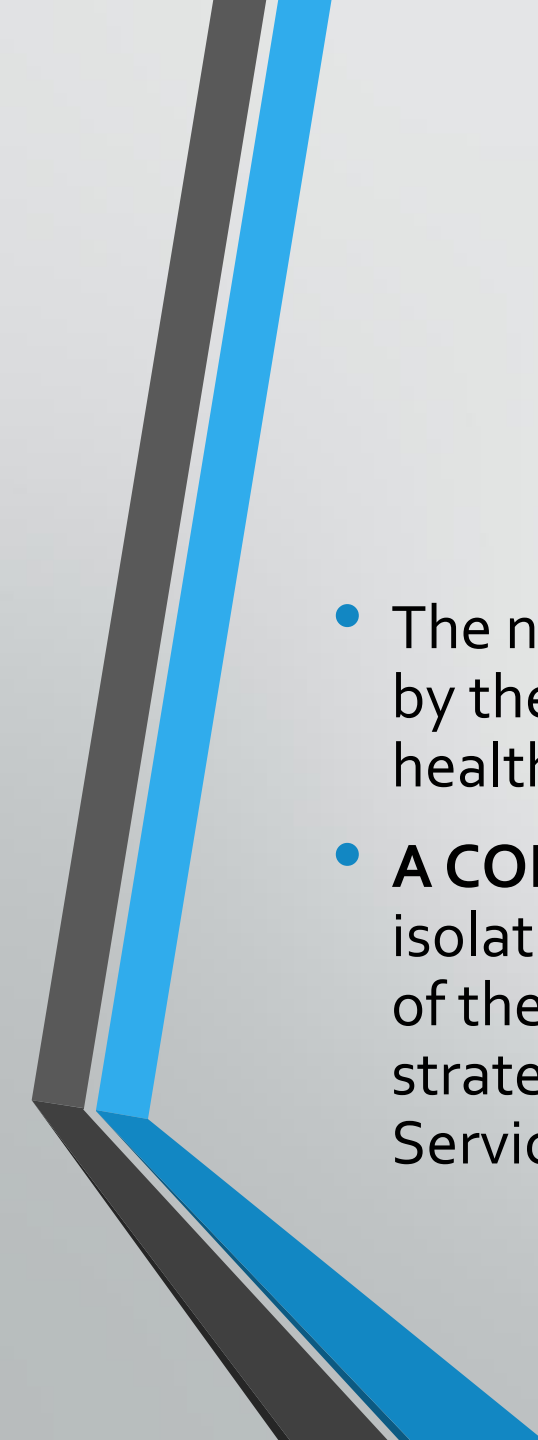
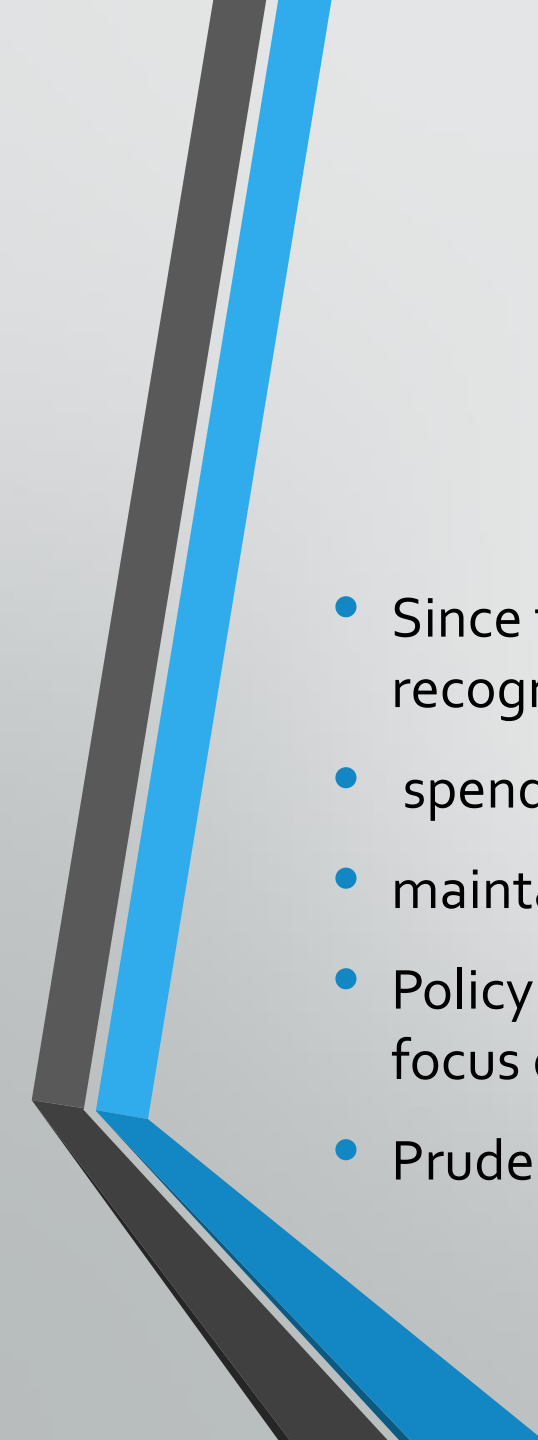


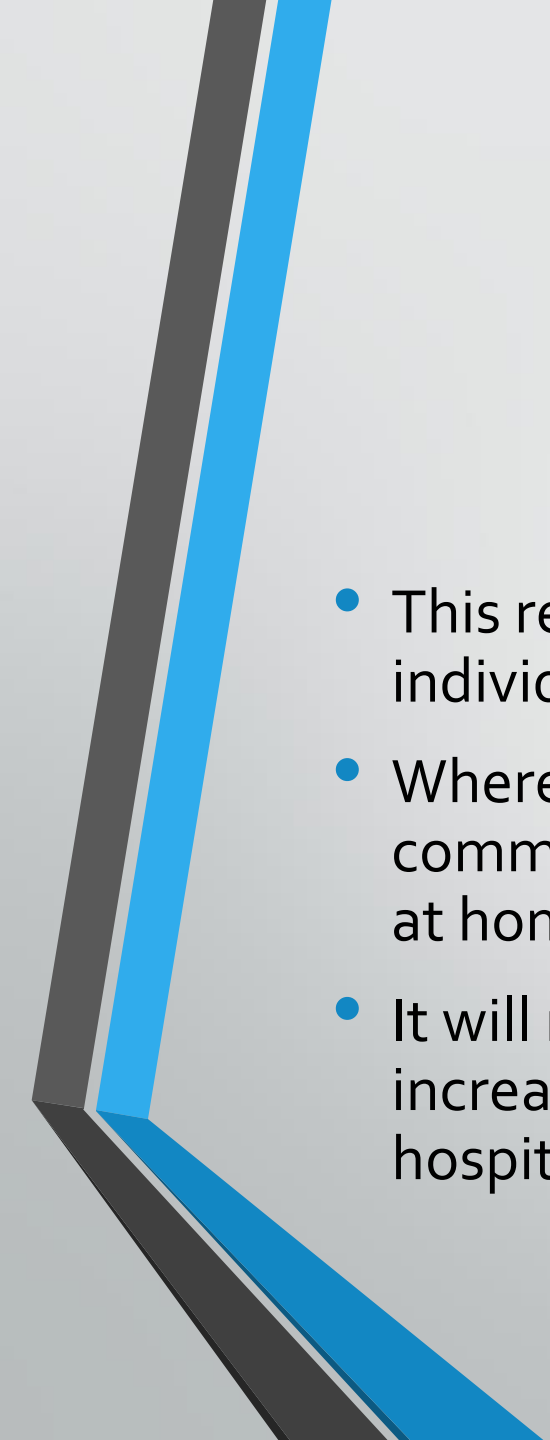


Community Nursing

Welsh Assembly Government Community Nursing Strategy
for Wales 2009

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- The nursing workforce is the largest group of health professionals employed by the NHS and consideration of its role is essential to the success of any health service strategy or delivery plan.
 - **A COMMUNITY NURSING STRATEGY FOR WALES** does not stand in isolation and has been written in the context of the current reconfiguration of the NHS and current and emerging Welsh Assembly Government strategies and policies including the developing Primary and Community Services Strategic Delivery Programme (WG 2009)

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- Since the publication of the Wanless Report in Wales in 2003 there has been public recognition of the need to refocus our health service. This will be achieved by:
 - spending to preventing ill health and
 - maintaining good health.
 - Policy and practice are already signalling a move to a primary care led NHS with a focus on services in the community
 - Prudent healthcare agenda

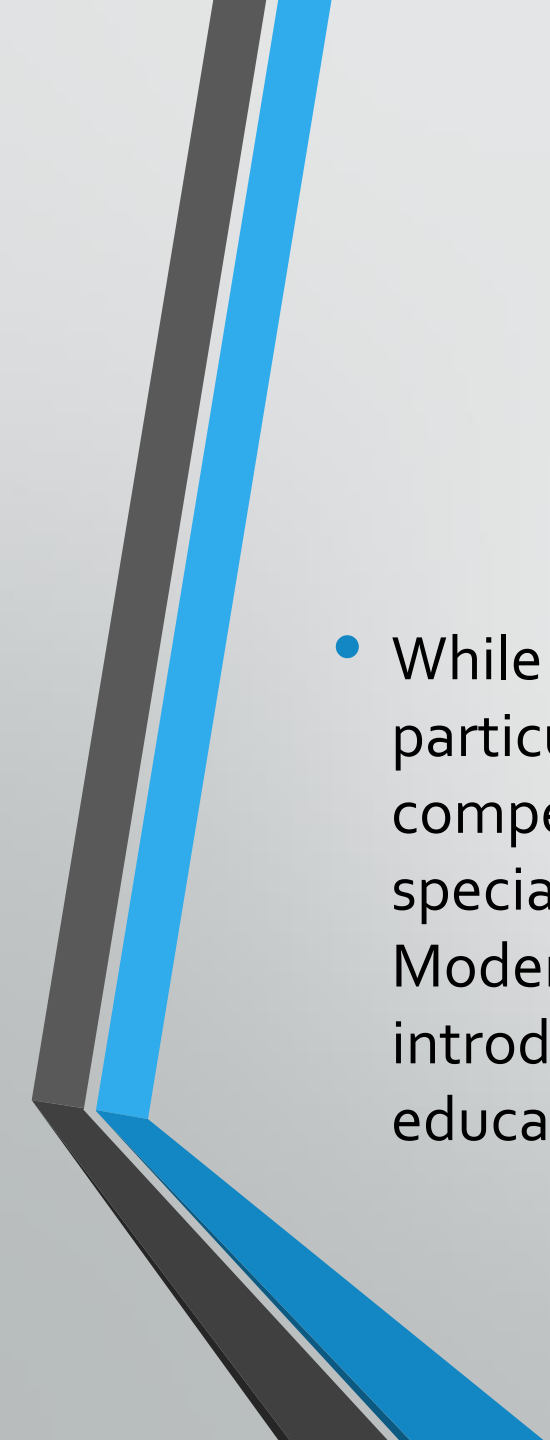
- 
- This refocusing will strengthen community services to support the care of individuals in, or close to, their own homes.
 - Where appropriate, secondary care services will be transferred to the community and patients with ongoing complex care needs will be cared for at home.
 - It will rely on the enhancement of self and supported care as part of increasing public health and well-being and the avoidance of unnecessary hospital admissions.

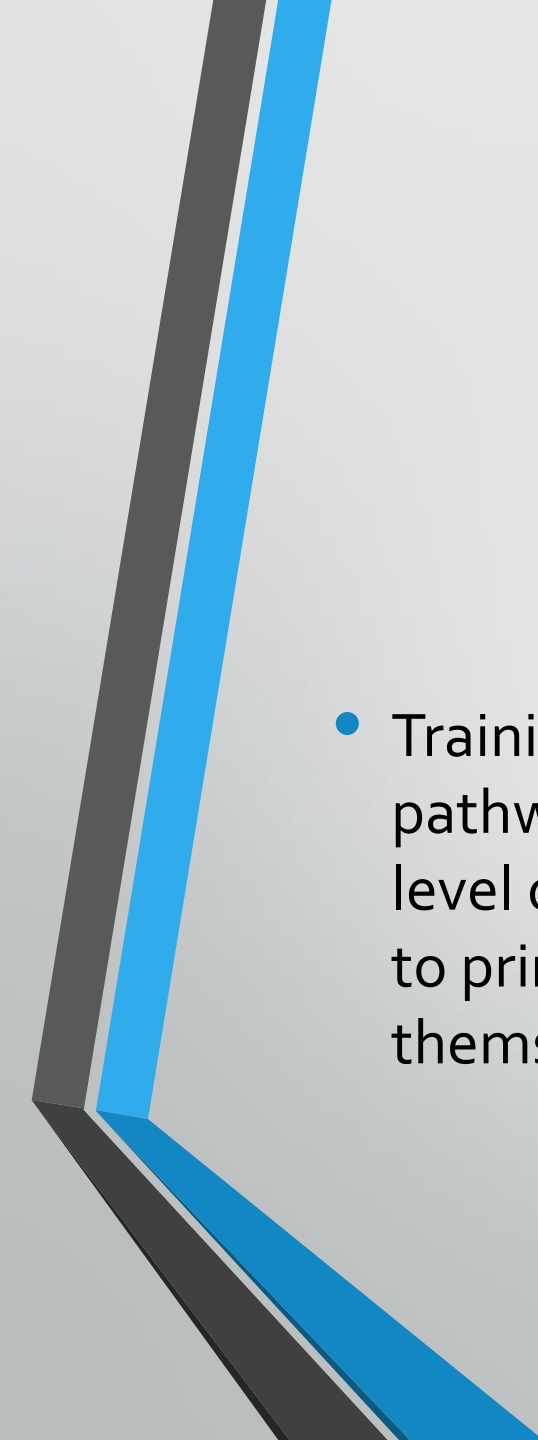
Main aims are:

- Improving the environment of care
- Ensuring a high quality service for all
- Encouraging independent and reflective practice
- Developing existing and new career pathways
- Demonstrating the value of nurses, midwives and specialist community public health nurses (SCPHN)

The Vision for Community Nursing

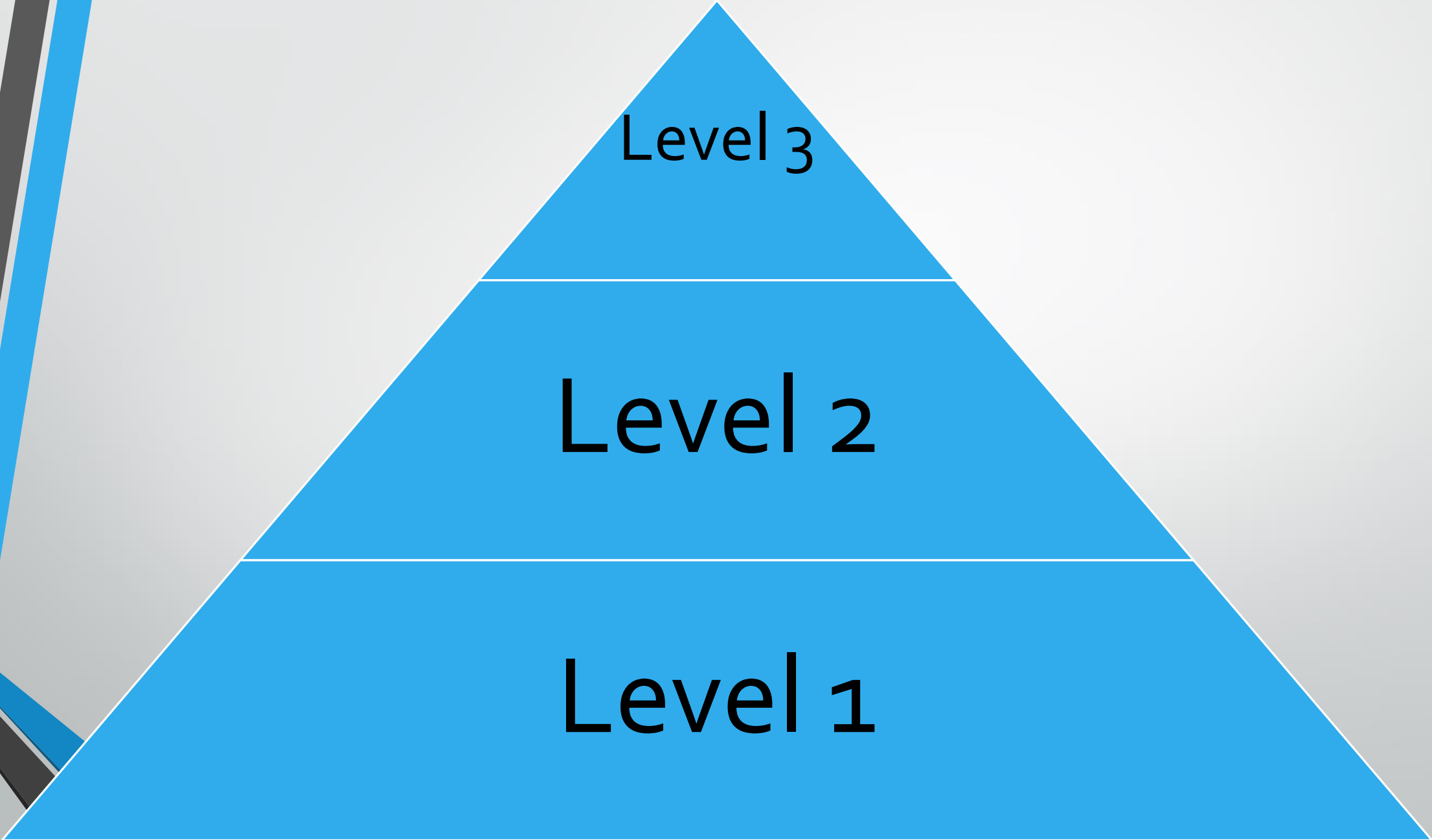
- Successful community nursing will require:
- A new model centred on the development of Local Community Nursing Teams
- These will comprise knowledgeable and competent practitioners across a range of specialties and grades, working together to deliver the care for the community in which they work,
- Building partnerships across statutory, voluntary and independent sectors, for example, with healthcare and social care staff employed by independent practitioners, those engaged in occupational healthcare in local industry, school health, personal social services and social justice and regeneration.

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- While each team will be unique to the health and social care needs of their particular community they will all however, encompass core professional competencies required to deliver care in the community and degrees of specialist skills across the range of the nursing professions as appropriate. Modernisation of the workforce is likely to require the development and introduction of new roles, new ways of working and new ways of delivering education and training.



Training and Development

- Training and development for community nursing will span the career pathway from novice to expert, enabling newly qualified staff to work to the level of their ability as well as enabling the migration of staff from secondary to primary care, under the direction of a highly experienced team leader, themselves working towards Consultant level.

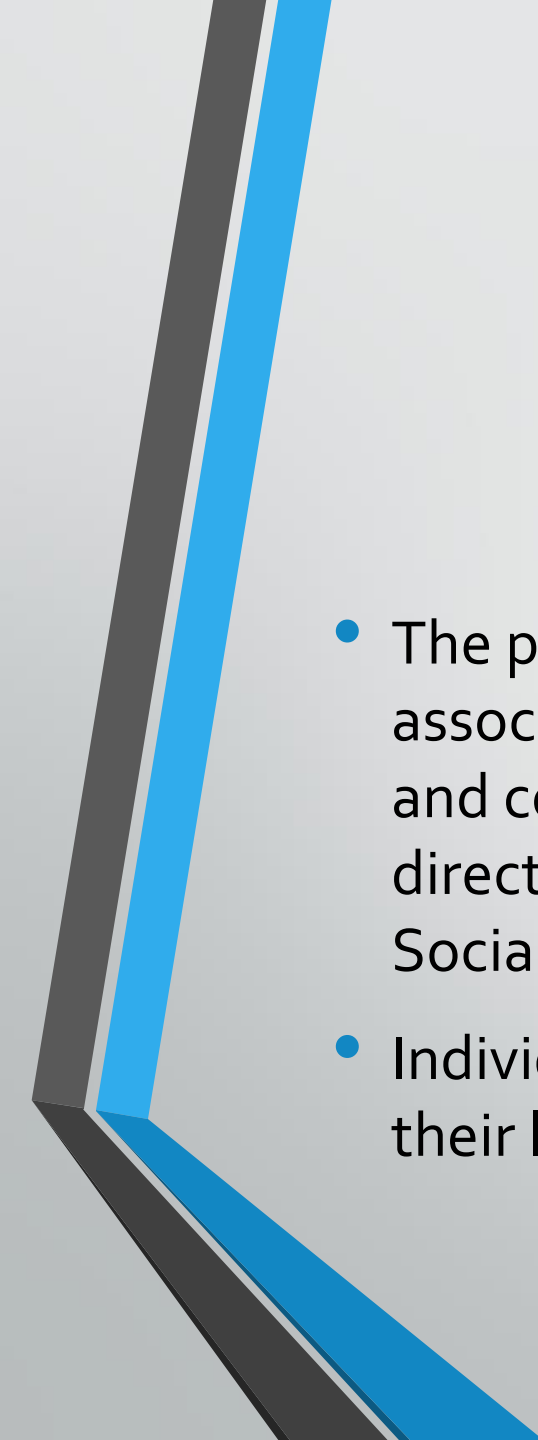


Level 3

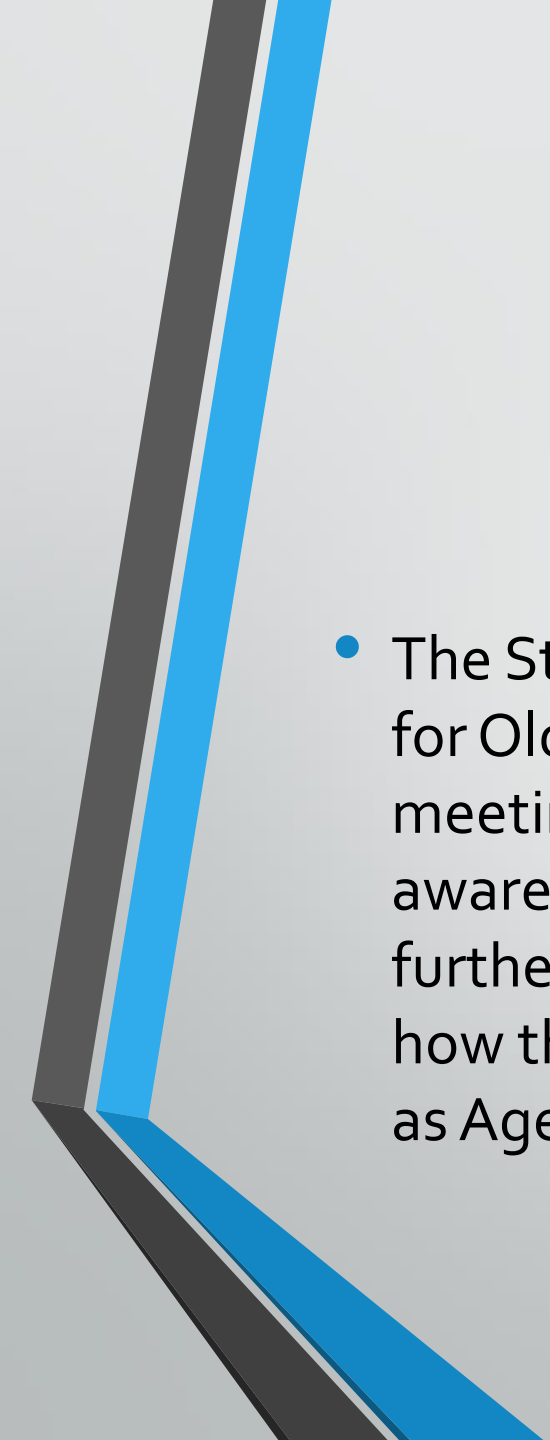
Level 2

Level 1

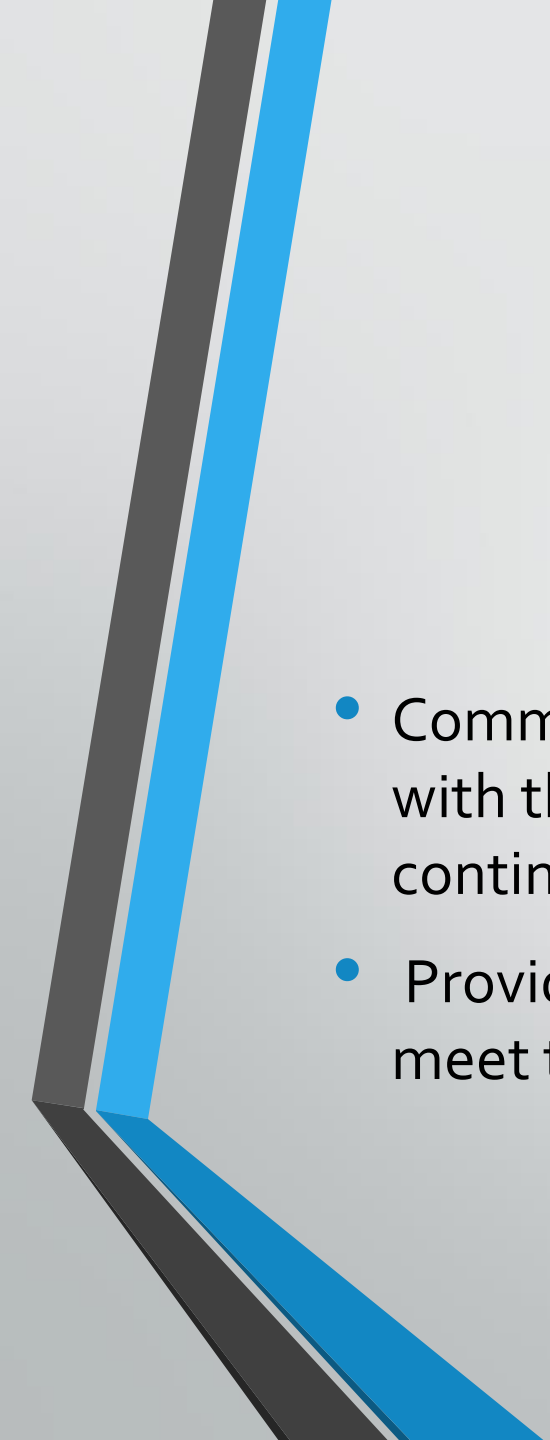
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- Level One - predominantly relates to ill health prevention in primary care and health promotion
 - Level Two – the patient and nurse participating in active healthcare
 - Level Three - medium and high risk management
 - It is important to stress that the diagram is represented as a pyramid because as the complexity of patient need increases the numbers of patients requiring that level of care typically diminishes.

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- The provision of the right care in the right place at the right time, and the associated risks of such provision, set within the wider context of the social and community settings of everyday life, are an integral part of the strategic direction of Wales and the local responses identified within the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Strategies.
 - Individuals need the skills and support to manage their conditions within their local communities.

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- Integral to this are health improvement interventions, early identification and appropriate treatment and support.
 - These require a strong infrastructure to promote healthy lifestyles across communities to include the promotion of healthy eating, exercise, smoking cessation, weight management, moderate drinking, social inclusion and a healthy environment including work places and homes.

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- The Strategy for Older People in Wales and the National Service Framework for Older People clearly outline the rights of the older person in relation to meeting their full potential and preventing harm. There is also a growing awareness that older people are vulnerable to abuse and building on this further, the Dignity and Respect in Care Programme¹⁴ responds to gaps in how the elderly are treated based on concerns raised by organizations such as Age Concern and Help the Aged (WAG 2003)

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- Community nursing has a long tradition of providing expert care to individuals, families and communities in their homes, workplaces, schools and GP surgeries.
 - Everyone will at some time during their life receive care from a community nurse particularly through services that help people stay healthy through surveillance and prevention initiatives.

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- Community children's nurses (CCN) care for children with complex needs with the aim of reducing admissions into hospital and ensuring parents can continue to care for their child and the rest of their family at home.
 - Provide a skilled nursing resource and assess, plan and implement care to meet the needs of the child, young person and their family holistically.



Current practice includes:-

- Providing care in all settings in the community
- Enhancing the quality of life
- Providing health promotion for the whole family
- Empowering parents and increasing their confidence in caring for their child at home

District nurses

- Play a critical role in primary care as they visit people in their own homes providing care for patients and supporting family members.
- Current practice includes:
- Health education and health promotion advice such as continence and smoking cessation
- Vaccinations and the provision of information
- Participation in immunisation programmes for older people
- Encouraging people to participate in regular screening programmes.
- Involvement with local older peoples forums providing support and information
- Proactive health surveillance and wellness programmes

Occupational Health nurses

- provide specialist advice relating to the promotion of health at work and protecting the health of the employees from risk.
- Current practice includes:
 - Pre employment health assessment and interviews
 - Providing an effective health screening programme to include audiometry, lung function and vision
 - Health education and surveillance
 - Planned education programmes such as smoking cessation

Practice nurses

- Have a key role to play in primary prevention and health promotion.
- Current practice includes:-
 - Participating in vaccination programmes
 - Involvement in national screening programmes
 - Raising awareness and signposting to smoking cessation and the
 - National Exercise Referral Scheme
 - Involvement in sexual health programmes particularly in raising
 - Chlamydia awareness
 - Participation in family planning clinics
 - Participation in healthy hearts' initiatives and exercise advice

References

- Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Community Nursing Strategy for Wales. Welsh Assembly Government: Cardiff
- Welsh Assembly Government (2003) *The Strategy for Older People in Wales 2008-2013*. Welsh Assembly Government: Cardiff

