel arwydd cadarnhaol o'n proffil cynyddol o fewn GIG Cymru.

Esboniad AHPF Cymru

Mae'r Allied Health Professions Federation (AHPF) yn sefydliad sy'n gweithredu ar draws y Deyrnas Unedig gan ddod yn ynghyd â'r 14 corff proffesiynol sy'n cynrychioli Gweithwyr Proffesiynol Perthynol i Iechyd. Mae'r AHPF yn darparu arweinyddiaeth a chynrychiolaeth ar y cyd ar faterion cyffredin sy'n effeithio ar broffesiynau ein aelodau. Mae Bwrdd AHPF yn adolygu cynlluniau gwaith bob blwyddyn ar gyfer AHPF Cymru, Gogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban, sy'n rhannu'r un diben o arweinyddiaeth ar y cyd ac yn unol â hynny yn dyrannu cyllideb flynyddol iddynt gyflawni eu cynllun gwaith.AHPF Cymru, a lansiwyd yn ffurfiol ym mis Mawrth 2025, yw aelod diweddaraf y Ffederasiwn.

Beth rydyn ni'n ei wneud

Gweledigaeth AHPF Cymru yw bod gweithlu Gweithwyr Proffesiynol Perthynol i Iechyd mewn sefyllfa i wella iechyd a lles y boblogaeth yng Nghymru. Bodolwn i ddarparu arweinyddiaeth a chynrychiolaeth AHP ar y cyd i ddylanwadu ar bolisi ac arweiniad cenedlaethol ar lefel strategol. Mae'r cyrff sy'n aelodau yn enwebu cynrychiolwyr, yn aml eu Swyddog Polisi neu swydd debyg, a all gyfrannu at drafodaethau a gwneud penderfyniadau ar fusnes y Ffederasiwn ar ran eu cyrff proffesiynol.

Mae'r Ffederasiwn yn gweithio fel platfform amlddisgyblaeth i nodi a mynd i'r afael â materion sy'n effeithio ar bob proffesiwn AHP, dylanwadu ar bolisi Llywodraeth Cymru drwy ymgysylltu adeiladol a chryfhau cysylltiadau â rhwydwaith AHP ehangach y Deyrnas Unedig a rhwydweithiau AHP datganoledig. Trwy'r gwaith hwn, nod AHPF Cymru yw sicrhau bod AHPs yn cael eu cydnabod fel partner credadwy, strategol wrth gynllunio, rheoli a darparu iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol yng Nghymru.

Cynhelir cyfarfodydd reolaidd o'r Bwrdd yng Nghymru a rydym yn cyfrannu at y gwaith sy'n mynd rhagddo ledled y Deyrnas Unedig fel rhan o Fwrdd AHPF (mae Caroline, ein Cadeirydd yn mynychu hwn). Defnyddiwn ein Bwrdd yng Nghymru i wneud penderfyniadau am y mathau o ymgyrchoedd a gynhaliwn a pha faterion cyffredinol ar gyfer AHPs y gallwn fynd i'r afael â nhw. Gofynnir i chi gysylltu â chynrychiolydd eich corff proffesiynol os oes gennych fater penodol y credwch dylid ei godi.

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Sut ydw i'n darganfod mwy?

Mae gennym wefan ac yn postio'n rheolaidd ar Instagram a LinkedIn. Bydd eich corff proffesiynol hefyd yn gallu rhoi diweddariadau rheolaidd i chi a dylech gysylltu â nhw am ein gwaith, yn y lle cyntaf. Gallwch ddod o hyd i'w manylion cyswllt isod.

Cymdeithas Orthopteg Prydain ac Iwerddon	Craig Murray chair@orthoptics.org.uk
Cymdeithas Therapyddion Drama Prydain	Martin Cope MartinCope@badth.org.uk
Cymdeithas Prydain ar gyfer Therapi Cerdd	Greg Hanford greg.hanford@wales.nhs.uk
Cymdeithas Prosthetyddion ac Orthotyddion Prydain	Dave Gamble dave.gamble@bapo.com
Cymdeithas Deieteg Prydain	Fergus Turtle f.turtle@bda.uk.com
Cymdeithas Seicolegol Prydain	Manel Tippett manel.tippett@bps.org.uk
Cymdeithas Siartredig Ffisiotherapi	Calum Higgins higginsc@csp.org.uk
Coleg y Parafeddygon	Tom Taylor tom.taylor@collegeofparamedics.co.uk
Coleg Brenhinol y Therapyddion Galwedigaethol	Paul Smith paul.smith@rcot.co.uk
Y Coleg Brenhinol Podiatreg	Tess Saunders Tess.Saunders@rcpod.org.uk
Coleg Brenhinol y Therapyddion Iaith a Lleferydd	Caroline Walters caroline.walters@rcslt.org
Cymdeithas y Radiograffwyr	Caroline Hurley carolineh@sor.org
Cymdeithas Therapyddion Celf Prydain	Sarah Challenger sarah.challenger@baat.org
Y Sefydliad Osteopathi	Alison Robinson Canham alison@iosteopathy.org