

# Diabetic Eye Screening Wales

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24<sup>th</sup> September 2021



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

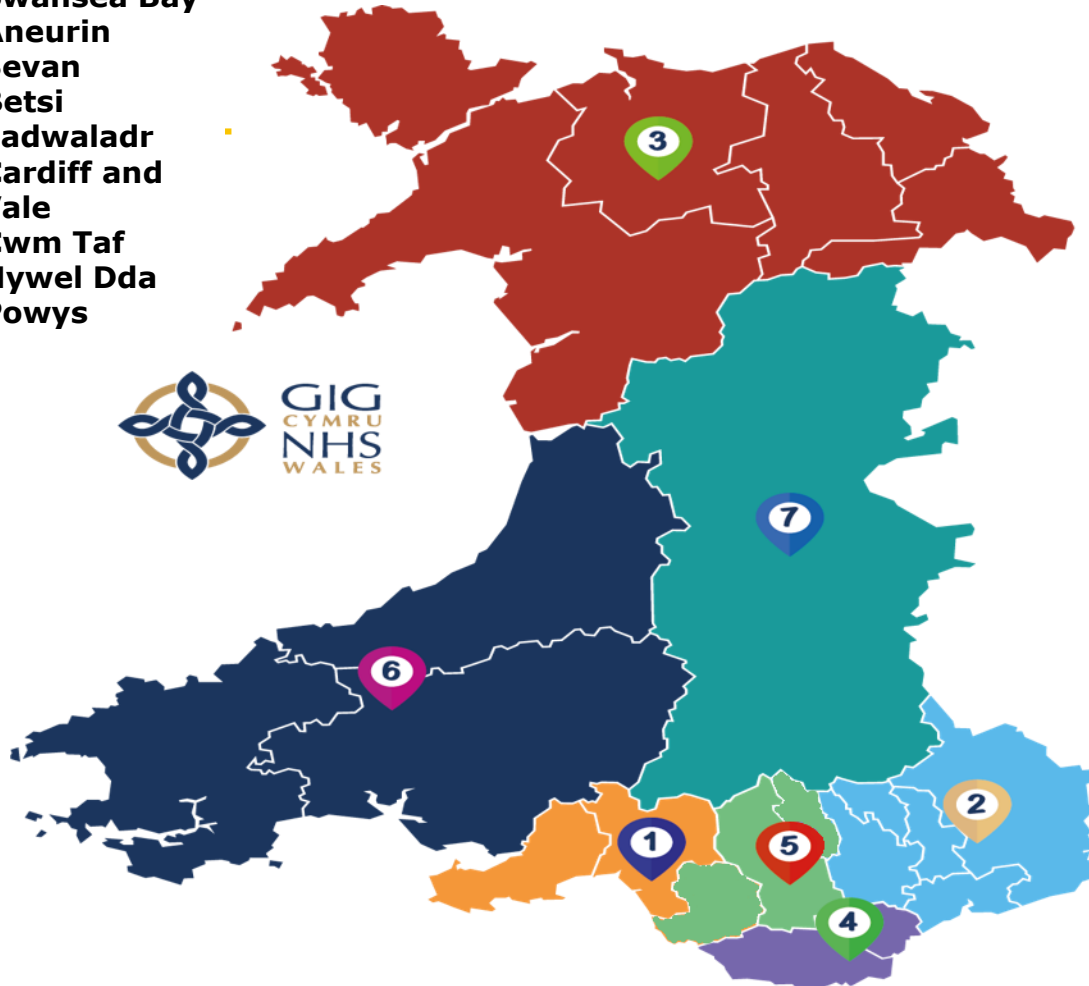


**Sgrinio Llygaid Diabetig Cymru**  
**Diabetic Eye Screening Wales**

# Wales Context

## Key :

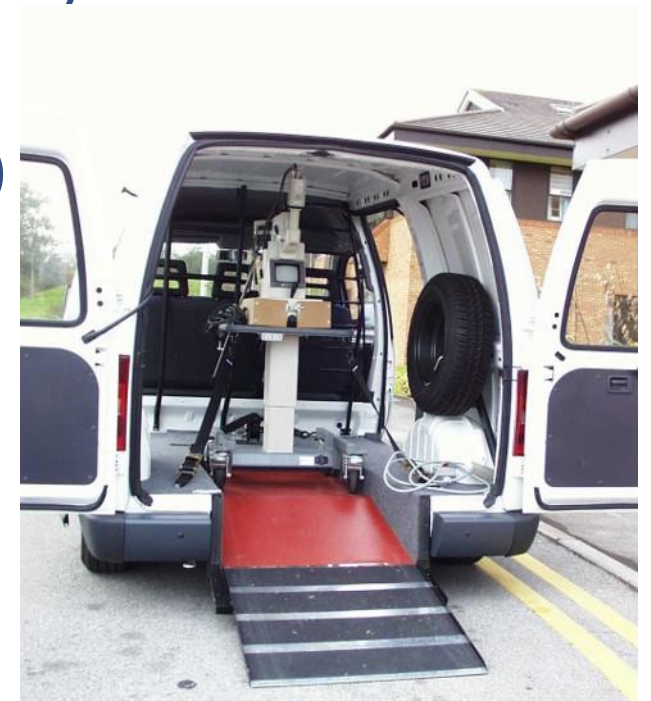
1. Swansea Bay
2. Aneurin Bevan
3. Betsi Cadwaladr
4. Cardiff and Vale
5. Cwm Taf
6. Hywel Dda
7. Powys



- Policy direction from Wales Screening Committee (informed by UKNSC)
- DESW service delivered directly by Public Health Wales (PHW)
- Most NHS services commissioned and delivered through 7 Local Health Boards
- National population: 3.17m
- 200k (6.3%) have diabetes. Predicted to rise to 10% by 2030

# DESW Service Scope and Model

- Service established in 2002, full national coverage by 2004
- Now serve eligible population of approx. 183,500
- Digital retinal photography only (no slit lamp/OCT)
- Employs 120 staff
- Delivery model largely unchanged since 2004
- Delivery of all DR screening across Wales
  - Centralised call/recall function
  - Face to face screening clinics across Wales
  - Centralised Grading function
- Clinic delivery mainly through LHB venues in areas across Wales on foc basis, 6 fixed venues



## Challenge and Change (2019)

- Demand for screening exceeds DESW's capacity to deliver it
- 4-5% annual growth
- Outdated IT systems and Software
- Reduced availability of screening venues due to LHB change programmes
- Rurality
- Historic custom & practice impacting service delivery
- Participant expectations & behaviours changing
- Government expectations dependant on agenda



## Expectation vs. Reality (2020)

- Finish service restructure
- Upgrade software
- Deliver planned QA improvements
- Develop & commence transformation programme
- Service pause Mar – Sept 2020
- Risk stratified restart
- New Covid-secure processes
- Extremely fragile delivery
- Huge capacity drop (23% at restart)



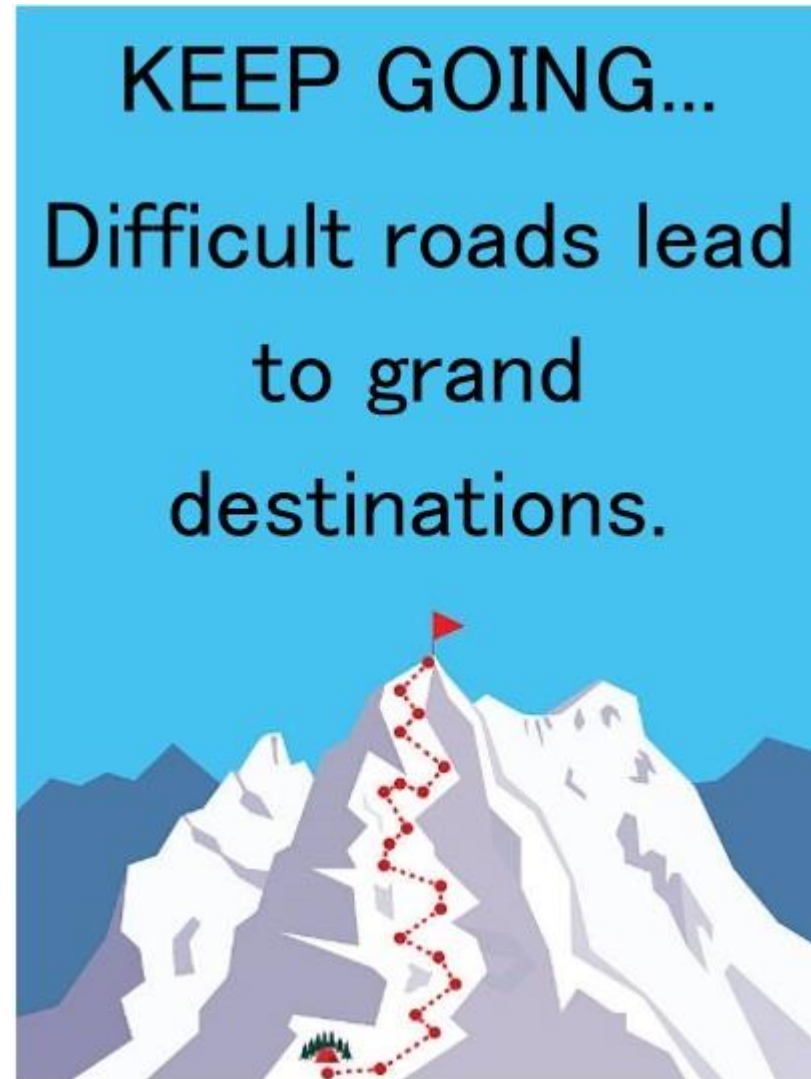
## Challenge and Change (2021)

- Venues reduced by 65% (from 137 to 48 across Wales)
- Service capacity @ 37% of pre Covid levels; variable geographic provision
- Workforce fragility
- Manual processes
- Enabling services disrupted
- Participant expectation
- Extended round length
- Expected new registration surge



## Achievements

- ✓ Kept going! No clinics cancelled until July 21
- ✓ Maintained focus on identifying STDR:
  - ✓ ave. routine DR ref. pm = 324 (335 pre-Covid)
  - ✓ ave. urgent DR ref. pm = 62 (47 pre-Covid)
- ✓ Software upgrade completed
- ✓ Trial Open vs Closed booking
- ✓ Website refreshed
- ✓ New participant letters & leaflets
- ✓ Non clinical sites secured for clinics
- ✓ SOP review/refresh





## Next Steps

- Stabilising the current service (++ staff, working pattern changes)
- Further upgrade of IT systems (clinical system, wider interfaces)
- Introduction of Risk Based Interval Screening
- Exploring new technology (longer term)
- Review of screening venues (Securing long term premises leases)
- Backlog management £ bid outcome
- Improving service delivery to meet expectations (new challenges)





# Any Questions?

**Cydweithio, gydag  
ymddiriedaeth a pharch,  
i wneud gwahaniaeth**



**Working together,  
with trust and respect,  
to make a difference**

