



RESEARCH & EVALUATION Strategy 2021-25

Fast Track Cardiff & Vale is built on solid foundations of an alliance of non-governmental organisations, engaged health services, and local authorities with the aim of improving the response to HIV. This alliance provides a strong and connected platform to make a difference across our communities in South Wales, with the aim of eventually broadening its work to the whole of Wales. A key underpinning focus for all of these ambitions has always been on engaging the communities we work with, and collecting and understanding data to drive innovation and improvements in services

The overall aim of our Research & Evaluation Strategy is to contribute to the creation of a learning system which makes the **use of local relevant data a core value**, linked to **international evidence** to deliver a pathway towards the Paris Declaration¹ goals for 2030. A key focus of this work will be to ensure that **we reduce inequality** and ensure that people living with HIV are supported to achieve the Wellbeing of Wales goals enshrined in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (2015).

Our three areas of work will focus on:

- **Data:** mapping all existing data and make sure it is put to use in the most effective way. We will also direct the collection of new data and develop our understanding of attitudes and issues relating to data capture across organisations.
- **Testing:** Key to ensuring earlier diagnosis is to maximise testing. We will aim to evaluate new and emerging approaches to sampling and testing, and ensure that evidence from elsewhere informs local innovation. Use of new digital technologies to improve engagement and participation will be considered.
- **Stigma:** We will review the international evidence for effective interventions and assess feasibility for implementation in Cardiff & Vale and Wales. We will develop and deliver approaches to reduce stigma, including self-stigma, in high prevalence populations and among the general public. A key area of work will be addressing prejudice among health professionals, particularly a reluctance to start conversations about HIV.

All local innovations will be provided with an evaluation framework so that we can have rapid learning and evidence to discuss with all partner organisation and policy makers.

¹PARIS DECLARATION 1 December 2014 (amended 20 November 2019) FAST-TRACK CITIES: ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC

Cities and Municipalities Achieving Zero Stigma and the 90-90-90 Targets on a Trajectory towards Getting to Zero New HIV Infections and Zero AIDS-Related Deaths