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Obesity Alliance Cymru: Response to the publication of the Welsh Government's Healthy Weight Healthy Wales 2025 – 2027 delivery plan.

Wales is facing a growing obesity crisis, which translates to rising diet-related ill-health and chronic disease in Wales.

More than 60% of adults are living with overweight or obesity in Wales, and this year's Child Measurement Programme ¹ shows that almost a quarter of reception age children in Welsh schools are too.

In light of this significant challenge, the OAC welcomes the launch of the Welsh Government's new delivery plan for the Healthy Weight Healthy Wales strategy.

If properly funded, implemented and monitored, the plan will help people in communities across the whole of Wales live longer and stay well.

Co-chair of the OAC, Simon Scheeres said: "We are pleased to see that the plan adopts an equitable approach to tackling obesity and highlights the importance of eliminating health inequalities, with a firm focus on children, parents and early years. It is also great to see support for the continued delivery of Welsh NHS programmes like the All-Wales Diabetes Prevention Programme.

"We welcome the commitment to exploring opportunities within the retail sector, which evidence shows influences so many of our unhealthy diets, to create healthier and more affordable environments that can make a real difference to the lives of people in Wales."

¹ Child Measurement Programme - Public Health Wales

Co-chair of the OAC, Bethan Edwards, added: "It is, however, absolutely vital that the actions in this plan are put into practice and we look forward to hearing more detail on how this plan will be delivered in the months ahead.

"In this vein, we welcome the new evaluation and monitoring mechanisms that accompany this plan, which the OAC will be part of, and are encouraged by the increased opportunity for transparency and accountability as this living document is delivered."

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