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Am unrhyw ymholiad yn ymwneud â'r agenda hwn cysylltwch â Julie Lloyd  
(Rhif Ffôn: 01443 864245 E-bost: [barrerm@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:barrerm@caerphilly.gov.uk))

**Dyddiad: Dydd Gwener, 15 Gorffennaf 2022**

I bwy bynnag a fynno wybod,

Cynhelir cyfarfod aml-leoliad o'r **Pwyllgor Craffu Partneriaethau** yn Nhŷ Penallta, a thrwy Microsoft Teams ar **Dydd Iau, 21ain Gorffennaf, 2022** am **5.30 pm** i ystyried materion a gynhwysir yn yr agenda canlynol. Gall cynghorwyr ac aelodau'r cyhoedd sy'n dymuno siarad ar unrhyw eitem wneud hynny drwy wneud cais i'r Cadeirydd. Mae hefyd croeso i chi ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn y cyfarfod, mae angen o leiaf 3 diwrnod gwaith o rybudd os byddwch chi'n dymuno gwneud y naill neu'r llall. Bydd gwasanaeth cyfieithu ar y pryd yn cael ei ddarparu ar gais.

Gall aelodau'r Cyhoedd neu'r Wasg fynychu'n bersonol yn Nhŷ Penallta neu gallant weld y cyfarfod yn fyw drwy'r ddolen ganlynol: live via the following link: <https://civico.net/caerphilly>

Bydd y cyfarfod hwn yn cael ei ffrydio'n fyw a bydd recordiad ar gael i'w weld drwy wefan y Cyngor, ac eithrio trafodaethau sy'n ymwneud ag eitemau cyfrinachol neu eithriedig. Felly, bydd delweddu/sain yr unigolion sy'n siarad ar gael yn gyhoeddus i bawb drwy wefan y Cyngor: [www.caerffili.gov.uk](http://www.caerffili.gov.uk)

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Harrhy'.

**Christina Harrhy**  
PRIF WEITHREDWR

## **A G E N D A**

Tudalennau

1 I dderbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb

**A greener place Man gwyrddach**



2 Datganiadau o Ddiddordeb.

Atgoffi'r Cyngorwyr a Swyddogion o'u cyfrifoldeb personol i ddatgan unrhyw fuddiannau personol a/neu niweidiol mewn perthynas ag unrhyw eitem o fusnes ar yr agenda hwn yn unol â Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000, Cyfansoddiad y Cyngor a'r Cod Ymddygiad ar gyfer Cyngorwyr a Swyddogion.

I gymeradwyo a llofnodi'r cofnodion canlynol:-

- 3 Pwyllgor Craffu Partneriaethau a gynhaliwyd ar 27 Ionawr 2022. 1 - 8
- 4 Rhaglen Waith Ymlaen y Pwyllgor Craffu Partneriaethau. 9 - 16

I dderbyn ac ystyried yr adroddiadau Craffu canlynol:-

- 5 Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Gwent - Diweddariad ar Ddadansoddi Ymatebion 17 - 80
- 6 Twf Swyddi a Chymorth Cyflogadwyedd (Cyflwyniad)
- 7 Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Caerffili - Adroddiad Blynyddol 2021-2022 81 - 126
- 8 Diweddariad ar Gynnydd - Cynllun Llesiant 2018-2023 "Y Gaerffili a Garem" (Hydref 2021 i Ebrill 2022) 127 - 222

**Cylchrediad:**

**Cyngorwyr** M.A. Adams, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, C.J. Cuss, G. Enright, D. Ingram-Jones, G. Johnston (Cadeirydd), C.P. Mann, B. Miles (Is Gadeirydd), A. McConnell, D.W.R. Preece, J. Reed, J. Taylor, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, L.G. Whittle a C. Wright

A Swyddogion Priodol

**SUT FYDDWN YN DEFNYDDIO EICH GWYBODAETH**

Bydd yr unigolion hynny sy'n mynychu cyfarfodydd pwyllgor i siarad/roi tystiolaeth yn cael eu henwi yng nghofnodion y cyfarfod hynny, weithiau bydd hyn yn cynnwys eu man gweithio neu fusnes a'r barnau a fynegir. Bydd cofnodion o'r cyfarfod gan gynnwys manylion y siaradwyr ar gael i'r cyhoedd ar wefan y Cyngor ar [www.caerffili.gov.uk](http://www.caerffili.gov.uk). ac eithrio am drafodaethau sy'n ymwneud ag eitemau cyfrinachol neu eithriedig.

Mae gennych nifer o hawliau mewn perthynas â'r wybodaeth, gan gynnwys yr hawl i gael mynediad at wybodaeth sydd gennym amdanoch a'r hawl i gwyno os ydych yn anhapus gyda'r modd y mae eich gwybodaeth yn cael ei brosesu. Am wybodaeth bellach ar sut rydym yn prosesu eich gwybodaeth a'ch hawliau, ewch i'r Hysbysiad Preifatrwydd Cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor Llawn ar ein gwefan <http://www.caerffili.gov.uk/Pwyllgor/Preifatrwydd> neu cysylltwch â Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol drwy e-bostio [griffd2@caerffili.gov.uk](mailto:griffd2@caerffili.gov.uk) neu ffoniwch 01443 863028.



## **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF THE DIGITAL MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 2022 AT 5.30 P.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

Councillor G. Kirby - Chair  
Councillor B. Miles - Vice-Chair

#### **Councillors:**

M.A. Adams, C.J. Cuss, L. Harding, G. Johnston, C.P. Mann, R. Saralis, J. Taylor, L.G. Whittle

#### **Together with:**

K. Peters (Corporate Policy Manager) P. Cooke (Senior Policy Officer), S. Mutch (Early Years Manager), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager), R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer), J. Thomas (Committee Services Officer)

P. Diamond and N. Harris (Gwent Regional Partnership Board)

Outside Body Representative: A. Hussey (South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority)

#### **RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Chair reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed and would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#). It was noted that voting on decisions would take place via Microsoft Forms.

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, Mrs C. Forehead, Mrs E. Forehead, S. Morgan, Mrs M.E. Sargent and G. Simmonds, together with L. Jones (Co-opted Member).

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

### **3. MINUTES – 15TH JULY 2021**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2021 be approved as a correct record and by way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 8 for, 0 against and 2 abstentions) this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held on 15th July 2021 (minute nos. 1 – 7) be approved as a correct record.

Councillors G. Johnston and R. Saralis confirmed that they had abstained from voting on the minutes as they had not been present at the last meeting.

### **4. PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

Cath Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager) presented the report, which outlined details of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme (FWP) for the period January 2022 to July 2022. Members were asked to consider the FWP and suggest any changes prior to publication on the Council's website.

The Scrutiny Committee noted the details of reports scheduled for forthcoming meetings and Officers sought approval for an additional report (Job Growth and Employability Support – Action Area 2) to be added to the Forward Work Programme for the meeting scheduled for 21st July 2022.

It was moved and seconded that subject to the inclusion of the aforementioned report, the report recommendation be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 10 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions) this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that subject to the inclusion of an additional report for the meeting on 21st July 2022 (Job Growth and Employability Support – Action Area 2b), the Forward Work Programme as appended to the meeting papers be published on the Council's website.

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Consideration was given to the following reports.

### **5. BEST START IN LIFE**

Sarah Mutch (Early Years Manager) delivered a Powerpoint presentation which outlined the progress to date and future development planned for the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme under Wellbeing Objective 1 (Best Start in Life).

The Scrutiny Committee were advised that the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme has undertaken a Whole Systems Approach to develop joined-up and responsive Early Years' services to ensure every child has the best start in life. The Programme places children at the centre of excellent, integrated services that put their needs first, regardless of traditional organisational and professional structures. The Programme is borough-wide and encompasses children from antenatal age to 7 years old.

The purpose and principles of the Early Years integration Transformation Programme have been agreed at the Gwent Early Years Steering Group which has membership from all five local authorities, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Public Health Wales. While

the Steering Group makes regional recommendations, the Gwent Public Service Board have overarching governance.

The Programme was initially piloted in the New Tredegar area and implemented a model which was developed using Vanguard Systems Thinking, which was based on family needs and supporting families to address their needs using consistent key workers in a core multiagency team. This Systems Thinking work also challenged commissioners to think differently on services commissioned within Early Years to improve integration and remove artificial funding boundaries within the scope of the project. This created a new jointly funded borough-wide early years model for early intervention support for families who need support from April 2021. The Programme also underpins the aims, principles and values of the Midwifery and Early Years system to work alongside all families to ensure their child has the best start in life, taking into account what matters to them, accessing support if and when needed, and to create a sustainable integrated model to meet families' needs at the right time in the right place by the right person.

Members were provided with an overview of the Caerphilly Early Years system, changing practices, current challenges (including workforce capacity, electronic sharing of regards, communication in teams and shared language, and Covid-19 impacts), data from the New Tredegar pilot and wider early intervention, next steps, and feedback from families on the Transformation Programme. It was noted that a new single point of contact and request for support aims to make the system simpler for families. There is ongoing work around the Early Years website to make it a useful tool for families, who can access the information as well as the support they need when they need it, and this is planned for launch in Spring 2022. The initial data from the pilot shows increased understanding of family needs, as well as the services to support families, and the feedback from families has been very positive. However, there continues to be a number of areas requiring development in order to continue the journey towards integration of the Early Years service teams by 2024.

The Scrutiny Committee expressed their thanks to Mrs Mutch for the insightful presentation and the breadth of the positive work that has been achieved by the Early Years Team.

A Member made reference to Section 2.4 and digital access to Early Years support, and asked how this can be achieved if a family do not have access to a computer. Mrs Mutch explained that the new Programme places an emphasis on being able to access digital support through smartphones to enable the support to be digitally inclusive as possible, and that the Early Years Service are able to offer solutions such as the loaning of tablets or Chromebooks to families in certain circumstances. It was also explained that the single point of contact that has been launched aims to streamline services, and will allow staff across the Early Years Team to work in a more flexible way whilst allowing the telephone number to be continually manned across the working day.

A Member asked if there had been any extra staffing pressures placed on Caerphilly Early Years as a result of the collaborative working across the Programme with Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Monmouthshire and Torfaen. Mrs Mutch explained that a need for extra resources had been identified and subsequently achieved through the appointment of several new Early Years support workers. Members were advised that there had been some difficulties around recruitment with a gap in the market for family workers with suitable training in parenting programmes; however staff have now been recruited who will receive on the job training in delivering the parenting programme.

A query was received on when the measurable outcomes of the Transformation Programme would become evident. Mrs Mutch explained that a logic model is being utilised to develop the outcomes framework and the data needed to measure impact. This will include examining dataset population level indicators, looking at whether the right support is in place and how many people have access to this support. It was explained that

the Early Years service are seeing an increase in children with language and developmental delays due to a lack of interaction with others during the pandemic, and so it is expected that demand will increase over the next two years and so the Early Years service will need to make sure there is a sufficient workforce to meet this demand. Therefore it is vital that the data is in place to develop the necessary outcomes moving forward.

A Member enquired as to how the Early Years Team are able to engage with those people who are extremely vulnerable or non-receptive to offers of support. Mrs Mutch gave examples of how the mobile creche team have moved into Early Years support worker roles and built relationships with mothers in need in order to establish trust. Other avenues include the work being carried out by language workers and a network of embedded family workers, promotion of the Early Years service through word of mouth, and partnership working with organisations such as the Parent Network. The Member also expressed concerns around barriers where children may be at risk, and Mrs Mutch explained that such issues are often known at a community level and that trust-building with parents/guardians and identifying those children not present in school are vital approaches towards breaking down these barriers.

A Member asked about the support available to families who may be facing eviction. Mrs Mutch explained that the Team has links with Caerphilly Cares, the Housing Team, and support networks including Pobl, who work with the family in need to arrange a solution.

Having considered the report and commented on the planned priorities towards full implementation by 2024/25, the Scrutiny Committee noted the progress made to date on the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme under Wellbeing Objective 1 (Best Start in Life).

## **6. REGIONAL ASSESSMENT OF WELL-BEING INCLUDING LOCAL COMMUNITY AREA ASSESSMENTS**

Kath Peters (Corporate Policy Manager) and Paul Cooke (Senior Policy Officer) presented the report, which introduced to Members the consultation draft of the assessment of well-being (the Well-Being Assessment) in line with statutory timelines, the local Community Area Assessments being undertaken on the five community planning areas in the county borough, and outlined the consultation process and next steps for the draft Well-Being Assessment and future development of the Well-Being Plan for Gwent (2023-2028).

It was noted that this report was linked to the following agenda item being presented by the Gwent Regional Partnership Board (Social Services and Well-being Act Population Needs Assessment – Presentation) and that questions would be taken once both agenda items had been presented.

The report outlined the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 statutory guidance 'Shared Purpose – Shared Future' which sets out a requirement for each Public Services Board (PSB) to prepare and publish an assessment of the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area no later than a year before it publishes its local well-being plan. This means that the first Gwent Well-Being Assessment must be published by 5th May 2022. The timeline of the Assessment and plan is linked to local government elections.

The Well-being Assessment is being developed on a regional basis for the first time. However, local Community Area Assessments are being undertaken in communities across Gwent. For the county borough these communities are the five community planning areas: Rhymney, Mid Valleys West, Mid Valleys East, Islwyn, and Caerphilly Basin.

Members noted that the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are a statutory consultee under Section 38 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. A link to the draft Well-being Assessment was appended to the Officer's report, together with the Executive Summary and Assessment Timeline. It was noted that the Community Area Assessments were currently being drafted, with the Upper Rhymney Valley Assessment attached to the report to provide an insight to Members of the content. The four remaining Assessments were scheduled for completion by the end of January 2022 and would be circulated electronically to Scrutiny Committee Members for comment following the meeting.

Paul Cooke (Senior Policy Officer) then delivered a Powerpoint presentation which outlined the key findings and data around the draft Gwent Well-being Assessment. The Scrutiny Committee were advised that the Assessment provides an overview of all aspects of Well-being on a Gwent basis for the first time, and covers 5 very different local authority areas with different strengths and experiences. This piece of work will help understand differences in communities and help to work collaboratively on issues affecting the whole region, and will highlight inequalities in our communities as well as opportunities.

The data from the Well-being Assessment outlines many advantages, including a diverse economy, a rich culture and heritage, strong communities and a distinct and iconic natural environment. Disadvantages include significant health, education, housing, income and employment inequalities, together with significant deprivation and declining biodiversity.

The Scrutiny Committee were provided with a detailed overview of each of the areas that underpin the Well-being Assessment, namely Social Well-being (Housing, Health, Community Safety, Education and Transport), Economic Well-being, Environmental Well-being and Cultural Well-being, with key points of note within these areas which are relevant across the communities within Caerphilly county borough. Members were also provided with a summary of the key challenges and opportunities identified by the Assessment, including an ageing population, resilience to a changing climate, the long-term impact of Covid-19 and leaving the EU, decarbonisation, and energy/food security. It was noted that all these considerations have the potential to widen inequalities across local communities.

The Scrutiny Committee noted details of the timetable rollout for the Well-being Assessment (November 2021 to May 2022) and the key activities at each stage of the rollout. Members were also provided with details of the next steps in the process, including a need for individual PSB members to take the draft assessment forward through the governance arrangements in their own local authority, prior to publication of the final version of the Gwent Well-being Assessment by 5th May 2022.

Mr Cooke then handed over to colleagues from the Gwent Regional Partnership Board to introduce the next item (Social Services and Well-being Act Population Needs Assessment)

## **7. SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING ACT POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT - PRESENTATION**

The Scrutiny Committee welcomed Phil Diamond and Natasha Harris (Gwent Regional Partnership Board) to the meeting.

Mr Diamond gave an overview of the collaborative work that had taken place on the Social Services and Well-being Act Population Needs Assessment and its links to national strategies and partnership working. Mr Diamond explained that both the Social Services and Well-being Act 2015 and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 have similar requirements in that they both require the preparation of a Population Needs Assessment, and he expressed his thanks to colleagues from Caerphilly Council's Policy

Team for the collaborative work that had been achieved in order to create and plan for these Assessments.

Mr Diamond acknowledged the breadth and range of the Regional Assessment of Well-being, and explained that when drafting the PNA for the Social Services and Well-being Act, rather than creating a document along similar lines, the Gwent Regional Partnership Board decided to focus on priorities which require partnership efforts across health, social care and looked after children. He explained that these areas create huge concerns for local health boards and also place pressures on local authorities in terms of the cost. Therefore the Gwent Regional Partnership Board have been examining how local authorities and health boards can work more effectively to address these challenges.

Mr Diamond gave a Powerpoint presentation which focused on three priority areas identified within the PNA, namely Children Looked After, Carers, and Dementia.

In terms of Children Looked After (CLA) the percentage still remains high across all Gwent local authority areas but there is a great deal of work ongoing to tackle this area. CLA face some of the most complex and challenging of circumstances amongst their peers and Welsh Government has prioritised support at a local and regional level through Integrated Care Funding guidance and legislation. Multi-agency partnership approaches under the RPB have been established such as MYST project and SPACE Wellbeing Panels. However, there have been large costs for emergency and out of county placements incurred across the region which has led to the development of capital projects in Gwent such as Windmill Farm, through ICF capital funding, where savings can be redistributed into preventative programmes.

In terms of carers, all local authority areas across the Gwent region are predicted to see an increase in the number of carers. The predicted increases range from 35.6% in Blaenau Gwent to 58.9% in Monmouthshire. In response to a Carers UK survey, 36% of carers said that their financial situation had worsened since the start of the pandemic. The largest issue for Welsh carers was that they did not know what services were available in their area, with 40% of carers reporting this as a barrier. 26% of carers described their physical health as bad or very bad and 34% of carers rated their mental health as bad or very bad. Online GP appointments was the most popular technology listed by carers, with 37% of carers stating that this made their caring role easier. 30% of working carers in Wales stated that if care services did not return, they would either need to reduce their working hours or give up work entirely. In response to these issues, the Gwent Regional Partnership Board is examining how health, social care and voluntary sector agencies can come together to support these carers and put suitable solutions in place, for example GP appointments, respite arrangements and use of the Young Carers scheme.

In terms of dementia, Mr Diamond highlighted the ageing population and the fact that people are living longer. Approximately 42,000 people are living with dementia in Wales, which is most common in older people, affecting 1 in 20 people over the age of 65 and 1 in 5 over the age of 80. It is predicted that 1 million people in the UK will have dementia by 2025. Across all local authority areas in the Gwent region, an increase in the number of people living with dementia is predicted and range from 62.1% in Blaenau Gwent to 97.1% in Monmouthshire over the period 2013 to 2035. The Regional Partnership Board are working to support more timely diagnosis and are developing a consistent clearly understood diagnosis, care and support pathways.

Mr Diamond explained that he had not duplicated information within the PNA which is already contained in the Well-being Assessment, but if people require further information on the aforementioned areas, then they can be signposted to the Gwent Regional Partnership Board so that this can be provided to them.



In conclusion, Mr Diamond explained that the PNA will include an action plan to deliver the identified priorities and enable the Gwent Regional Partnership Board to work together with health boards and local authorities on joint priorities to deliver the maximum outcome for local residents. Members were advised that Council approval will be sought for the Population Needs Assessment (PNA) prior to its submission to Welsh Government, and therefore the Scrutiny Committee were asked to provide comments on the PNA ahead of its presentation to Council in March 2022.

Questions were then invited from the Scrutiny Committee on Agenda Items 6 and 7.

In response to a Member's query on Page 4 of the Upper Rhymney Valley Local Well-being Assessment, Mrs Peters provided clarification around Medium Super Output Areas (MSOAs) and Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), explaining that these are statistical geographic areas defined by Welsh Government which generate a range of data such as deprivation levels, and are used to identify where and/or what the worst issues are in a particular area of Wales.

A Member sought clarification on the reasons for the projected 97.1% increase in dementia across Monmouthshire over the period 2013 to 2035. Mr Diamond explained that this is because the average age range of Monmouthshire citizens is higher than other local authorities and is based on information around those people currently living with dementia and higher population clusters in the Abergavenny area which will have an impact on the predicted levels moving forward.

Clarification was sought on Page 44 of the Upper Rhymney Valley Local Well-being Assessment and the linkage between access to services and crime at Section 3.3 of the document. Mrs Peters confirmed that she would seek information from the Officers who drafted this Local Community Area Assessment and respond to the Member following the meeting. The Member also queried when the measurable outcomes from the Local Community Area Assessments would be realised. Mrs Peters explained that these outcomes are geared towards the long-term and these will only begin to become apparent at the end of the first 5 year period.

A Member expressed concerns around the deprivation figures contained within the Upper Rhymney Valley Local Well-being Assessment and asked how these will be tackled. Mrs Peters confirmed that planned actions will include a series of face to face community engagement sessions over the summer period, and that the action plan surrounding the Local Community Area Assessments will feed into other areas such as the Best Start in Life and Jobs Growth Wellbeing Objectives, and will be delivered with partners through local boundaries and local projects. The Member also asked if the forthcoming ward boundary changes would have an impact on the statistics within the Assessment in future years. Mrs Peters confirmed that these changes will not affect the LSOA data as this uses a different geography to that of ward boundaries.

A Member referred to the merging of services on a regional basis and asked if this was still a matter under consideration post-Covid. Mr Diamond acknowledged the impact of the pandemic in delaying progress around this collaborative approach, but explained that this is still very much a priority and that the PNA is particularly important in this regard as it places a key focus on the integration of key services and collaboration across many areas, including safeguarding, adult services, dementia support, reablement, hospital discharge services and community support.

Following discussion, and having provided comments on the Well-being Assessment and associated Local Community Area Assessments. the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee noted the contents of the report (as set out in Agenda Item 6) and the contents of Mr Diamond's presentation on the Social Services and Well-being Act Population Needs Assessment (as set out in Agenda Item 7).

Members also noted that the five local area assessments (once completed) would be circulated to them following the meeting to allow Members additional time to provide any comments by 15th February 2022.

The Chair thanked Mrs Peters, Mr Cooke and Mr Diamond for their detailed presentations and for responding to Members' queries.

## **8. CAERPHILLY PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021**

Mrs Kath Peters (Corporate Policy Manager) presented the report, which informed the Scrutiny Committee of the annual report of the residual Caerphilly Public Services Board (PSB) covering activity under the 'Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023' from October 2020 to September 2021. The Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are a statutory recipient of the report. The report was agreed virtually by the residual PSB in November 2020.

It was noted that the PSB's annual report runs for the time period October 2020 until September 2021. It reflects progress on the enablers and action areas under the current well-being plan over that 12-month period. It includes progress against the new pandemic recovery areas agreed by the PSB in early 2021; 'Caerphilly Cares', and 'Jobs Growth and Employability Support'.

The Caerphilly PSB agreed, at its dissolution, to act as a residual body and to continue to drive and monitor progress against the current well-being plan until it is superseded in May 2023 by the new Gwent well-being plan. Therefore Members were advised that this will be the last annual report prepared under the Caerphilly PSB but that 6-monthly updates will be provided to the Scrutiny Committee until January 2023.

A Member queried a reference at Page 15 of the report relating to well-paid employment opportunities around City Deal. Mrs Peters explained that City Deal is not under the remit of the Public Services Board and that colleagues within Regeneration would be best placed to respond to the Member. It was confirmed that the enquiry would be passed to the Council's Corporate Director for Economy and Environment following the meeting.

Following consideration of the report, the Scrutiny Committee noted the contents of the Caerphilly Public Services Board Annual Report and the progress made during 2020-2021.

The meeting closed at 7.16 p.m.

Approved as a correct record, subject to any amendments agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2022.

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CHAIR



## **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2022**

**SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To report the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.

### **2. SUMMARY**

2.1 Forward Work Programmes are essential to ensure that Scrutiny Committee agendas reflect the strategic issues facing the Council and other priorities raised by Members, the public or stakeholder.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 That Members consider any changes and agree the final forward work programme prior to publication.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 To improve the operation of scrutiny.

### **5. THE REPORT**

5.1 The Partnerships Scrutiny Committee forward work programme includes all reports that were identified at the scrutiny committee meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The work programme outlines the reports planned for the period July 2022 to January 2023.

5.2 The forward Work Programme is made up of reports identified by officers and members. Members are asked to consider the work programme and suggest any

changes before it is published on the council website. Scrutiny committee will review this work programme at every meeting going forward alongside any report requests.

5.3 The Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1.

#### 5.4 **Conclusion**

The work programme is for consideration and amendment by the scrutiny committee prior to publication on the council website.

### 6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 No assumptions are necessary.

### 7. **SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 As this report is for information only an Integrated Impact Assessment is not necessary.

### 8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no specific financial implications arising as a result of this report.

### 9. **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no specific personnel implications arising as a result of this report.

### 10. **CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been included in this report.

### 11. **STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 The Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Mark Jacques, Scrutiny Officer [jacquem@carphilly.gov.uk](mailto:jacquem@carphilly.gov.uk)

Consultees: Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director for Education and Corporate Services  
Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services/ Monitoring Officer  
Lisa Lane, Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer, Legal Services  
Councillor Gary Johnston, Chair Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Councillor Brenda Miles, Vice Chair Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme

Appendix 2 Forward Work Programme Prioritisation Flowchart

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Forward Work Programme - Partnerships				Appendix 1
Date	Title	Key Issues	Author	Cabinet Member
21/07/22 17:30	Update on the Well-being Assessment and Response Analysis for the Well-being Plan	To inform member of progress towards the new Gwent well-being plan	Delonnette, Heather;	Cllr. George, Nigel;
21/07/22 17:30	Jobs Growth and Employability Support	Scrutiny of one of the action areas of the Caerphilly PSB	Irish, Sarah - Jayne;	Cllr. George, Nigel;
21/07/22 17:30	Caerphilly Public Services Board- Final Annual Report against 'The Caerphilly We Want 2018-2023' Well-being Plan	Final annual report of the Caerphilly PSB	Massey, Paul;	Cllr. George, Nigel;
21/07/22 17:30	Caerphilly Public Services Board- Action Area Performance Reports	Regular update on progress against the action areas	Peters, Kathryn;	Cllr. George, Nigel;
26/01/23 17:30	The Gwent Well-being Plan 2018-2023	Statutory role of scrutiny in reviewing the Gwent Well-being Plan	Peters, Kathryn;	Cllr. George, Nigel;
06/07/23 17:30				

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**Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme Prioritisation**



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## **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2022**

**SUBJECT: GWENT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD RESPONSE ANALYSIS  
UPDATE**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND CORPORATE  
SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update Members on progress of the development of the Gwent Public Services Board's outline well-being objectives.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Gwent Public Services Board is required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act to produce a well-being plan, setting out local objectives and reasonable steps to meet those using the evidence from the well-being assessment.
- 2.2 Work has been undertaken to further develop the Gwent well-being plan with the Gwent PSB agreeing their broad outline objectives.
- 2.3 The final Gwent well-being plan, detailing the PSB's well-being objectives and the steps it will take to meet them, must be published by 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That Members note the contents of the Response Analysis update report provided to the Gwent PSB.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 To allow the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to be aware of the process of developing the Gwent well-being plan so that it can fulfil its functions under Section 35 of the relevant legislation.

## **5. THE REPORT**

- 5.1 The Gwent Public Services Board is required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act to produce a well-being plan, setting out local objectives and reasonable steps to meet those using the evidence from the well-being assessment.
- 5.2 As part of the development in March the Gwent PSB identified three broad areas to be considered in more detail as part of the response analysis phase. These were:
- Community Cohesion (including Community Safety and Substance Misuse)
  - Environment (Climate and Nature emergencies)
  - Health and Well-being/Inequalities – (including housing)
- 5.3 At their last meeting, in June, the Gwent PSB reviewed the responses analyses and confirmed that these were broadly the areas that they wanted to have as outline objectives.
- 5.4 Further work will continue to refine and develop the outline objectives to ensure that they are cross-cutting, holistic and collaborative. The Future Generations Commissioner's office will be providing advice and support to do this as part of their statutory function.
- 5.5 The Gwent PSB will agree the consultation draft of the well-being plan at their meeting at the end of September. There will then be a 12 week statutory consultation period.
- 5.6 The final Gwent well-being plan, detailing the PSB's well-being objectives and the steps it will take to meet them, must be published by 5th May 2023.

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 There are no assumptions made in this report.

## **7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 This report provides an update on the development of the Gwent well-being plan.
- 7.2 The outline objectives of the Gwent Public Services Board are consistent with the five ways of working as set out in the sustainable development principle in the Act. They consider:
- Long Term – Balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
  - Prevention - Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse to help public bodies meet their objectives
  - Integration – Considering how the well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, or on the objectives of other public bodies
  - Collaboration – Acting in collaboration with any other person that could help the board to meet its well-being objectives
  - Involvement – Involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

## **9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no personnel implications in this report.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 This report has been sent to all consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Section 35 and 45 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Author: Heather Delonnette, Senior Policy Officer, delonh@caerphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Councillor Sean Morgan, Leader of the Council  
Christina Harray, Chief Executive  
Councillor Gary Johnston, Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Councillor Brenda Miles, Vice Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director, Education and Corporate Services  
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning and Strategy  
Stephen Harris, Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer  
Rob Tranter, Head of legal Services and Monitoring Officer

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Gwent PSB Well-being Plan development - Response Analysis  
Appendix 1 – Well-being Plan Timeline  
Appendix 2a – Response Analysis Community Cohesion  
Appendix 2b – Response Analysis Environment  
Appendix 2c – Response Analysis Health Inequalities

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## SUBJECT: Well-being Plan development - Response Analysis update

Report written and submitted by: GSWAG sub-group

Author: Heather Delonnette – Policy Officer, Caerphilly CBC

<b>1</b>	<b>Areas Affected</b>
1.1	Gwent – all local areas
<b>2</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
2.1	To update the Gwent PSB on the response analysis work undertaken in support of the development of a Gwent Well-being Plan.
2.2	For the PSB to agree that the areas covered in the attached response analysis reports are the right areas of focus for the outline Well-being Objectives and should be taken forward in the development of cross-cutting steps for delivery in the Gwent Well-being Plan.
<b>3</b>	<b>Background</b>
3.1	The PSB is required to undertake a Well-being Assessment to inform the development of a Well-being Plan, setting out its Well-being Objectives and the steps it intends to take to meet those objectives. The timeline for developing the Gwent Well-being Assessment has been appended to this report. (Appendix 1)
3.2	The Well-being Assessment was agreed by the PSB in December 2021 and published in April 2022.
3.3	The Assessment considered around 120, often interconnecting, issues affecting well-being in Gwent. It also highlighted that inequalities and deprivation exist across the region, and how this is having a disproportionately detrimental impact on some of our communities. Since the completion of the Assessment, the war in Ukraine and the subsequent cost of living crisis has exacerbated this further in our most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in particular.
3.4	At the development day in February 2022 the PSB proposed four cross-cutting themes to be considered in more detail as part of the response analysis phase of developing the Plan. These were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment/Climate/Nature Emergency</li> <li>• Determinants of Health Inequality</li> <li>• Community Cohesion</li> <li>• Economy &amp; Infrastructure</li> </ul>
3.5	In March, the PSB further refined these themes as follows and identified lead officers for each: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Cohesion (including Community Safety and Substance Misuse) – Pam Kelly (Gwent Police)/Jeff Cuthbert (OPCC)/Steve Tiley (GAVO)</li> <li>• Environment (Climate and Nature emergencies) – Steve Morgan (NRW)</li> <li>• Health and Well-being/Inequalities – Sarah Aitken (PHW)/Howard Toplis, particularly re: housing (Tai Calon)</li> </ul>

3.6	In the period since these themes were agreed, the cost of living crisis has emerged as a serious issue for our communities, and therefore the PSB may want to reflect this in its choice of outline Well-being Objectives.
3.7	<p>The Well-being Plan is required to be a plan for the long-term. However, it, and the Well-being Objectives and the steps to meet those, will need to be flexible enough to incorporate changes in circumstances as they arise throughout the lifetime of the Plan – example scenarios would be the Covid-19 pandemic and the impacts of the war in Ukraine.</p> <p>The WFGA requires public bodies to balance short-term needs with the well-being needs of future generations, especially where responding to short-term challenges may have a detrimental long- term effect.</p>
3.8	<p>The statutory guidance for the development of a local Well-being Plan<sup>1</sup> states that there are two main elements of a local Well-being Plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The local objectives; and</li> <li>The steps the Board proposes to take to meet the objectives</li> </ol>
3.9	The statutory guidance states that ‘In line with the sustainable development principle the local objectives should seek to adopt an integrated approach to delivering against the Well-being Goals...One objective could deliver against multiple goals’.
3.10	The statutory guidance also states that ‘The Board must take all <b>reasonable</b> steps to meet the local objectives they have set, to deliver on collectively.’
<b>4</b>	<b>Development of the outline Well-being Objectives</b>
4.1	The response analyses work provides a detailed summary of the issues, drivers and possible interventions around each of the three cross-cutting themes (Appendix 2). This work has informed proposals for a number of potential outline Well-being Objectives that the PSB could decide to adopt for the Well-being Plan.
4.2	<p><i>Environment theme outline objectives:</i></p> <p>Protect and enhance Gwent’s natural environment to maximise the well-being benefits that nature provides to current and future generations by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing the environmental impact of production and consumption so that progress is made towards establishing and sustaining a regenerative local economy which contributes to national and global sustainability</li> <li>Declaring a nature emergency in Gwent and using this to drive the enhancement of Gwent’s natural areas and address the root causes of biodiversity loss</li> <li>In response to the climate emergency, focusing on the protection of communities from environmental risks associated with climate change</li> </ol>
4.3	<p><i>Community cohesion outline objective:</i></p> <p>Provide the energy and leadership between the public, private and third sectors, with the people of Gwent, to develop healthy, safe and vibrant places to live, work and visit.</p>
4.4	<p><i>Health inequalities outline objectives:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed the Marmot principles in order to tackle health inequalities in the region.</li> <li>To embed addressing the thermal efficiency of the homes in Gwent as a key determinant in reducing health inequalities in Gwent.</li> </ol> <p>(The Marmot principles can be found at the end of this report.)</p>
4.5	It is clear that all these proposed outline objectives impact on, and are impacted by, each other, just as the national Well-being Goals are interconnected. Therefore, the PSB may want to consider refining the proposed outline objectives to make them more holistic, outcome focused, cross-cutting and integrated.



4.6	<p>The statutory guidance makes it clear that when choosing objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These should reflect where the Board has decided that collective action can be taken that will have a positive impact on the state of well-being in the area.</li> <li>• The intention ... is not that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public bodies or PSBs set Well-being Objectives that are the easiest for them to meet;</li> <li>• Public bodies or PSBs “retrofit” their existing Well-being Objectives to meet the requirements of the Act.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The selected Well-being Objectives must also maximise the PSBs contribution to the national Well-being Goals.</li> </ul>
4.7	<p>When considering which Well-being Objectives to choose, the PSB should also consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where it can <b>add most value</b> and make the most difference.</li> <li>• Delivery of the Well-being Objectives should be within the sphere of PSB members and should <b>do more than support existing projects or initiatives</b>.</li> <li>• The <b>resources partners are able to contribute</b> to deliver the anticipated outcomes.</li> </ul>
4.8	<p>Work on the agreed outline Well-being Objectives (what difference do we want to make) and reasonable steps to meet them (how will we do that), will continue over the summer, using the advice from the Future Generations Commissioner and with the engagement of partners and stakeholders. This work will inform the drafting of the consultation version of the Well-being Plan for consideration at the PSB meeting at the end of September 2022.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Funding</b>
5.1	<p>2022/23 Welsh Government has confirmed funding to support the development of the local Well-being Plan of £92,529. This will be used to provide additional staff capacity in Caerphilly CBC and a post in Torfaen CBC, to assist with ongoing engagement, evaluation and monitoring.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations to the PSB</b>
6.1	<p>The PSB agrees that the areas covered in the attached response analysis reports are the right areas of focus for the outline Well-being Objectives and should be taken forward in the development of cross-cutting steps for delivery in the Gwent Well-being Plan.</p>
6.2	<p>That the outline Well-being Objectives should be cross-cutting in nature, rather than being restricted or siloed to the areas identified for the response analysis phase of work. The outline Well-being Objectives should also focus on activity where the PSB can add most value and make the most difference to well-being, having considered activity that is already happening and its impact, and adding value rather than duplicating effort.</p>
6.3	<p>That the suggested outline objectives contained within the response analysis reports are revisited in light of 6.1 and 6.2 above and a set of cross-cutting Well-being Objectives are developed. Some of the current outline objectives are possible steps or statements of intent rather than objectives, and these need to be revisited so they are more focused on outcomes.</p>

Draft date 24/06/2022

**APPENDICES**

1 – Timeline

2 – Response analyses

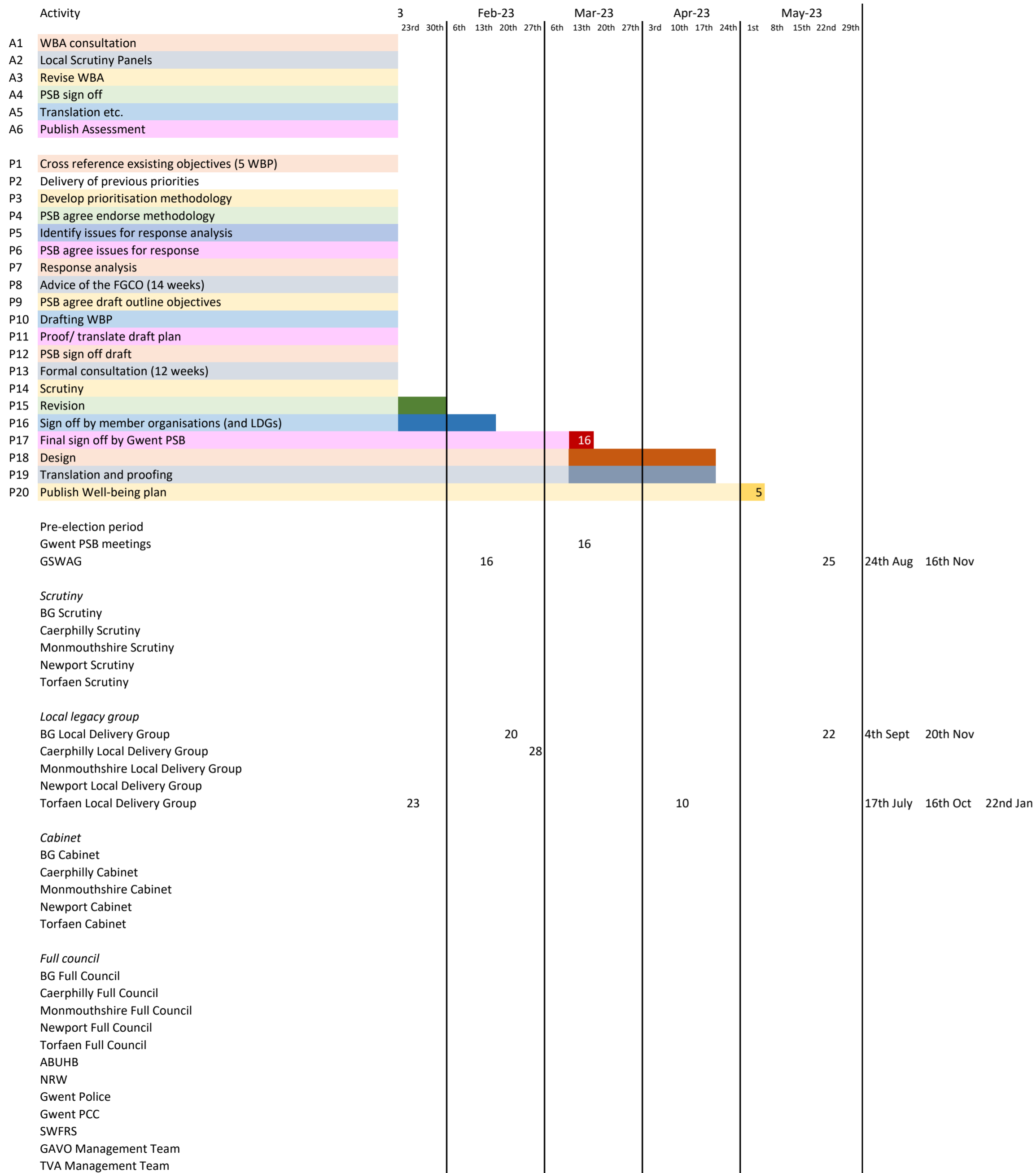
- a) Community cohesion
- b) Environment
- c) Health inequalities

Marmot principles:

Give every child the best start in life
Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives
Create fair employment and good work for all
Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
Respond to climate change
Address structural racism

<sup>i</sup> Shared Purpose: Shared Future – Statutory Guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, SPSF 3: Collective role (Public Service Boards), Welsh Government





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24th Aug 16th Nov

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4th Sept 20th Nov

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17th July 16th Oct 22nd Jan



# Gwent Public Services Board Response Analysis Template

## 1. Theme

*Community Cohesion: including Community Safety and Substance Misuse*

The Community Cohesion theme arising from the Gwent Wellbeing Assessment includes the following overarching issues that this response analysis needs to consider:

1. Community safety
2. Cohesive and empowered communities
3. Food
4. Digital futures
5. Supportive local economies

## 2. Outline of the issues

### Overall Context

- 2.1. For the communities of Gwent, the legacy of austerity has already challenged community cohesion, safety and empowerment over the past decade and introduced widening economic, health, wellbeing and other inequalities – as evidenced in the [Gwent Well-being Assessment](#). With the Covid-19 pandemic, the cost of living crisis, geo-political issues such as Brexit and the war in Ukraine, and the increasing impacts of climate change, this arguably presents the greatest ‘perfect storm’ of challenges facing the lives, livelihoods, health, safety and wellbeing of the people of Gwent.
- 2.2. In at least the short-to-medium term – or potentially the whole life – of the Wellbeing Plan, the people of Gwent are likely to experience real-terms reductions in income and living standards; inflationary pressures and disruption to supply chains of goods, services and food; and shocks to the general sustainability and resilience of the local economy. If left unaddressed, this will lead to reductions in health and wellbeing through increased deprivation, substance misuse, mental health problems, civil disorder and crime/ASB. Evidence is already showing this will impact the health and wellbeing of already disadvantaged people and communities the most, who will need additional focus and support.
- 2.3. Against this backdrop, the Wellbeing Plan needs to pull together the array of services available to the PSB to target the underlying issues that undermine community cohesion. This includes not only public services, but vitally must

also include leading a collaboration with the voluntary and private sectors, alongside the communities of Gwent, to ensure a whole-system response.

- 2.4. The issues outlined in the Community Cohesion theme are broad, cross-cutting and beyond the scope of single agencies alone to manage, such as local authorities, policing, health, the voluntary and private sectors. As extracted from the Wellbeing Assessment, the issues across this theme impacting on the wellbeing of current and future generations in Gwent can be summarised as follows:

### **Community Safety**

- 2.5. Community safety, crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour affect us and our communities, which is an important issue for us all. It's not just about solving crimes, but also about looking at what can be done to prevent these activities happening altogether. Public services across Gwent are already working together through community hubs and local partnerships to support victims and those affected by crime and anti-social behaviour, understand the root causes and find solutions to these issues.
- 2.6. Feeling part of, and safe in, your community is vital to everyone's well-being. While councils, health services, the police and others, can support communities, it is the people in them that make them welcoming, diverse and thriving places to live.
- 2.7. Reducing the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) on local businesses will help the economy to thrive and will improve how people feel about where they live. Tackling crimes such as fly-tipping will make our green spaces safer for people to meet up and enjoy. Improving road safety will support businesses who rely on the local infrastructure to move raw materials, goods and deliver services as well as reducing the burden on our emergency services. Safe, active travel routes, particularly those which provide commuting potential, will reduce the cost of travel and allow more people to realise the health benefits of being active.
- 2.8. Issues include:
- Link between deprivation and community safety.
  - Increase in criminal damage and arson (year on year prior to pandemic).
  - Increase in hate crimes.
  - Child exploitation occurrences.
  - Rise in cyber enabled crime.
  - Under-reporting of hate crimes or incidents, domestic abuse, sexual violence, anti-social behaviour, low level personal thefts, shoplifting and criminal damage.
  - Violence against women, gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

### **Cohesive and empowered communities**

- 2.9. We want people in Gwent to live in inclusive communities where they feel safe and able to be involved and influence the things that affect them. Getting involved in cultural and recreational activities can be a good way of getting to know people. Taking part in activities that improve the local area, such as managing a communal green space, litter picking, organising or participating in local events can also help bring people and communities together.
- 2.10. Community energy projects can provide useful income that can be invested back into the places people live, making them more efficient and nicer places to be, as well as increasing the production of clean energy. The Covid-19 pandemic has seen our communities coming together to support the most vulnerable in innovative and resourceful ways.
- 2.11. Community activity and volunteering can give people a sense of accomplishment and pride, and having the opportunity to meet others, learn new things and improve the local environment can help people to combat loneliness and isolation. Covid19 has shown how important, positive and resilient our communities can be, with informal networks being set up virtually overnight to support everyone, especially the most vulnerable. It has also shown how important digital inclusivity is, and will continue to be, for people to connect with each other and access many of the services they need. Being able to grow or source food locally and affordably can help to bring people of all ages and cultures together as well helping them connect with nature and keep healthy.
- 2.12. Issues include:
- Enabling and supporting volunteering
  - Tackling loneliness and isolation.
  - Supporting diverse groups of people to get on well together.
  - Increasing the number of Welsh speakers.
  - Addressing the barriers that prevent people participating in arts, culture and heritage.
  - Addressing barriers that prevent people participating in sport.
  - Securing and developing the play workforce, ensuring that play is integrated in all relevant policy and implementation and ensuring that accessible and affordable transport options are in place to support equal access to play facilities.
  - Affordability and equitable access to cultural activities.
  - Equitable access to quality greenspace.
  - Combating reducing voter turnout / involvement in democratic processes.
  - Making sure that people feel safe in their communities.

## **Food**

- 2.13. Child hunger, rising diet-related illness, an explosion of demand for food banks and the uncertainty faced by the thousands of people employed in the catering

and hospitality industry have an impact on social and economic well-being, as well as the environmental well-being impact assessed in Gwent.

- 2.14. The Food Foundations report “The Impact of Covid-19 on Household Food Security” is based on data collected from seven rounds of nationally representative UK-wide surveys to monitor levels of food insecurity impacted by Covid-19 undertaken between March 2020 and January 2021. Key findings from the report state that despite vital emergency measures in place, more people are food insecure now than before the pandemic.
- 2.15. Community and voluntary sector groups helped millions of vulnerable people but evidence shows too many food insecure households have struggled to access support. Reliance on overstretched food banks and food aid charities is not a sustainable safety net for individuals and families who can't afford a decent diet. Households with children have consistently found it harder to put food on the table, particularly lone parents, large families, and low-income families. Covid-19 has deepened the financial hardship faced by low income households and has also created a newly vulnerable group who were financially stable pre-Covid.
- 2.16. Issues include:
- Food security.
  - Food supply chains, local growth.
  - Access to good quality, healthy food.
  - Affordability of food.

### **Digital futures**

- 2.17. Being digitally excluded can have a significant impact on people's social well-being as well, with digital communication services making it easier for people who use the internet to participate in their hobbies and interests and stay connected with family and friends online. For those who don't or can't use the internet, digital exclusion can therefore increase the likelihood of loneliness and isolation as well as increasingly excluding access to some essential services. As the Wellbeing Assessment demonstrates, there is still some work to do across Gwent to get all areas above 90% for household access and internet use.
- 2.18. Embracing digital innovation can lead to greater economic opportunities and a more prosperous and resilient society. Equipping people with the digital skills they need and designing services around the user can also improve social cohesion, create a healthier and more equal society with well-connected communities and contribute to a thriving Welsh language. The Welsh Government's Digital Strategy Wales aims to deliver joined-up digital services through collaboration, integration, and good engagement to support the design of user-facing services that provide an efficient and consistent experience for citizens of all ages.
- 2.19. Issues include:



- Ensuring digital inclusion and access to latest technology.
- Non-digital provision.
- Ensuring businesses and citizens are cyber secure.

### **Supportive local economies**

- 2.20. Enabling everyone to gain the skills and education to secure valuable, decent work for the future is important to a person's sense of well-being, allowing them to contribute to their community and provide for themselves and their loved ones.
- 2.21. Gwent has a diverse economy; from high tech manufacturers exporting products around the world to businesses providing the key every-day services that our communities rely on, such as food and care provision. This mixture should allow Gwent to take advantage of the emerging sectors that will play an increasingly important part of the low carbon and climate resilient economy of the future.
- 2.22. Actively contributing to the local economy and improving skills, including those that will be needed in the future, can positively impact on health and well-being. We know that there are people in our communities that are experiencing poverty, including in-work poverty, which has the potential to impact on just about every aspect of their lives and well-being. Having a range of decent work within our communities also helps to make them more cohesive places to live, work and study.
- 2.23. Issues include:
- Developing the foundational economy i.e. products and services we use in our day-to-day lives locally e.g. food, energy, social care etc.
  - Maximising long-term benefits from the Shared Renewal Fund.
  - Maximising opportunities for community wealth building.
  - Maximising the local economic benefit from strategic developments.
  - Maximising the long-term benefits from Cardiff City Regional Deal.
  - Resilience of energy supply - peak energy, market volatility etc.
  - Resilience to shocks in global markets.
  - Resilience of supply chains.
  - Supporting town centres.
  - Long term impact of exiting the European Union e.g. agricultural payments, access to labour, trading restrictions, loss of grant aid.
  - Maximising economic opportunities related to culture, heritage and Welsh language.

### **3. Well-being objectives to be worked towards under this priority**

- 3.1. The analysis from this theme indicates that Gwent PSB should use its collective power and influence to tackle the underlying causes of community cohesion

issues, by focusing on the health of the local economy and taking an early intervention and prevention approach to community safety:

*Provide the energy and leadership between the public, private and 3<sup>rd</sup> sectors, with the people of Gwent, to develop healthy, safe and vibrant places to live, work and visit.*

3.2. Examples of what this means in practice includes the following, which will be developed as part of the Wellbeing Plan:

- Developing new and enhancing existing Gwent-wide community problem solving arrangements, with enhanced information sharing and future-thinking predictive analytics
- Ensuring social value and 'by-and-for' principles are built into the goods and services public bodies buy
- Undertake and embed the findings from a review into community safety arrangements
- Maximise and coordinate investment in communities through the Cardiff City Region and Shared Renewal funds and explore other funding and investment opportunities
- Work together to develop joint commissioning arrangements between agencies including the third sector, for example to tackle VAWDASV, substance misuse, early intervention and prevention programmes
- Focus area based investment on improving areas of deprivation (for example housing, green spaces, cultural capital etc) and those communities in most need
- Develop a clear, consistent youth and diversionary services offer across Gwent
- Focus on educational attainment and opportunities for skills, training and re-training opportunities for working age people, particularly the young people of Gwent and the 'forgotten' communities
- Building digital futures, ensuring people and businesses are adopting safe and effective digital technologies
- Encourage, subsidise and promote local food production, seasonal produce and embed social value in supply chains
- Increase affordable housing stock and area strategic plans to focus on areas of highest need rather than highest price
- Invest in improved and interconnected transport infrastructure to counteract isolation, loneliness and connect people and communities

#### **4. What contribution can working towards these objectives achieve for well-being in Gwent?**

4.1. The proposed draft well-being objectives under this theme have been designed to reduce inequalities and deliver better well-being outcomes for the people and communities in Gwent. Primarily this approach is focused on tackling the underlying issues impacting on community cohesion and safety, rather than focusing on addressing the visible symptoms, which already have significant investment from agencies to manage.

- 4.2. Due to the wide-ranging nature of the Community Cohesion theme, inevitably this lends itself to a wide-range, strategic and long term response. The objectives identified here offer scope and opportunity for collaborative, innovative and essential action under this theme. However, each of the example opportunities mentioned above will need more specific and targeted interventions to underpin them within the 5 year life of the Wellbeing Plan.
- 4.3. However, it is important that the actions, timescales and resources identified in the Plan to deliver against the well-being objectives are agile and adaptive (as experienced by the impact of the pandemic on daily life since 2020), and ultimately achievable within a potentially variable set of circumstances over the next five years, both foreseen and unforeseen. The current cost of living crisis will be an example of this, which is yet to fully impact the economy and generate a political response from both UK and Welsh Governments. However, we anticipate that this will have a significant impact on the people and communities of Gwent in the next 5 years, which informs the focus of the recommendation above.

## 5. Where are we now?

- 5.1. The current evidence base for this theme can be found in the [Gwent Well-being Assessment](#). The Assessment provides us with a picture of well-being in Gwent as it relates to the issues listed above. Through conducting this response analysis, we have identified factors for consideration in relation to this theme which should inform the actions, timescales and resources identified in the Gwent Well-being Plan.
- 5.2. The information contained in this section is by no means exhaustive and should be considered as the starting point to a series of much wider, more robust opportunities for mapping and planning conversations.
- 5.3. There is already a significant amount of work already taking place and/or planned across this theme. In general, it is quite difficult to identify any issue that doesn't have at least some work trying to tackle it, if not significant amounts of work. As examples, each local authority has its social housing strategy and delivery plans, the VAWDASV Commissioning Board has oversight of those arrangements, and the area planning board is trying to tackle substance misuse. Further examples include:
- Community Safety Review being undertaken on behalf of the PSB
  - National (UK) Community Safety review, may have implications for the partnership arrangements in Wales too
  - Local Authority strategic housing reviews
  - Multiple projects are underway through the UK Renewal Fund and Cardiff Capital Region fund
- 5.4. Furthermore, a range of legislative and policy drivers (including those known/expected in the next five years) will impact this theme. They are too numerous to mention, but examples include:
- UK Levelling Up agenda

- UK Drugs Strategy
  - Victim's Bill
  - Welsh Government VAWDASV Strategy
- 5.5. The third sector, encompassing both large and small charitable or community based organisations is already supporting people in communities across the whole region with a wide range of social, cultural sporting and environmental activities. There is the opportunity through timely communication and collaboration to harness this experience and expertise to support the priorities of the Well-Being Plan. We already have the evidence of community initiatives and volunteering throughout the pandemic and it is important that this good will is not lost. Mapping of provision will need to include the third sector.
- 5.6. There is the potential to develop a Gwent-wide action group of leading third sector organisations to support the priorities of the PSB supported by the development of the Gwent Third Sector Partnership Agreement
- 5.7. Opportunities and resource allocation that could support delivery (including those known/expected in the next five years)?
- Community spaces and venues could be utilised far more for direct service delivery and community support, therefore improving the sustainability of organisations hit hard by rising costs and providing support close to where people live
  - Involvement of people in communities and third sector organisations in problem solving at the earliest stage using co-production principles and utilising participatory budgeting to focus on identified priorities
  - Working with third sector organisations opens up the possibility of funding through grants to the sector but the longer term sustainability of those organisations must be considered when looking at resources
  - Agencies from the PSB would need to determine what additional, or re-purposed, resource allocation could be identified to deliver this recommendation once clear deliverables and outcomes are identified.
- 6. What could be done (steps)?**
- 6.1. Potential options and opportunities for delivering the recommendation in this theme are listed in 3.2 and will be developed further once the Gwent PSB agrees the general approach to this theme.
- 6.2. Targeted engagement with third sector and community organisations will be needed to identify those activities that support the priorities that are already taking place, opportunities to expand that work and identify gaps.
- 6.3. We also need to identify and deal with any barriers to collaborative working between the third sector and PSB partners, and more generally break down barriers between agencies to deliver, for example, joint commissioning arrangements, information sharing and problem solving arrangements.
- 7. How have you engaged with stakeholders?**

7.1. Third sector engagement has taken place with a small number of leading organisations and officers across Gwent including GAVO and TVA but further engagement with the wider third sector will be required as the plan is developed

7.2. All of the theme leads have been consulting through their local networks, GSWAG and elsewhere. However, due to the strict timescales, it has not been possible to consult as far and wide as desirable. Given there is more work needed to refine the recommendations further, more consultation will be undertaken in those next steps.

## **8. How does this area link with the other response areas?**

8.1. Each well-being theme under which a response analysis has been undertaken is dependent on factors which relate to the other two. To look at any one of Environment, Health Inequalities or Community Cohesion in isolation results in a limited picture of well-being, one that is not considered 'in the round'. It is essential that such cross-cutting topics are looked at and planned for in an integrated, holistic way.

8.2. The Health Inequalities theme recommends Gwent becomes a 'Marmot' region – a framework for action to reduce health inequalities. The proposal is to develop a Gwent-wide plan and delivery response to the 8 principles underpinning the Marmot framework. The 8 principles are:

- Give every child the best start in life
- Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- Create fair employment and good work for all
- Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention
- Respond to climate change
- Address structural racism

8.3. There is clear crossover with of the recommendations within the Health Inequalities and Community Cohesion response analyses. Like this response analysis, the general principle of tackling the underlying factors impacting wellbeing, rather than the resulting symptoms, dovetail very neatly into the 8 principles above.

8.4. The recommendations arising from the Environment theme are as follows:

- Reducing the environmental impact of production and consumption so that progress is made towards establishing and sustaining a regenerative local economy which contributes to national and global sustainability
- Declaring a nature emergency in Gwent and using this to drive the enhancement of Gwent's natural areas and address the root causes of biodiversity loss

- In response to the climate emergency, focusing on the protection of communities from environmental risks associated with climate change

8.5. Again, these are heavily interlinked with Community Cohesion, particularly in relation to improving the health and resilience of the local economy, food production and security, and improving the 'Places' across Gwent that the communities live and work.

8.6. Through these response analyses, it will be important to identify where the cross-cutting recommendations and the actions underpinning them need to link closely together to reduce duplication of effort and ensure a whole-system approach is taken when developing the wellbeing plan.

## 9. Conclusions and recommendations

9.1. **The recommendation is noted above in section 3. The fundamental principle is to work across sectors on the health of the local economy and taking a more early intervention and prevention approach to community cohesion and safety issues. This is particularly pertinent given the cost of living crisis, covid recovery and other factors that are likely to be the dominant factors impacting this theme in the next 5 years.**

9.2. **However, it must be noted that the very nature of this theme, incorporating a large volume of fairly distinct issues, means that the recommendation is broad and visionary in its approach. Furthermore, there is clear crossover with the other theme areas. Therefore more work will be needed to focus the deliverables and outcomes from these recommendations, to be reflected in the Wellbeing Plan, and ensure they are joined up with the Health Inequalities and Environment themes.**

## 10. Links to other potential PSB priority areas

10.1. The review into community safety has already been commissioned by the PSB, which fits directly into this recommendation.

## 11. References

Version: v1.0

Date: June 2022

Please now complete the table on the next page outlining what initial steps could be taken to achieve each potential objective.

If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)

Objective 1: Steps	Partners involved	Lead organisation	Target Date	Comment

If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)

Objective 2: Steps	Partners involved	Lead organisation	Target Date	Comment



If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)

Objective 3 (if needed): Steps	Partners involved	Lead organisation	Target Date	Comment

END

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## **Gwent Public Services Board Response Analysis Template**

### **1. Theme**

Environment: Addressing the Nature and Climate Emergencies

### **2. Outline of the issues**

#### **2.1. Ecological footprint**

Consumption patterns are having a negative impact on the environment and we need to use resources efficiently and proportionately. Reducing and reusing waste is one way to reduce our consumption of resources and provide positive benefits to people and nature. We need to get to One Planet living so that we don't use the resources that future generations will need to support themselves. To do this we will need to look at our food, energy and transport systems.

#### **2.2. Biodiversity loss**

We are falling short of achieving the four measures which denote the sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR). Across the region, stocks of natural resources are being used at an unsustainable rate and our ecosystems are under increasing pressure from the impacts of climate change, land use change, invasive non-native species (INNS), pollution and over-use. This jeopardises the ability of our natural environment to provide a number of vital well-being benefits now and in the future.

#### **2.3. Species loss**

Climate change, lack of management, over-use, INNS, pollution, landscape crime and antisocial behaviour threaten natural resources in Gwent. Condition assessments show the condition of native woodland and mountain, moorland and heathland (MMH) habitats to be 'unfavourable'. Grassland connectivity and condition are also poor. The majority of Gwent's rivers are of 'poor' or 'moderate' status and the health of our best rivers are registering significant failure rates for phosphorus levels. The Severn Estuary's special status is under threat, with predicted extreme impacts of climate change likely for coastal habitats.

#### **2.4. Climate change**

Climate risk is an increasing concern which is predicated to have a significant impact on the habitats, people and places of Gwent. Work will need to be done

to make sure we take an integrated look at climate risk across the work of the PSB and all three thematic areas of focus). All Local Authorities in Gwent have declared a Climate Emergency. As such, and in line with statutory requirements, climate risk should be considered regionally and we should understand issues, impact and response not just as they relate to environmental well-being, but social, economic and cultural well-being too.

Annual temperatures in Wales are expected to rise and more extreme heatwave events causing impacts on all aspects of well-being are likely to become more prevalent as a result. Iconic landscapes and cultural heritage assets could also be more vulnerable to wildfire exposure in future. Future climate projections indicate that drought risk will have a significant impact on the quality of agricultural land and our ability to produce food in the future.

Gwent, like many other places in Wales is likely to experience an increase in rainfall, river flow and intensity of extreme weather events. This is projected to lead to an increase in the likelihood of flooding of infrastructure, businesses and homes.

### **3. Well-being objectives to be worked towards under this priority**

Protect and enhance Gwent's natural environment to maximise the well-being benefits that nature provides to current and future generations by:

1. Reducing the environmental impact of production and consumption so that progress is made towards establishing and sustaining a regenerative local economy which contributes to national and global sustainability
2. Declaring a nature emergency in Gwent and using this to drive the enhancement of Gwent's natural areas and address the root causes of biodiversity loss
3. In response to the climate emergency, focusing on the protection of communities from environmental risks associated with climate change

### **4. What contribution can working towards these objectives achieve for well-being in Gwent?**

The proposed draft well-being objectives under the Environment theme have been designed to reduce inequalities and deliver better well-being for communities in Gwent.

However, it is important that the actions, timescales and resources identified in the Gwent Well-being Plan to deliver against the well-being objectives are agile and adaptive, and ultimately achievable within a potentially variable set of circumstances over the next five years, both foreseen and unforeseen. The objectives identified here offer scope and opportunity for collaborative, innovative and essential action under this theme.

### **5. Where are we now?**

The current evidence base for the Environment theme can be found in the [Gwent Well-being Assessment](#). The Assessment provides us with a picture of well-being in Gwent as it relates to this theme. Through conducting this response analysis, we have identified factors for consideration in relation to this theme which should inform the actions, timescales and resources identified in the Gwent Well-being Plan.

The information contained in this section is by no means exhaustive and should be considered as the starting point to a series of much wider, more robust opportunities mapping and planning conversations. The evidence base can be understood and contextualised in a much richer way by drawing on the collective knowledge and expertise of key stakeholders throughout the development of the Gwent Well-being Plan. This exercise has been instigated as part of the response analysis process and some of the findings are as follows:

- 5.1. Work already taking place and/or planned, including legislative and policy drivers known and expected in the next five years<sup>1</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Replacement Local Development Plans
  - Agriculture (Wales) Bill
  - Air Quality Action Plans
  - Biodiversity Duty
  - Blaenau Gwent Climate Change Assembly
  - Blaenau Gwent Sustainable Food Partnership
  - Central Monmouthshire Opportunity Catchment
  - Climate change/decarbonisation action plans and strategies
  - Climate Ready Gwent
  - Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water projects
  - Food For Growth
  - Food Futures Gwent
  - Food (Wales) Bill
  - Future Wales, The National Plan 2040
  - Gwent Green Grid Partnership (GGGP)
  - Gwent Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP)
  - Gwent Wildlife Trust
  - Living Levels Landscape Partnership (LLLP)
  - Local Area Energy Plans
  - Local Nature Partnerships
  - Monmouthshire and Asterio Digital Platform
  - Monmouthshire Sustainable Food Partnership
  - Natur Am Byth
  - Nature emergency action plans and strategies
  - Nature Networks
  - Newport Well-being Plan Sustainable Travel intervention
  - Public Sector Net Zero 2030

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<sup>1</sup> Further details of all taking place and/or planned work listed here is available on request

- Newport City Centre Green Infrastructure Feasibility Study
- Newport Green & Safe Spaces
- Our Food 1200
- Programme for Government (2021-26 commitments)
- Resilient Ecological Networks
- South East Area Statement
- South East Rivers Project
- State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)
- Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS)
- Usk and Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Rivers Programme
- Usk LIFE
- Wales Net Zero 2050
- Well-being Plans (ongoing and legacy work)
- Work of Housing Associations
- Work, projects and social enterprises of local community groups (e.g. Maindee Unlimited)

Many of the projects and workstreams already underway and planned across Gwent (as listed above) in the short to medium term are considered examples of good and best practice. These examples will be taken forward, learned from and built upon through the development of the Gwent Well-being Plan.

- 5.2. Opportunities and resource allocation that could support delivery (including those known/expected in the next five years):
- Landscape Enterprise Networks (LENs)
  - National Lottery various funds
  - Nature Networks Grant (NRW)
  - NRW funding e.g. Resilient Communities Fund
  - NRW National Grants
  - UK Levelling Up Fund
  - UK Shared Prosperity Fund
  - Welsh Government Capital Programme

## 6. What could be done (steps)?

We already have established and robust indicators by which to measure the proposed draft well-being objectives. It is these indicators that should be addressed in the first instance to meet these objectives. They are as follows:

Protect and enhance Gwent’s natural environment to maximise the well-being benefits that nature provides to current and future generations by:			
Draft well-being objectives	1. Reducing the environmental impact of production and consumption so that progress is made towards establishing and sustaining a regenerative local economy which contributes to national and global sustainability	2. Declaring a nature emergency in Gwent and using this to drive the enhancement of Gwent’s natural areas and address the root causes of biodiversity loss	3. In response to a climate emergency, focusing on the protection of communities from environmental risks associated with climate change
Recommended indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero waste</li> <li>• Net Zero</li> <li>• One Planet Wales</li> <li>• Systemic transformation in the food, energy and transport systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat creation</li> <li>• Habitat connectivity</li> <li>• Green infrastructure (G.I.)</li> <li>• Habitat condition</li> <li>• Nutrient load</li> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of communities, infrastructure and services most at risk</li> <li>• Prioritisation for adaptation</li> <li>• Low carbon society</li> </ul>
Example actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore and promote community energy</li> <li>• Improve resource efficiency the re-use of materials</li> <li>• Promote a circular economy</li> <li>• Take a systems approach to transformation in the food, transport and energy sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise biodiversity as an asset</li> <li>• Restore and create semi-natural habitats</li> <li>• Create connectivity patches and habitat corridors</li> <li>• Reduce and better manage the pressures on ecosystems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a local climate change risk assessment</li> <li>• Build adaptive capacity and capability amongst PSB partners</li> <li>• Develop an integrated understanding of inequalities, environmental risks and hazards and explore nature-based solutions to alleviate</li> </ul>

			certain aspects and manifestations of inequalities
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*Table 1 – Proposed indicators for draft well-being objectives*



In developing the Gwent Well-being Plan, it will be essential to identify how collaborative public sector working can drive transformation and identify what levers we have locally that can help shape this transformation. The environmental systems, food systems and resource systems that influence environmental well-being often behave in ways that are complex and unpredictable. In areas like land management, waste management, biodiversity conservation, pollution prevention, food security and decarbonisation, the cause and effect of arising issues are seemingly complex or unattainable. The term “wicked issues” is sometimes used to describe problems like climate change, biodiversity loss or soil degradation. In these situations, interventions need to be designed in the absence of perfect knowledge of how human and natural processes interact, and in a way that draws together fragmented evidence and multiple perspectives. Systems approaches can provide structure in such cases.

The overwhelming message from the [State of Natural Resources Report \(SoNaRR2020\)](#) is that societal transformation is needed in the food, energy and transport systems. Taking a system view will allow a wider range of leverage points than have traditionally been used to regulate the environment and provide scope for collaboration and integration on multiple geographical, organisational and policy footprints. As such, the Gwent PSB should explore the opportunity to influence these systems collectively.

There is a major challenge to reduce agriculture’s negative impact on the environment, while simultaneously maintaining food production for a growing population. Brexit could have a significant future impact on land management in Gwent, and while trade deals and policy creation is being looked at nationally, more can be done to reduce the impact of future changes at the local level, such as increasing local food supply chains and networks. How the food system is managed, used and sustained is a significant factor in tackling health inequalities.

Achieving energy system transformation alone would create new jobs and livelihoods for the people of Gwent. Meeting decarbonisation targets can also lead to improvements in the quality of life for communities which suffer from the adverse impacts of poor air quality.

How we travel is having a negative impact on our environment and people’s health, changing our climate and increasing pollution. We need to look at different ways of meeting our travel needs.

Brexit is a key risk, increasing a potential significant future impact on land management in Gwent and while future trade deals and policy creation is a national issue, more can be done to reduce the impact of future changes at the local level.

Competing demands on land are causing habitat loss and fragmentation. We are always going to need land for housing and employment purposes, but we need to get better at making decisions which ensure that future generations are

both free from environmental risk and able to benefit from sustainably managed natural resources.

It will not be possible to prevent all flooding; there is therefore a need to use a range of approaches to not only reduce the risk where possible, but to adapt our communities and infrastructure to be prepared for severe weather events and rising sea levels.

Perhaps most importantly of all, more work needs to be done to address the drivers of unsustainable management which exist outside of the environmental well-being sphere. A closer and more integrated look at key challenges should be undertaken, where transformation and systemic change would have significant well-being benefits 'in the round' (i.e. as pertaining to the other thematic areas of focus and all four pillars of well-being).

The Gwent Well-being Plan will be delivered over the next five years. It is essential that strategic and operational 'futures thinking' underpins Plan development and delivery.

## **7. What resources would be needed? Are they already in place?**

It is impossible to determine the resources needed to deliver at this stage in the well-being planning process. Decisions regarding the specific resourcing of actions should follow the establishment of what those actions are. Broadly speaking, resource allocation to delivery of the Gwent Well-being Plan should take account of the following:

- Regional resourcing: Following the establishment the Gwent PSB and the development of a single Gwent Well-being Plan, resourcing for delivery should be considered at a regional scale. It is not essential that all workstreams are wholly collaborated on by all partners at all times, but rather that communications and governance mechanisms are of a robustness that enables integration across all the work of the PSB.
- Adaptable resourcing: In light of lessons learned as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gwent Well-being Plan should be deliverable at all times, including if adaptations must be made to prioritising, resourcing and/or working arrangements.
- Cross-cutting resourcing: There is a risk to resource efficiency posed by arranging delivery of the Gwent Well-being Plan by theme. There are numerous opportunities to work more strategically across all three well-being themes which will streamline and increase delivery opportunities.
- Partnership resourcing: Delivery of the Gwent Well-being Plan is not exclusive to PSB member organisations. The Gwent PSB should be looking to collaborate with local and regional strategic partnerships (e.g. the Gwent Green Grid Partnership (GGGP)) to streamline and increase delivery opportunities.

## **8. How have you engaged with stakeholders?**

The evidence base for the Environment theme was put together collaboratively with key stakeholders, drawing from multiple existing sources of data and understanding. In undertaking an assessment of environmental well-being, partners drew together key evidence, understanding and assessment from specific and connected policy areas, including (but not limited to SONaRR2020, the South East Area Statement and the [Gwent State of Nature Report \(GSoN\)](#). Stakeholders were invited to contribute to and sense check the Gwent Well-being Assessment.

Stakeholder involvement in the well-being planning process is invited at every opportunity. During the response analysis phase of the process, stakeholders have provided additional context, knowledge and understanding relating to this theme by answering the following questions of the draft well-being objectives:

- How far do you feel that the proposed draft well-being objectives under the Environment theme add value to work already taking place and provide opportunities to work in partnership?
- Do you see yourself as a collaborator in the delivery of the Gwent Well-being Plan?
- The next step in the well-being planning process is to develop the Gwent Well-being Plan. This includes setting out the steps to deliver the well-being objectives. Thinking about the proposed draft well-being objectives, what do we need to consider with regards to:
  - work already taking place and/or planned;
  - legislative and policy drivers (including those known/expected in the next five years);
  - existing best/innovative approaches to collaboration on this theme;
  - opportunities and resource allocation that could support delivery (including those known/expected in the next five years)?

Stakeholders will develop the content of the Gwent Well-being Plan through involvement in a series of collaborative opportunities designed to map pathways for delivery, including actions, resource and timescales.

## **9. How does this area link with the other response areas?**

Each well-being theme under which a response analysis has been undertaken is dependent on factors which relate to the other two. To look at any one of Environment, Health Inequalities or Community Cohesion in isolation results in a limited picture of well-being, one that is not considered 'in the round'. There are significant cross-cutting topics which are currently only looked at in isolation. It is essential that such topics are looked at and planned for in an integrated, holistic way. The topics that emerging through the response analysis to the Environment theme which should be explored in terms of how they cut across the entirety of the Gwent Well-being Plan are: climate change, transport, food and energy. There is significant work to be done in taking a systems approach to understanding, planning and delivery with regards to these topics (e.g. Climate Ready Gwent (CRG); Food Futures Gwent).

Through response analysis and development of the Gwent Well-being Plan, it will be important to identify environmental and socio-economic inequalities between and within communities (including reference to specific communities which are more vulnerable to environmental risks and hazards). This includes but is not limited to widening the scope of response analysis beyond the environmental impact to include the public health impact of: flood risk, air quality, noise pollution, water quality and INNS.

Actions relating to decarbonisation are consistent with those designed to improve health equity. Professor Michael Marmot's report [Sustainable Health Equity: Achieving a Net-Zero UK](#) (commissioned by the UK Committee on Climate Change), identifies four key areas for action:

- Minimising air pollution
- Building energy efficient homes
- Promoting sustainable and healthy food
- Prioritising active and safe transport.

## 10. Conclusions and recommendations

As a result of the Environment theme response analysis, it is recommended that, in setting its draft well-being objectives, the PSB:

- Declares a nature emergency in Gwent;
- Identifies actions which are regional, adaptable, cross-cutting and futures focused; and
- Undertakes a collective, systems approach to understanding, planning and delivery with regards to climate change, transport, food and energy, which spans all three thematic areas and considers well-being 'in the round'.

## 11. Links to other potential PSB priority areas

## 12. References

Version: Draft

Date: May 2022

Please now complete the table on the next page outlining what initial steps could be taken to achieve each potential objective.

If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)

Objective 1: Steps	Partners involved	Lead organisation	Target Date	Comment

If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)

Objective 2: Steps	Partners involved	Lead organisation	Target Date	Comment

If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)

Objective 3 (if needed): Steps	Partners involved	Lead organisation	Target Date	Comment

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## Gwent Public Services Board Response Analysis Template

On 10 March 2022, Gwent Public Services Board (PSB) made the decision to become a 'Marmot Region', and to use the social determinants of health approach as the basis for the response to well-being and health inequalities in Gwent. A copy of the Marmot proposal paper is available at:

<https://www.gwentpsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/03-Proposal-Gwent-Becoming-a-Marmot-Region.pdf>

### **1. Theme: Health and Well-being & Health Inequalities (inc. Housing)**

The ABUHB Director of Public Health Annual Report 2019, 'Building a Healthier Gwent'<sup>1</sup>, described the scale of the strategic challenge to reduce health inequalities. For people in all communities in Gwent to live healthy, fulfilled, dignified lives, means going further to reduce the inequality gap in the number of years lived in good health between the most and least deprived communities.

The Gwent Well-being Assessment (2022)<sup>2</sup> highlights the significant inequalities across communities in Gwent, whether measured by health, education, employment, or home ownership. It also demonstrates the impact of poor housing quality, which drives fuel poverty, and exacerbates health inequalities. The Gwent Well-being Assessment highlights the breadth of action necessary to narrow health inequalities between communities across Gwent. The eight Marmot Principles provide a framework for a programme of action:

1. Give every child the best start in life
2. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives
3. Create fair employment and good work for all
4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
7. Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes
8. Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together

### **2. Outline of the issues**

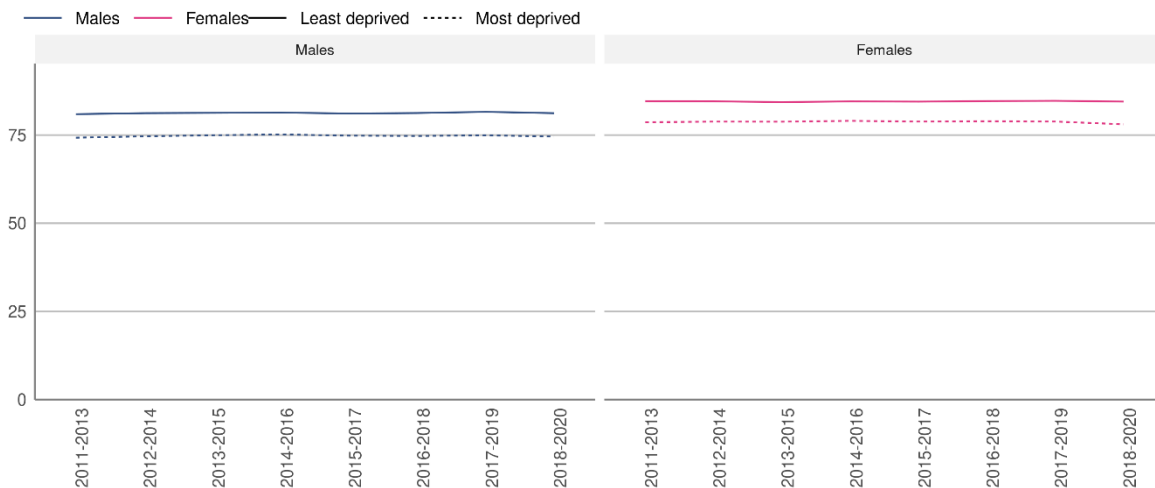
Gwent's assets are a diverse economy, rich culture and heritage, iconic natural environment and strong communities. However, there are significant inequalities in health, education, housing, income and employment which collectively result in socio-economic deprivation. The Gwent Well-being Assessment (2022) shows that the highest levels of socio-economic deprivation are located in the valleys and Newport city centre communities.

Gwent has a high proportion of residents with limiting long-term illness, and high premature death rates in the parts of the region with high levels of socio-economic deprivation. Over the period 2011-13 to 2018-20, for both men and women, the inequality gap in life expectancy (between the most and least deprived communities) has remained unchanged, and there continues to be a seven year gap for men and a six year gap for women. The gap in healthy life expectancy is also largely unchanged for men (13 years), but it has widened for women such that the gap is now 20 years. This means that a woman living in the most deprived part of Gwent today lives just 48 years of life in good health.<sup>3</sup>

Figure 1: Life expectancy at birth (years), most vs least deprived quintiles, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area, 2011-13 to 2018-20.

**Life expectancy at birth, years, males and females, Aneurin Bevan UHB, 2011-2013 to 2018-2020**

Produced by Public Health Wales Observatory, using APS, 2011 Census, PHM, MYE (ONS) & WIMD 2019 (WG)

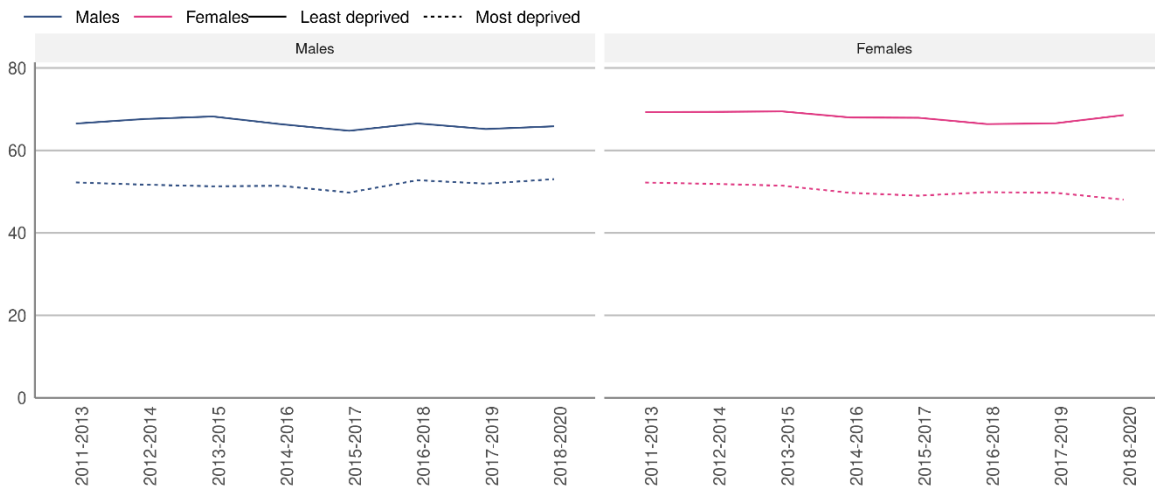


Source: Public Health Wales

Figure 2: Healthy life expectancy at birth (years), most vs least deprived quintiles, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area, 2011-13 to 2018-20.

**Healthy life expectancy at birth, years, males and females, Aneurin Bevan UHB, 2011-2013 to 2018-2020**

Produced by Public Health Wales Observatory, using APS, 2011 Census, PHM, MYE (ONS) & WIMD 2019 (WG)



Source: Public Health Wales

For people in all communities in Gwent to live healthy, fulfilled, dignified lives means reducing the inequality gap. This will need all of Gwent’s public, private and voluntary sector to work together with communities to address the social determinants of health. Housing should be health-improving, climate-change resilient and suitable for an ageing population. Communities should be safe, with a focus on well-being and empowerment. Education should result in more equitable opportunities and narrow the attainment gap. Transport should enable access to employment, education, culture and leisure, and be health and climate-improving. Employment should provide a fair income and good, health-improving and protecting work, and be climate change resilient. The environment should promote well-being, and be protected from biodiversity loss and climate change.

The opportunities and challenges identified in the Gwent Well-being Assessment are set against the backdrop of what has been described as the ‘triple challenge’ of the Covid-19 pandemic, the UK leaving the European Union, and the climate emergency.<sup>4</sup> This is further intensified by the heightening cost of living crisis. Whilst the long-term impacts are not yet known, these factors all have the potential to further widen inequalities.

By becoming a Marmot region, Gwent will work across the wide range of social determinants for a healthy society. Professor Sir Michael Marmot (Director of the UCL Institute of Health Equity) has developed eight Marmot Principles for achieving greater equity in health. He first proposed his original six principles in his Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England (2010), ‘Fair Society,

Healthy Lives’, which illustrated in detail that the more deprived the area, the shorter the life expectancy.<sup>5</sup> Professor Marmot has continued to advocate these guiding principles as the framework for action in his subsequent reviews of health inequalities in England, including in Marmot communities and regions (see Gwent PSB Marmot proposal for further information and references). In his most recent report, ‘All Together Fairer: Health Equity and the Social Determinants of Health in Cheshire and Merseyside’, Professor Marmot advocates for the inclusion of two additional principles (see principles 7&8 in Section 1).<sup>6</sup>

The table below highlights the fit between the 8 Marmot Principles and the 15 issues for response in Gwent’s Well-being Assessment:

Table 1: The Marmot Principles and ‘fit’ with the Well-being Assessment

#	Marmot principles	Gwent Well-being Assessment - Issues for response
1	Give every child the best start in life	Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Food
2	Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives	Future transport modes and infrastructure Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Food Skills for the future Digital futures
3	Create fair employment and good work for all	Future transport modes and infrastructure Supportive local economies Skills for the future Digital futures
4	Ensure a healthy standard of living for all	Future transport modes and infrastructure Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Food
5	Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities	Community safety Cohesive and empowered communities Future transport modes and infrastructure Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Food Flood risk
6	Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention	Covid-19 Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Food

7	Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together	Climate change – adaptation and mitigation Biodiversity and species loss Ecological footprint Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Food Skills for the future Flood risk Digital futures
8	Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes	Cohesive and empowered communities Future housing and thermally efficient existing homes Supportive local economies Skills for the future Digital futures

- **Housing**

As noted in the table above, a recurring element to addressing inequalities is future housing and thermally efficient existing homes.

The advisory group for the UK Committee on Climate Change, chaired by Professor Sir Michael Marmot, produced the report titled “Sustainable Health Equity: A Net Zero UK,” in 2020.<sup>7</sup> The report noted that living in a cold home that is difficult or expensive to heat increases the risk of exposure to cold and is associated with a variety of health impacts, especially respiratory infections - the leading cause of excess winter mortality.

Poor housing also has well evidenced effects on mental health in adults, including worry about debt and affordability and stress due to cold and damp environments. Fuel poverty has also been associated with poorer respiratory health and depressive symptoms. Conversely, warm homes have been found to contribute to reductions in the incidence of cardiovascular disease, cardiopulmonary disease, lung cancer and childhood asthmas and improved mental health and well-being.<sup>8,9,10,11</sup>

It is estimated that close to one-third of excess winter deaths are attributable to living in a cold home. Cold-related deaths are more likely in older properties and homes with the poorest thermal efficiency ratings, and among older occupants. Overall, cold homes follow the social gradient: the lower a person’s socioeconomic status, the more likely that they will live in a cold home.<sup>8,9,10,11</sup>

Actively reducing exposure to cold homes through improving their thermal and energy efficiency has also been found to contribute to wider social and health benefits, including:<sup>8,9,10,11</sup>

- Delaying and reducing the need for primary care and social care
- Preventing hospital admissions
- Increased school attendance
- Increased engagement with (community and social) services
- Reduced incidence of risky health-related behaviours
- Enabling timely discharge from hospital, and preventing re-admissions
- Enabling rapid recovery from periods of ill health or planned admissions.

### 3. Well-being objectives to be worked towards under this priority:

Table 1 above lists the eight Marmot Principles that will be worked towards as well-being objectives under this priority theme within the Gwent Well-being Plan.

### 4. What contribution can working towards these objectives achieve for well-being in Gwent?

- **Why do it - what is the case for prioritising work on this issue?**

There is a 13 year difference for men and a difference which has widened to 20 years for women in how long life is lived in good health between the richest and poorest neighbourhoods in Gwent. The gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived neighbourhoods is approximately 7 years for men and 6 years for women.<sup>3</sup> This is unjust, unfair and amenable to action by Gwent PSB partners.

- **Is it an issue that could be tackled over the short, medium or long-term?**

Reducing health inequalities in Gwent by addressing the social determinants of health, and the historical legacy of housing, will require a cross-sector response which includes actions for the short, medium and long-term. Long-term will be up to 25 years ahead, in line with the definition in the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) Act (2015).

- **How could it contribute to the 7 Well-being Goals?**

The table below highlights the contribution of the eight Marmot Principles to Wales' seven well-being goals.

Table 2: The 8 Marmot Principles and the 7 Well-being Goals

#	Marmot principles	Well-being goals
1	Give every child the best start in life	Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
2	Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives	Prosperous Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
3	Create fair employment and good work for all	Prosperous Resilient Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

		Globally Responsible
4	Ensure a healthy standard of living for all	Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
5	Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities	Resilient Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language Globally Responsible
6	Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention	Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
7	Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together	Prosperous Resilient Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language Globally Responsible
8	Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes	Prosperous Healthier More Equal Cohesive Communities Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language Globally Responsible

## 5. Where are we now?

- **Evidence of current situation – data, research, etc.**

The current situation is set out in both the Gwent Well-being Assessment<sup>2</sup> and the proposal for Gwent to become a Marmot region (link on page 1), including the health inequalities ‘headlines’ in section 4 above.

As illustrated in the local government diagram below, local authorities have an influence in every social determinant of health, with some services, e.g. Planning, influencing more than one determinant of the health and well-being of the local population.<sup>12</sup>





social conditions that affect health and health equity, including employment conditions, goods and services, and wider impacts.<sup>13</sup>

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service are ensuring all children receive education at Key Stage 1&2 on fire safety in the home. Adults deemed most vulnerable to accidental fires have comprehensive home fire safety checks.

Examples of work underway in Newport City Council are listed in **Annex 3**.

In respect of tackling the historic legacy of the poor thermal efficiency of the existing housing stock in Gwent, progress is being made. With the target set by Welsh Government, informed by the research “Better Homes, Better Wales, Better World – decarbonising the existing homes in Wales”<sup>14</sup>, the social housing sector is leading in this area. As noted above, from the report titled “Sustainable Health Equity: A Net Zero UK”<sup>7</sup> it highlights the importance of improving thermal efficiency, and the decarbonisation programme that flows from the Welsh Government targets will address a number of the eight Marmot Principles. This is illustrated below:

Table 3: Housing and impact on the eight Marmot Principles

#	Marmot principles
<b>1</b>	<b>Give every child the best start in life</b>
	Decarbonisation of existing homes (i.e. improve the thermal efficiency) supports the healthier well-being goals of reducing health inequalities that living in a cold home that is difficult or expensive to heat, or both, increases the risk of exposure to cold and is associated with a variety of health impacts
<b>3</b>	<b>Create fair employment and good work for all</b>
	Decarbonisation of existing homes (i.e. improve the thermal efficiency) supports the prosperous well-being goals as the target requires retrofitting of the affordable housing sector by 2030 at a cost of up to £1bn, which in turn will create a significant number of new green jobs in the region. This is sustainable as that programme will continue after 2030 with home owners seeking such improvements (the demand enhanced by the 2022 cost of living crisis impact on energy costs).
<b>4</b>	<b>Ensure a healthy standard of living for all</b>
	See above (Marmot Principle 3) in terms of sustainable jobs from decarbonisation
<b>7</b>	<b>Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together</b>
	Decarbonisation of existing homes (i.e. improve the thermal efficiency) supports the Gwent region’s response to climate change, given the significant impact that decarbonisation by achieving Energy Performance Standard A on reducing the levels of greenhouse gases emissions that come from (directly or indirectly) residential homes

- **How effective is the current work?**

At a local level, some work will be extremely effective. Whether in relation to early years, housing, training and employment, there will be some examples of effective practice. However, the gap in healthy life expectancy across Gwent is

not narrowing, which suggests that population level impact is not currently being achieved and a coordinated, whole system approach is necessary.

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service has found that, since the introduction of preventative measures, the fire service has seen a reduction in Accidental Dwelling Fires deaths of over 60%.

In respect of the decarbonisation of the existing social housing homes, there is ongoing monitoring across the country by Welsh Government on the energy efficiency improvements being delivered by the housing association sector. Currently, Welsh Government is in the evaluation mode, using an investment programme called the 'Optimise Retrofit Programme', which is being used to help determine the most effective way to deliver decarbonisation at scale.

- **How well does what is currently being done take account of the 5 ways of working?**

The table below illustrates how becoming a Marmot region will align to the 5-ways of working.

Table 4: The 5-ways of working and Gwent becoming a Marmot region.

5-ways of working	Steps being taken
Collaboration	Gwent becoming a Marmot Region is a collaborative programme of Gwent PSB.
Integration	The delivery of the Marmot programme will be whole system and include all PSB partners in working together.
Involvement	The delivery of the Marmot programme will be underpinned with a communications and engagement plan, which will reach out to cross-sector stakeholders and Gwent's communities.
Long-term	The recommendations which will follow from the Institute of Health Equity should inform delivery over the next 10-25 years.
Prevention	The Marmot principles have preventing inequalities as their core (the causes of the causes), together with a specific Marmot principle on preventing ill-health.

How the decarbonisation of homes links to the 5-ways of working is illustrated below.

Table 5: How decarbonisation of existing homes aligns with the Well-being of Future Generations Act's 5-ways of working.

5-ways of working	Steps being taken
Collaboration	Joint working within housing sector – housing associations and local authorities - around supply chains / procurement / contracts Public Bodies collaborating on commitment, leadership, funding Opportunities for joint pilots and trials across Gwent

Integration	Reduced Greenhouse gas emissions Increased economic activity and prosperity A more resilient housing stock A healthier population Reduced inequality More cohesive communities
Involvement	Making best use of local communities and community groups Using existing regional and community networks Important role for SMEs Engagement with stakeholders and public Enhanced roles for planning and building control
Long-term	30-year programme to deliver immediate and long-term benefits
Prevention	Tackling fuel poverty and providing improvements to the health and well-being of citizens More cohesive communities enabled by improving the housing stock

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service work in collaboration with numerous partners to tackle accidental dwelling fires and deliberate fire setting. This has been in place for over 20 years. All members of society are able to receive this education/prevention training.

## 6. What could be done (steps)?

- **Additional work identified?**

During 2022-23, a series of Marmot region events will be held to develop a set of partnership actions and accompanying delivery plan, facilitated by the Institute of Health Equity. This work should be completed in the first half of 2023 and will inform how each of the Marmot Principles can contribute to reducing health inequalities in Gwent. The table below lists examples from Marmot cities/regions/communities elsewhere in the UK to provide an illustration of some of the areas of focus likely to come out of this process.

Table 6: Examples of areas of focus of Marmot cities/regions/communities

Marmot Principle	Areas of Focus
1. Give every child the best start in life	Reducing the impact of child poverty Improving the quality and availability of early years services
2. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives	Reducing inequalities in educational attainment Reducing school exclusions Ensuring all young people are engaged in education, employment or training Improving the prevention and treatment of mental health problems among young people
3. Create fair employment and good work for all	Reducing in-work poverty Providing post-school apprenticeships and support for in-work training Providing good, fair work Increasing local recruitment into jobs

4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all	Introducing a health equity in all policies approach Introduce contractual mechanisms where 'additional social value' is included in the tender requirements and contracts partly awarded on the basis of what additional social value they bring in terms of good employment, local procurement and sustainability. Supporting food aid providers and charities Supporting community and voluntary sector provision of debt advice. Offering support for those who are in debt
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities	Use place based approaches to service delivery Engage with communities on local priorities and service design Develop resilient communities Provide affordable, good quality housing
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention	Develop equity targets for services with clear lines of accountability Develop actions to improve community safety and reduce anti-social behaviour. Improve leadership for health inequalities Develop shared local indicators Train staff in the social determinants of health
7. Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together	Minimise air pollution from all sources Design and retrofit homes to be energy efficient, climate resilient and healthy Build a sustainable, resilient and healthy food system Develop a transport system that promotes active travel and road safety, and which minimises pollution Develop healthy and sustainable models of work  <i>Also see Environment theme in Response Analysis</i>
8. Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes	Improving the quality of recording of ethnicity Improve the analysis of ethnic inequalities related to service use Develop culturally competent and inclusive services Assess equality as well as quality of services  <i>Also see Community Cohesion theme in Response Analysis</i>

With the decarbonisation of existing homes, there is work required on behaviour change. Given that reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from existing homes in Gwent will require both people and organisations to change their behaviours; interventions drawing on the science of behaviour change are needed to understand and promote the necessary change. In Wales, 84% of all homes are owner-occupied or privately rented. It is clear that for decarbonisation to succeed across Gwent, then policy and delivery must be designed with homeowners and private landlords in mind.

- **Working more collaboratively?**

Alongside business and the education sector, Gwent PSB will need to involve and work collaboratively with communities across Gwent who are living with the impacts of inequalities. The Institute of Health Equity will provide advice on how best to engage with citizens, alongside other resources including Public Health

Wales' 'Principles of Community Engagement for Empowerment' and the 'National Principles of Community Engagement' framework.<sup>15,16</sup>

- **Examples of evidenced good practice elsewhere**

There is now a body of evidence from other parts of the UK of the galvanising effect on health inequalities of adopting the Marmot Principles. This includes Coventry ([Coventry: a Marmot City – Coventry City Council](#)), Greater Manchester City Region ([Greater Manchester is a “Marmot city region” – what does that mean, and how will it improve our health and reduce inequalities? - GMHSC](#)) and Cheshire and Merseyside [Champs | Public Health Collaborative \(champspublichealth.com\)](#).

Wigan Council adopted an approach with some similarities to the ways of working found in Marmot regions. Called 'The Deal', this was a series of tailored agreements with communities aimed at creating a better borough. In 'The Deal', the Council's pledges are published alongside the part which it needs local residents and businesses to play.<sup>17</sup>

In terms of impact, Coventry has the longest history of working to the Marmot Principles and, whilst it is not possible to solely attribute changes in population indicators to their 'Marmot City' status, there is evidence of a narrowing of health inequalities and falling levels of deprivation.<sup>18</sup> Wigan's headline achievement in relation to population health is a significant increase in healthy life expectancy, as well as reductions in premature mortality from cardiovascular disease and cancer.<sup>17i</sup>

The Local Government Association's Health Inequalities Hub (England) is a rich source of case-studies. Table 7 illustrates some examples of local community action across the Marmot 8 Principles.<sup>19</sup>

Table 7: Examples of local community case-studies which contribute to the social determinants of health / Marmot Principles

Name of case-study	Example of contribution to Marmot 8 Principles
<a href="#">No child left behind: Cheltenham Borough Council's year of action</a>	1. Give every child the best start in life
<a href="#">Social Housing Connectivity in Leeds</a>	2. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives
<a href="#">Greater Manchester Combined Authority: building an integrated skills and work system</a>	3. Create fair employment and good work for all
<a href="#">Lewisham: Working with partners to address food poverty</a>	4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
<a href="#">Healthy place-shaping in Bicester</a>	5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities

<a href="#">Kent: using health and wellbeing shop to reach out to communities facing health inequalities</a>	6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
<a href="#">Cheshire West and Chester Council: Enhancing health, tackling climate change</a>	7. Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together
<a href="#">Tackling inequalities and disproportionality – Camden Council</a>	8. Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes

- **Are additional resources required or re-tasking of existing resources?**

It is difficult at this stage to be prescriptive about resources as the list of agreed actions for Gwent are not decided. However, the experience of other Marmot regions/cities/communities, as well as other similar programmes in the UK, is that this is not about new money, but it is about how existing money is allocated and decisions about how resources are deployed. This may involve discussions about pooling funding to create scale, increasing the proportion of funding spent on prevention, and working more directly with communities to decide how money is spent.

- **What resources would be needed? Are they already in place?**

The resources required to make an impact on the social determinants of health are in place. The amount of capital, both human and physical, among Gwent partners and within Gwent communities is sufficient to reduce the gaps in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy. It may require difficult or challenging thinking about how resources are deployed, but the resource is available.

In respect of housing, decarbonisation is not fully funded, although research is underway to find ways to support grant funding.

## **7. How have you engaged with stakeholders?**

- Community events and meetings

Through the involvement of the UCL Institute of Health Equity a series of workshops with a wide-range of cross-sector stakeholders and representatives of local communities will be held in 2022. These hybrid workshops are currently being scoped with the Institute of Health Equity for delivery from early autumn onwards.

The draft well-being plan is subject to a 12-weeks formal consultation.

- Professionals and businesses

A professional audience will be part of the Marmot workshops (above). Also see section 5 above on need for further involvement and collaboration with business and education sectors.

## 8. How does this area link with the other response areas?

- What are the opportunities to collaborate?

To be able to reduce inequalities, it is the correct approach to address health inequalities in parallel with improving community cohesion and mitigating and adapting for a changing climate and loss of biodiversity. This is reflected in the eight Marmot Principles.

Community cohesion – As highlighted in Greater Manchester’s ‘Marmot City region’ work, strengthened community resilience and social cohesion, and improved safety support good health and reduce inequalities. Health equity interventions which strengthen community assets are important, including the provision of accessible and affordable public transport. [build-back-fairer-in-greater-manchester-executive-summary.pdf \(instituteofhealthequity.org\)](https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/build-back-fairer-in-greater-manchester-executive-summary.pdf)

Environment - Action to improve health equity can also be consistent with measures to decarbonise. Professor Marmot’s report ‘Sustainable Health Equity: Achieving a Net-Zero UK’, which was commissioned by the UK Committee on Climate Change, identifies four key areas for action:<sup>7</sup>

- Minimising air pollution
- Building energy efficient homes
- Promoting sustainable and healthy food
- Prioritising active and safe transport

The Chief Medical Officer for Wales’ Special Report, ‘Protecting Our Health’,<sup>20</sup> published following the first phase of Covid-19 advocates for the ‘One Health’ concept which recommends work across sectors and disciplines to address issues or risks that occur at the animal health, human health, and environmental health interface, including disaster preparedness and food and water safety and security. It recommends that the strong collaborations forged in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, including public bodies, third sector and academia, should be built upon to prioritise these threats.

- Have possible tensions been identified and resolved?

Tensions have not been identified at this stage as objectives and actions are not agreed, but this will be worked through as part of action plan development in 2022-23.

## 9. Conclusions and Recommendations

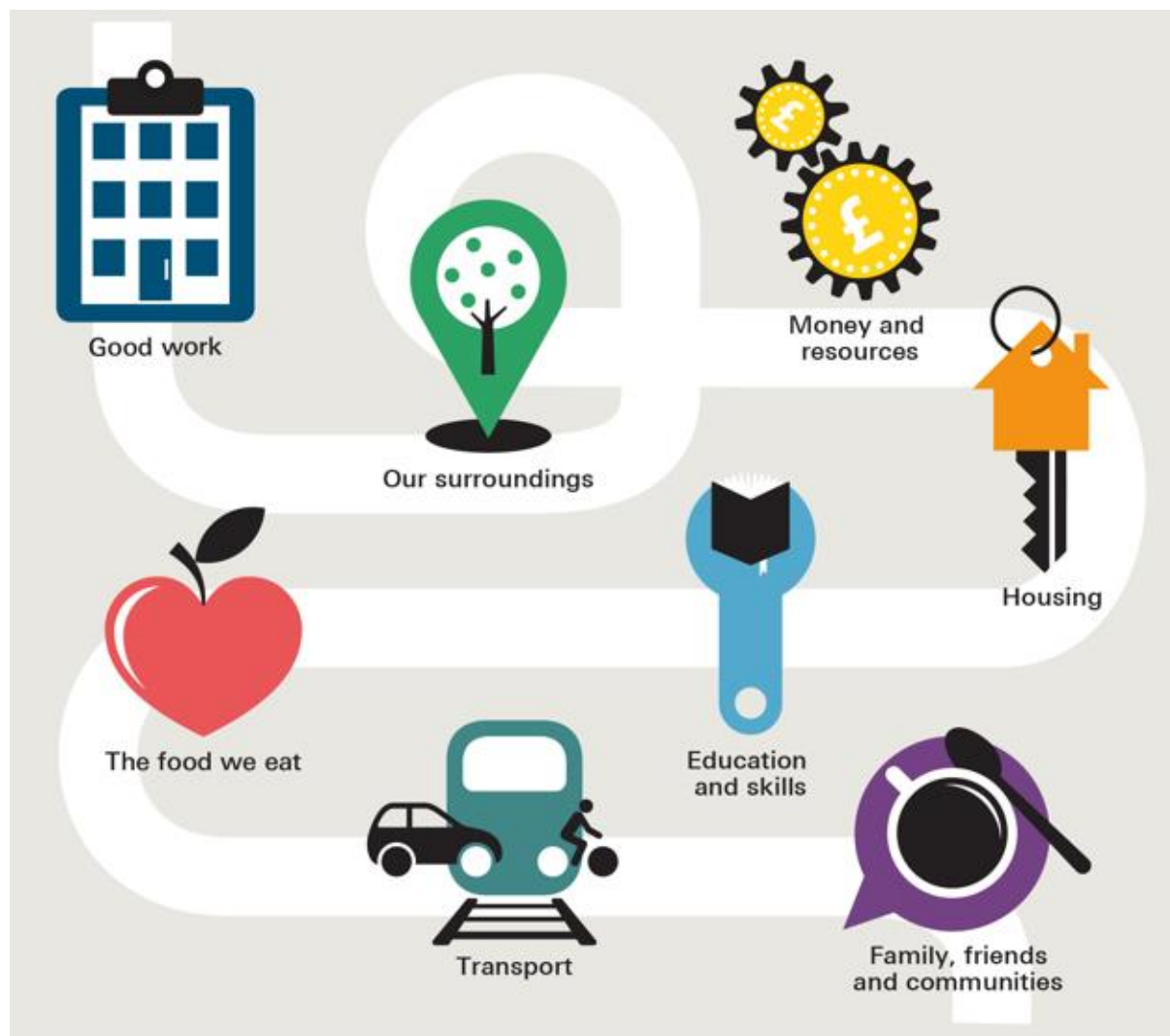
Health, as measured by life expectancy, has stopped improving, and health inequalities are widening.<sup>3</sup> The Gwent Well-being Assessment<sup>2</sup> shows that, in 2015-17, people in the most deprived communities in Gwent were dying 6-7 years earlier than they should. More recent figures from ONS for Wales as a whole demonstrate that the gap in life expectancy has widened still further during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>21,21i</sup> As well as how long people live, how many years’ people live in good

health also shows a strong social gradient. Women in particular will now spend almost a third of their life in poor health in the most deprived communities in Wales.<sup>3</sup>

This situation is unjust and almost entirely due to social conditions - poverty, poor-quality housing, low-paid or unstable jobs, food insecurity, lack of public transport links, limited access to green space and social isolation. It is unjust that it is a person's postcode at birth rather than their genetic code that is the predictor of how long they will live and how long they will live in good health. This is illustrated in The Health Foundation infographic below.



Figure 4: What makes us healthy?



Source: The Health Foundation <https://www.health.org.uk/>

The areas where partners in Gwent need to prioritise action are captured in the Marmot Principles and the commitment already made by Gwent Public Services Board to become a Marmot region. The underlying feature of a Marmot region is a determined and joint effort to true partnership working across a number of areas to improve the lives of all, but in a way that is proportionate to the level of need. The areas of focus are enshrined in the Marmot Principles:

1. Give every child the best start in life
2. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives
3. Create fair employment and good work for all
4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
7. Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together
8. Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes

Through this commitment, improved health and reduced inequalities will be at the centre of how partners in Gwent develop approaches to early years, education and skills, transport, housing, places and spaces, and jobs and businesses over the short, medium and long term.

The specific actions that Gwent will take to respond to each of the eight Marmot Principles will be worked through during 2022/23 as part of year one of the Well-being Plan. As such, this Response Analysis does not put forward recommendations for specific interventions at this stage. This is, in essence 'the' objective of the response plan when it comes to health inequalities – to embed the eight Marmot Principles in order to tackle health inequalities between communities in the region.

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- 4 [Rising to the Triple Challenge of Brexit, COVID-19 and Climate Change for health, well-being and equity in Wales - World Health Organization Collaborating Centre On Investment for Health and Well-being \(phwhocc.co.uk\)](https://www.phwhocc.co.uk/rising-to-the-triple-challenge-of-brexit-covid-19-and-climate-change-for-health-well-being-and-equity-in-wales)
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- 7 <https://www.instituteoftheequity.org/resources-reports/sustainable-health-equity-achieving-a-net-zero-uk>
- 8 [The-Case-for-Investing-in-Prevention-Housing.pdf \(phwhocc.co.uk\)](https://www.phwhocc.co.uk/the-case-for-investing-in-prevention-housing.pdf)
- 9 <https://phw.nhs.wales/files/housing-and-health-reports/a-case-for-investment-report/>
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- 12 <https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/social-determinants-health-and-role-local-government>
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- 15 [Rules of community engagement: Relinquish your power so that communities can take control - Public Health Wales \(nhs.wales\)](https://www.nhs.uk/rules-of-community-engagement)

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- 17 [What is The Deal? \(wigan.gov.uk\)](#)
- 17i The King's Fund (2019) *A citizen-led approach to health and care: Lessons from the Wigan Deal*. Available at: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/wigan-deal>
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- 21i Office for National Statistics (2022) *Health state life expectancies by national deprivation quintiles, Wales: 2018 to 2020*. Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthinequalities/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesbynationaldeprivationdecileswales/2018to2020>

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Please now complete the table on the next page outlining what initial steps could be taken to achieve each potential objective.

[Table can be completed before 30 June if possible, but above must be completed by 30 June]

**If the PSB chose this as a well-being objective, what key steps should be undertaken in the first 12 months, and by whom? (We acknowledge that the objective is a long-term issue, but identifying some initial steps will help the PSB to understand what could be done)**

**Objective 1: Embed the Marmot principles in order to tackle health inequalities in the region**

<b>Objective 1: Steps</b>	<b>Partners involved</b>	<b>Lead organisation</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Comment</b>
All Gwent PSB partners will work with the UCL Institute of Health Equity in 2022/23 to create a common position on the impact of health inequalities in Gwent, and agree system-wide actions and commitments to reduce equalities.	All PSB partners	ABUHB	March-May'23	

**Objective 2: To embed addressing the thermal efficiency of the homes in Gwent as a key determinant in reducing health inequalities in Gwent**

<b>Objective 2: Steps</b>	<b>Partners involved</b>	<b>Lead organisation</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Workshops with business to highlight the opportunities created by the green agenda in the form of decarbonising the homes of Gwent.				Seeking to develop the market of suppliers into this emerging green sector
Explore the appetite for joint procurement opportunities for decarbonisation, using the collective impact of the Gwent PSB.				Help drive down costs on what initially could be expensive new technologies
Workshops with education sector in Gwent to drive training initiatives within the new decarbonisation economy.				Ensure in the medium term that sufficiently trained local people become available to support this emerging green sector

**Annex 1:** Linkages between the first set of local well-being objectives of Gwent’s PSBs and the ‘Marmot Principles’

**Marmot Principles**

PSB Well-being Objectives	Giving every child the best start in life	Enabling all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives	Creating fair employment and good work for all	Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all	Creating and developing sustainable places and communities	Strengthening the role and impact of ill health prevention
<b>Blaenau Gwent</b>						
Blaenau Gwent wants everyone to have the best start in life						
Blaenau Gwent wants safe and friendly communities						
Blaenau Gwent wants to look after and protect its natural environment						
Blaenau Gwent wants to forge new pathways to prosperity						
Blaenau Gwent wants to encourage and enable people to make healthy lifestyle choices in the places that they live, learn, work and play						
<b>Caerphilly</b>						
Positive Change – a shared commitment to improving the way we work together						
Positive Start – Giving our future generations the best start in life						
Positive People – Empowering and enabling all our residents to achieve their own potential						
Positive Places – Enabling our communities to be resilient and sustainable						
<b>Newport</b>						
Everyone feels good about living, visiting, and investing in our unique city						
Everyone has the skills and opportunities they need to develop, prosper, and contribute to a thriving sustainable city						
Everyone belongs to resilient, friendly, connected communities, and feels confident and empowered to improve their well-being						
Newport has healthy, safe, and resilient environments with an integrated sustainable travel network						
<b>Monmouthshire</b>						

Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life	Yellow	Orange				
Respond to the challenges associated with demographic change		Orange			Dark Blue	Red
Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment whilst mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change					Dark Blue	
Develop opportunities for communities and business to be part of an economically thriving and well connected county		Orange	Light Blue	Light Green	Dark Blue	
<b>Torfaen</b>						
Develop a functional, connected network of natural areas that support the current and future well-being needs of local populations					Dark Blue	Red
Develop mitigation and adaptation responses to the impacts of climate change					Dark Blue	
Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life	Yellow	Orange				
Support healthy lifestyles and enable people to age well		Orange			Dark Blue	Red
Tackle the inter-generational patterns of poverty and develop economic resilience		Orange	Light Blue	Light Green		Red
Improve local skills through work-force planning, training, apprenticeships, and volunteering opportunities		Orange	Light Blue	Light Green		
Create safe, confident communities and promote community cohesion		Orange			Dark Blue	

**Annex 2: Examples of linkages between the delivery programmes of Gwent's PSBs and the 'Marmot Principles'**

Giving every child the best start in life	Enabling all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives	Creating fair employment and good work for all	Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all	Creating and developing sustainable places and communities	Strengthening the role and impact of ill health prevention
<b>GWENT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD</b>					
<b>Delivery of Local Well-being Plans</b>					
Flying Start	SE Wales Education Achievement Service	Cardiff Capital Region City Deal	Communities for Work (Blaenau Gwent)	Gwent Green Grid Partnership	Building a Healthier Gwent
SE Wales Safeguarding Children Board	Children and Families Strategic Partnership	Cardiff Capital Region Skills Partnership	Caerphilly Academy – Gateway to Employment	Health and Housing Strategic Partnership	Gwent Regional Partnership Board
Best Start in Life programmes	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme	Regional Economic Growth Partnership	Welfare Reform Group / Partnership	Resilient Greater Gwent	Gwent Healthy Travel Charter
Healthy Pre-schools	Gwent Care Career Pathway	Our Valleys Our Future (2016-21)	Financial Inclusion Strategy (Torfaen)	Sustainable Food Partnerships	Resilient Communities (Caerphilly)
First 1,000 Days Community of Practice	Learning Network Schools	EU Rural Development Programme	Skills@Work (Monmouthshire)	Caerphilly Cares	Healthy Schools
Early Years Integrated Transformation Programme	Early Action Together (All Wales)	CLES Progressive Procurement	Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board	Sustainable Travel (Newport)	Mental Health and Learning Disability Partnership
What Matters Approach	The Iceberg Model	Right Skills Board (Newport)	Reach Restart (Newport)	Climate Ready Gwent Network	Integrated Well-being Networks
	Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (Newport)	The Newport 'Offer' / City Centre Regeneration	Employment Support Programmes	Green and Safe Spaces Network (Newport)	Mental Well-being website 'MELO'
	Digital / Film Careers Sector (Newport)	Economy and Skills Strategy (Torfaen)		Gwent Future Scenarios	Participatory Budgeting
	Youth Councils	Community Wealth Building		Blaenau Gwent Climate Assembly	

	Operation Encompass			Gwent Citizens Panel	
				Placemaking Wales Charter (Newport)	
				Blaenau Gwent on the Move	

## Sources:

[The Blaenau Gwent We Want Three Years of Progress 2020-2021](#)

[Caerphilly PSB Delivery Plan Progress Reports March 2021, Sept2021](#)

[Monmouthshire Public Service Board Well-Being Plan Annual Report 2021](#)

[Torfaen Public Services Board Annual Report April 2020 to March 2021](#)

[Newport's Well-Being Plan 2018-23 Annual Report 2020-21](#)



### Annex 3: Examples of work in Newport City Council



Newport City  
Council\_Health Ineq

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## **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2022**

**SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD ANNUAL  
REPORT 2021-2022**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND CORPORATE  
SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update Members on the fourth and final annual report for the Caerphilly Public Services Board in its current guise, covering activity under the 'Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023' for a seven month period from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021.
- 1.2 Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are a statutory recipient of the report.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Public Services Board's annual report runs for the time period October 2021 to April 2022, and reflects progress on the enablers and action areas under the current 'Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023' over that time period.
- 2.2 This year's report covers a seven month period, as opposed to the previously reported annual update. This alteration in reporting timescales is as a result of delays to previous reporting timelines due to the Covid pandemic.
- 2.3 While formally dissolved to pave the way for the subsequent creation of a Gwent Public Services Board, the Caerphilly PSB agreed to act as a residual body and to continue to drive and monitor progress against the current wellbeing plan's conclusion, and until it is superseded by the newly developed Gwent well-being plan in May 2023.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That Members note the contents of the Caerphilly Public Services Board's fourth and final Annual Report in its current guise on the progress made against the reports' enabler and action areas.

#### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 To allow the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to fulfil its functions under Section 35 of the relevant legislation.

#### **5. THE REPORT**

- 5.1 The Caerphilly Public Services Board's (PSB) fourth and final Annual Report in its current guise, highlights the progress partners have made against the 'Caerphilly We Want' Well-being Plan for 2018-2023.
- 5.2 The report for 2021-22 covers a seven month period – from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021, as previous reporting timelines (in 2020 and 2021) were altered as a result of the Covid pandemic.
- 5.3 The report highlights many examples of how all partners have continued to respond to the challenges that have presented themselves, not least the recovery phase of the pandemic as well as to deliver against the enabler and action areas within the Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023.
- 5.4 Moving forward, while the creation of a Gwent Public Services Board provides a simplified and streamlined regional model, as well as closer alignment to other existing regional boards, Local Delivery Groups are established within each local authority area and will continue to deliver against the well-being objectives for Gwent at a Caerphilly specific, local level in future. Local Delivery Groups reflect the PSB membership, and the Caerphilly Local Delivery Group will be chaired by the Deputy Leader.
- 5.5 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act places a duty on Public Services Boards to produce an Assessment of Well-being every five years. Extensive work has taken place on an assessment process for the whole of Gwent, with delivery plans for the five local authority areas of Gwent also to be included within the plan. The Gwent well-being plan must be published by 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

#### **5.6 Conclusion**

Despite the recovery phase of the global Covid pandemic, the appended report shows that significant progress continues to be made by partners collaboratively, under the current well-being plan.

#### **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 There are no assumptions made in this report.

#### **7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 This report sets out the progress made against the Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023. It covers activity from October 2021 to April 2022.
- 7.2 The work of the residual Caerphilly Public Services Board is consistent with the five ways of working as set out in the sustainable development principle in the Act, since

it allows Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to consider how the actions of the Public Services Board are:

- Long Term – Balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
- Prevention - Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse to help public bodies meet their objectives
- Integration – Considering how the well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, or on the objectives of other public bodies
- Collaboration – Acting in collaboration with any other person that could help the board to meet its well-being objectives
- Involvement – Involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

## **9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no personnel implications in this report.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 This report has been sent to all consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Section 35 and 45 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Author: Kathryn Peters, Corporate Policy Manager, [peterk@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:peterk@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Consultees: Councillor Sean Morgan, Leader of the Council  
Christina Harray, Chief Executive  
Councillor Gary Johnston, Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Councillor Brenda Miles, Vice Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director, Education and Corporate Services  
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning and Strategy  
Stephen Harris, Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer  
Rob Tranter, Head of legal Services and Monitoring Officer

Background Papers: None

Appendix 1: Caerphilly Public Services Board Annual Report 2021/2022

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# Caerphilly Public Services Board Annual Report 2021/22




**HEDDLU GWENT POLICE**

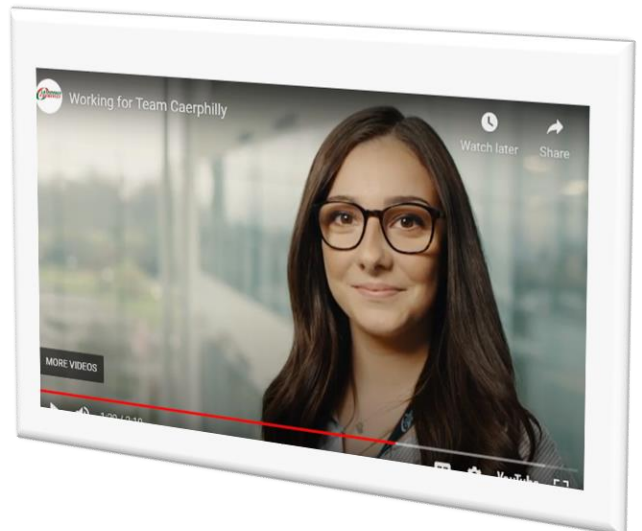
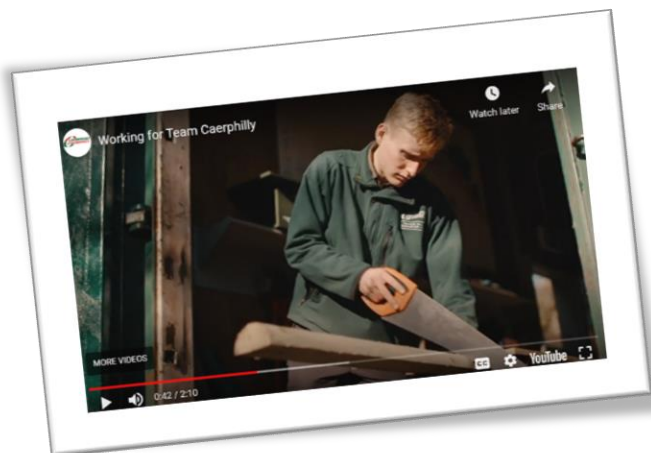
IT'S IMPORTANT LOCAL RESIDENTS FEEL SAFE IN THEIR HOMES AND THE AREAS IN WHICH THEY LIVE.

THE SAFER STREETS PROJECT IS ENABLING US TO OFFER ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES TO THOSE WHO NEED THEM IN PILLGWENLLY AND RHYMNEY.

IMPROVED DOOR LOCKS, MORE CCTV, ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTING AND CRIME PREVENTION PACKS ARE JUST SOME OF THE WAYS LOCAL OFFICERS ARE TACKLING NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIMES IN THIS SAFER STREETS PROJECT.

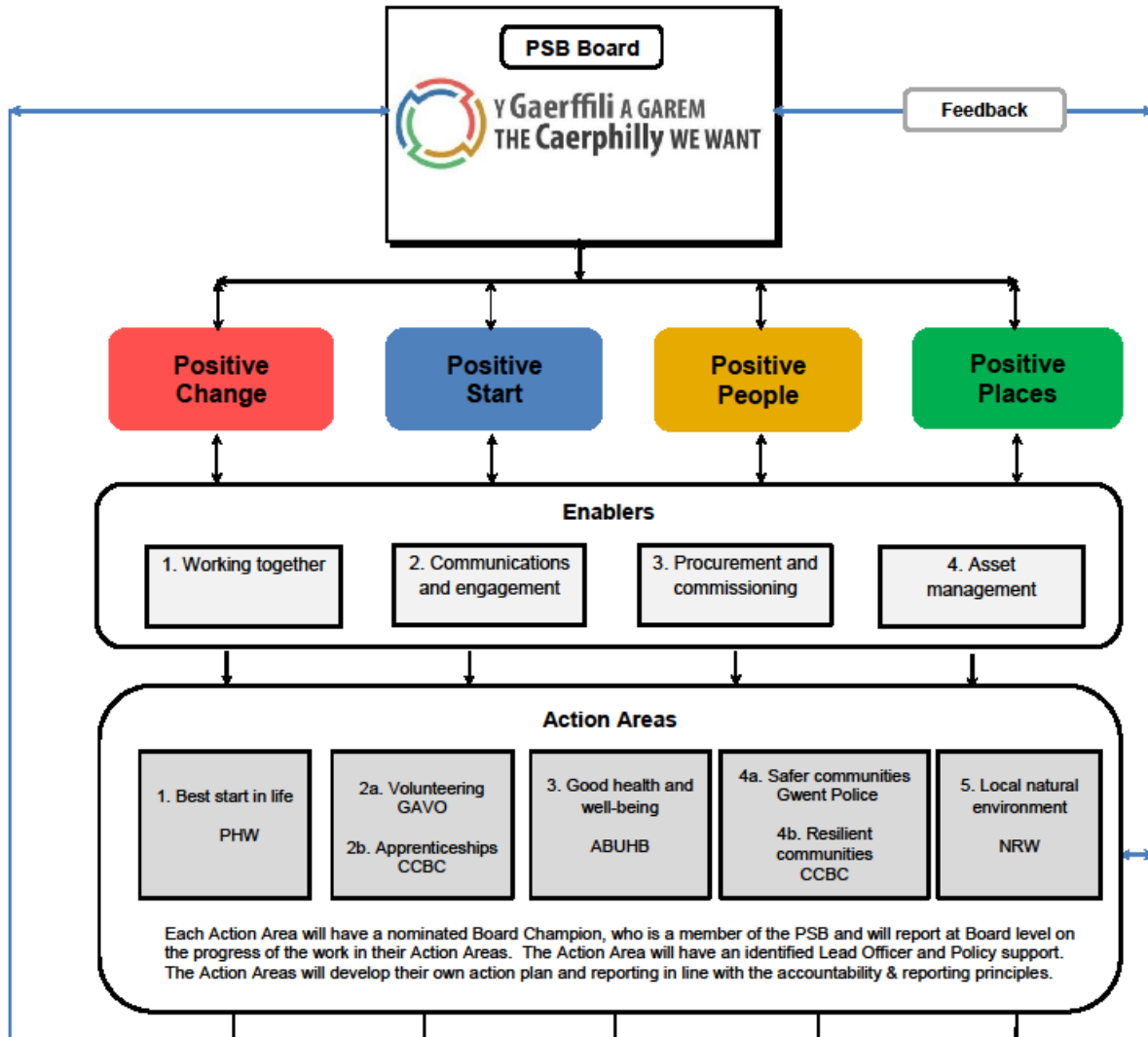
DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE - AMANDA BLAKEMAN

AMODRYFYN & THARWELI MEDDWL  
PROTECTING AND REASSURING



# The 'Caerphilly We Want' Well-being Plan

The Well-being Plan sets four overarching Objectives (the four Positives) – Positive Change, Positive Start, Positive People and Positive Places. This framework sets out how the work to achieve these Objectives (the Plan) was structured, managed and monitored. These are supported and underpinned by four Enablers and this is illustrated in the diagram below:



The Plan was originally made up of six Action Areas, but as we implemented the Plan, we concluded that additional needs required the addition of a new Action Area, and therefore the "Caerphilly Cares" Action Area has been included this year. This Annual Report is structured to reflect these Action Areas and Enablers as set out below - you can click on the relevant heading and go straight to the individual section of the report in detail if you choose.



## **Main Contents**

[Introduction of the Leader of Caerphilly County Borough Council, Cllr Sean Morgan](#)

### **Action Areas**

[Action Area 1 – Best start in life](#)

[Action Area 2a – Volunteering](#)

[Action Area 2b – Job growth and employability support \(formerly titled Apprenticeships\)](#)

[Action Area 3 – Good health and well-being](#)

[Action Area 4a – Safer communities](#)

[Action Area 4b – Resilient communities](#)

[Action Area 5 – Protect and enhance the local natural environment](#)

[Action Area 6 – Caerphilly Cares](#) – a new Action Area added in 2021

### **Enablers**

[Enabler 1 – Communications and engagement](#)

[Enabler 2 – Procurement](#)

[Enabler 3 – Asset management](#)

We have also given a separate update on the following which is crosscutting across several of the main Activity Areas:

[Welsh language and culture](#)

### **And finally**

[Looking to the future](#)

[Measuring our progress](#)

[Contact us](#)

## **Introduction from Leader of Caerphilly County Borough Council, Cllr Sean Morgan**

It gives me great pleasure to endorse the Caerphilly Public Services Board's (PSB) fourth and final Annual Report in its current guise, highlighting the progress partners have made against our 'Caerphilly We Want' Wellbeing Plan for 2018-2023. This year's report covers a seven month period – from 1st October 2021, as previous reporting timelines (in 2020 and 2021) were altered, rightly, as a result of the Covid pandemic.

I continue to be impressed by the many examples of how all partners have continued to respond to the challenges that have presented themselves, not least the recovery phase of the pandemic and of course the current cost of living crisis, which is impacting whole communities, not least our residents in most need of support.

While we continue to report on the progress made against the 'Caerphilly We Want' Wellbeing Plan for 2018-2023 to reach this plan's conclusion, we have, over recent months, enjoyed collaborating with our regional partners and forming a Gwent Public Services Board.

While the Gwent Public Services Board provides a simplified and streamlined model, as well as closer alignment to other existing regional board, local delivery groups are established within each local authority area and will continue to deliver against the wellbeing objectives for Gwent at a Caerphilly specific, local level.

As you'll be aware, the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act places a duty on Public Services Boards to produce an Assessment of Wellbeing every five years. Colleagues from across the Gwent region have been and continue to work tirelessly to develop this assessment process for the whole of Gwent, with delivery plans for the five local authority areas of Gwent also being included. This will be published by 5th May 2023, and I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all concerned for undertaking this significant piece of work.

I look forward to working with colleagues from across a broad spectrum of the public and community sectors, both regionally and locally over the coming months, and am sure you will find the content and many examples of excellent progress contained within this report as impressive as I have.



Cllr Sean Morgan,  
Leader – Caerphilly County Borough Council

## Action Area 1 - Best start in life

During the last five years substantive progress has been made in the Gwent Early Years Integration Transformation Programme work. Originally the work started with the First Thousand Days, Children First, and trauma informed work around impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. This quickly changed in 2018/19 into the system change work of the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme.

Stakeholders across the system (families, professionals, funding bodies, organisations) recognised the complexity of the system developed through multiple different funding streams. And the criteria meant that some vulnerable families in need of support were not able to access it and others relied on intervention services instead of using their own strengths, family networks and support available in their local community. Organisations were offering a diverse menu of services and support but often unable to adapt the support to meet family needs due to the prescriptive nature of the menu offered and monitored.

The system change work has been designed to identify and build upon the family and community strengths to respond to “What Matters” to the family members. This shows the importance of voluntary sector organisations and community groups.

In Caerphilly, funding streams have been brought together to create integrated Early Years teams, bringing a range of skills and experiences together to support families and communities to build their resilience and removing barriers of postcodes or assessment criteria. Staff within these teams have been given permission to use their skills in a more tailored manner to address What Matters for the family to meet their needs/priorities: - spending more time tackling root causes and preventing a revolving door of re-referrals for support.

The findings from the pilot project in the north of the county borough have informed and energised system changes, guiding the way to a county borough wide Early Years’ Service base on need.

The Caerphilly Early Years Hub acts as a pivotal expert resource to have the What Matters conversations with families to identify the right worker to work alongside them to meet their needs. This was in addition to continuing to centrally process childcare placement applications and centralise information of early years and childcare using the Dewis database. Information for families and staff has been made more accessible through the new [Caerphilly Early Years and Childcare website](#) which joins with the ABUHB Healthier Together website. An electronic App, Midwifery Notes, for families expecting a baby, is also being developed.

The next stages are to evaluate the implementation and impact of the changes made, to understand if the system is better for families and staff. Work is ongoing to measure how we make a difference to families. A major priority is to further develop information sharing between partners, to meet the request from families to only tell their story once and to reduce

frustration and duplication of efforts for all involved. This time can be better spent with families.

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## Action Area 2a – Volunteering

The Volunteering Action Area remains a key part of the partnership work in the county borough to address the priorities of the Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan.

The Buddy Scheme initiative between Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) and Caerphilly county Borough Council to employ a Volunteer Coordinator to recruit and manage a pool of volunteers to support the most vulnerable in the community continued. Utilising staff volunteers who had been the mainstay of the scheme initially, and community volunteers who were recruited in the latter stages to replace people returning to their jobs. The scheme in reducing the support as pandemic restrictions were lifted sought to work with organisations that had set up to provide community support such as Risca CV19UK and The Parish Trust to ensure that vulnerable citizens had alternative support as the project withdrew.

The Employer Supported Volunteering element of the Action Area was launched by CCBC during October and has grown steadily since. It utilises the Volunteering Wales system to advertise Caerphilly based volunteering opportunities that council staff can undertake and works with the Buddy Scheme and is supported by officers from both organisations.

In an effort to support third sector organisations to reopen their buildings to the public safely and with confidence, GAVO and partners were successful in a bid to the reinstated Volunteering in Wales Fund. The project enabled community buildings to undertake a full risk assessment and provided them with guidance and ongoing support to re-open and restart activities.

The Volunteering Action Area has retained links with other priorities within the Well-being Plan and, has been able to add value to a number of activities throughout the year including working closely with the Integrated Wellbeing Network programme and culminating in the support for the Green Spaces Tree Planting Initiative which engaged 105 volunteers from the community, groups and statutory sector helping to plan 4,500 saplings.



1. Tree planting



2. Tarragon Centre, Bargoed



3. Tarragon Centre, Bargoed

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## Action Area 2b - Jobs growth and employability support (formerly titled Apprenticeships)

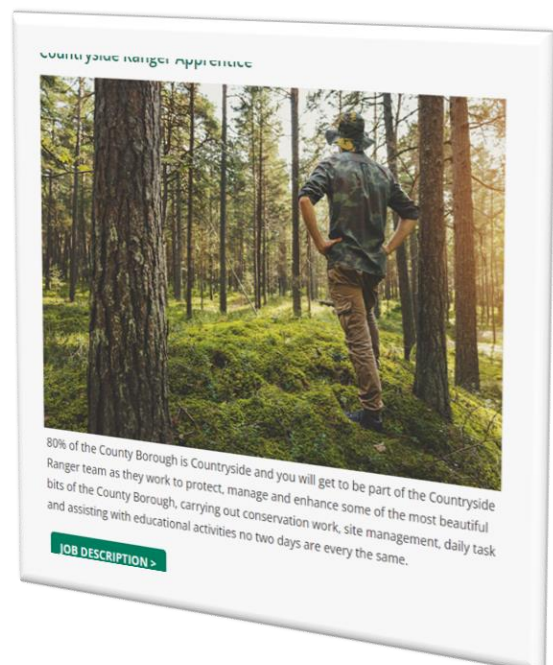
We have seen a lot of activity this past year within this action area, as recovery from the pandemic continues. In particular, CCBC has seen significant growth in its apprenticeship offer, driven forward by the HR team. The Caerphilly Academy is also now beginning to deliver as intended prior to the onset of the pandemic, with individuals supported into Kickstart positions, additional paid placements and apprenticeships, with the support of the Academy mentor proving central to the success of these placements in many cases.

We also seen success in terms of general job growth in both the public and private sectors, with local employers being supported by employment support teams to fulfil recruitment needs in the form of an appropriately skilled workforce. Some of the highlights are in the following paragraphs:

**CCBC Apprenticeships** - CCBC Workforce Development working together with colleagues from Communications and Digital Services, and with support from the Employment Support teams (including Academy), have developed and implemented an apprenticeship recruitment campaign for 2022.

As part of the campaign we aimed to maximise exposure through the development of media and new digital content to highlight our services, job opportunities and good news stories from our current apprentices. We targeted our marketing to raise the profile of our apprenticeship opportunities within local schools and colleges, and for people on our Employment Support Programmes.

We redesigned our recruitment pages and developed a specific page for our apprenticeships providing a synopsis of the roles and direct link to a simplified process for application.



We worked with our service area to develop new job descriptions that used simplified language, focusing on making all specifications relatable and achievable for people from all walks of life including our school leavers and long term unemployed.

Through the development of a new application form and application process, candidates were able to complete a single application form but apply for multiple apprenticeship opportunities. The success of these new approaches was reflected in the incredible response we received - nearly 700 applications from approximately 300 people. We are now in the process of finalising recruitment with a series of interview events scheduled for the 19th – 24th May.

**Kickstart (Caerphilly Academy)** – Over the past 6 months, 8 unemployed young people were successful in gaining employment with CCBC through the Kickstart Scheme. CCBC supported the scheme by increasing the wage offered by the DWP from National Minimum Wage to Foundation Living Wage. The Academy team worked closely with departments to create job roles that would allow the successful applicant to gain the much-needed experience and knowledge to start a career in their chosen field. The Academy Mentor also worked closely with CCBC HR Department to provide a smooth onboarding process for the successful applicants and in most cases the very tight turnaround time from interview to start date was met, resulting in the success of Kickstart as a joint venture.

All applicants were offered support from the Academy and the CCBC employment support programmes at every opportunity. The successful applicants were introduced to their future mentor at interview stage and have developed and continued that relationship. The 8 Kickstart employees have now been in post for between 5-8 weeks and are receiving support not only from their supervisors but also meeting regularly with their mentor to discuss future plans. This mentoring support has been essential in ensuring retention of some individuals whilst they have been settling into their placements, for example where liaison with managers has been required in resolving initial “teething” issues.

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## Action Area 3 – Good health and well-being

Highlights on this action area are as follows:

The team is continuing work on the roll out of **Covid-19 vaccinations and boosters**. Partner agencies are supporting uptake of this by responding to vaccine hesitancy. This work is being replicated for Childhood vaccination and partner agencies are supporting the uptake of this by responding to vaccine hesitancy. The team will look at revamping the “V for Vaccination talks” to focus specifically on families of children who are unsure about the Covid vaccine, following feedback from parents who are worried about their children getting vaccinated.

**Caerphilly Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCNs)** have again this year invested in the Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner role which is now fully recruited and are aligned to our 21 GP practices. The NCNs have actively promoted and invested in the IRIS Training and support programme which enables GPs and GP practice staff to identify patients affected by domestic violence and abuse and refer them to specialist services, benefiting the patient and saving NHS resources. And additional Investment is available to continue with the additional counselling capacity with Caerphilly Mind who support the primary care mental health service to address the volume of referrals received.

Caerphilly NCNs have undertaken a recent pilot of mindfulness sessions with staff groups to support their wellbeing. A review of the pilot will be undertaken and if proven of value to staff and service delivery, will consider extending this in 2022-23 period.

The **ABUHB intranet webpages** has a dedicated wellbeing section and staff can access this and signpost to support and advise. We have funded delivery of 132 modules of Gwent Connect 5 (GC5) – each GC5 course has 3 modules - 44 full courses.

From a **third sector perspective**, we have seen an increase in groups setting up to support dementia and mental health treatment. Particularly following the pandemic, mental health groups will likely be the theme going forward, and we need to ensure they are set up appropriately and have the correct support.

**Participatory budgeting (PB)** is a democratic process that enables local people to have direct decision-making power over how public budgets are spent. The overarching aims of PB are to increase community participation in decisions affecting their lives and enable spending decisions that better reflect local needs and address inequity. The steering group overseeing the rollout of PB has been exploring delivery of the PB programme in conjunction with CoPro Wales and have recently received a proposal from them, which is currently under consideration.

Financial wellbeing is a concern for many with rising costs of living, energy prices surging and no increases in pay. Financial wellbeing is likely to become a significant issue for all sectors in the coming months and years. This will have a direct impact on people's overall physical,



mental and emotional health. We are looking to work more closely with Citizens Advice, and local credit unions on how we mitigate these issues. Financial issues could also see a rise in crime and substance misuse.

**Integrated Well-being Networks (IWN)** place-based collectives were held in its focus areas - Bargoed, Rhymney, New Tredegar and Risca - in February 2022 and will continue on a quarterly basis. These will help inform the new Participatory Budgeting opportunities being developed in conjunction with CCBC, GAVO and others which will be supported by ABUHB Connections funding for new post-COVID wellbeing activities and initiatives.

New CWTSH community weekly wellbeing guides to local wellbeing activities for each focus area have been developed with Dewis Cymru, Caerphilly Wellbeing Friends and the Community Connectors. Feedback has been hugely favourable to date. These will expand their location reach as appropriate in coming months. A new CWTSH website with details of these and more wellbeing information has been created and is being enhanced.

One of IWN's focusses has been on the Rhymney area. Working with partners, a new revamped weekly Talking Café (Cwtsh Café) at Rhymney Library has proved very popular in reconnecting people and helping to address isolation. A biweekly Caffi Croeso through the medium of Welsh has similarly proved popular which will become weekly in April. A new Social Strollers group along with community-led heritage walks are developing and starting to get people more connected and physically active whilst a new men's mental health group is about to commence.

We produced a series of 15 short wellbeing films highlighting the work and opportunities of groups and services across Caerphilly and encourage members of the public to get involved. These are being made available to partners and are being loaded onto a new YouTube Channel.

Monthly Wellbeing Friends coffee mornings have continued, as requested by the attendees. These are seen as a great resource of information and a great way of connecting with others across the borough. Several new community members have joined and engaged with promoting good health and wellbeing messages. Talks during this time have included Bonesetter Reese heritage talk, Coeliac UK awareness session, Walking Friends, Community transport discussion, Covid restriction updates and general messages for Health and Wellbeing.

Following feedback from IWN meetings, a Rhymney 'Chatty Café' has been formed to tackle social exclusion falling from Covid isolation. These started in February 2022 and have been extremely well attended by community members and support services alike. We have also used this as an opportunity to consult with the community on their wellbeing needs.

GAVO has worked on a Transport to Health scheme, ensuring transport options for communities are more suitable, affordable, and accessible in order to access their health

appointments. 3 transport schemes have been supported in Caerphilly, in partnership with three third sector groups.

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## Action Area 4a – Safer communities

Over the last five years there have been some really positive enhancements to the way the community safety partners work together and share information in Caerphilly. In 2018 the Safer Caerphilly Hub was established which has enabled key partners to be co-located together in designated office space in Penallta House. This has significantly improved information sharing, enhanced partnership activity including projects and events, reduced the number of meetings that were being held and resources such as travelling expenses and booking venues for meetings.

The Hub holds fortnightly partnership tasking meetings with a range of community safety representatives to analyse the crime and disorder priorities for the area. Partners then distribute and deploy resources to the identified priorities. This ensures that the partnership maintains an intelligence led approach to its work and addresses identified locations and individuals appropriately. A Gwent WASPI (Wales Accord on the Sharing of Personal Information) agreement has been developed for partners to share personal information.

In addition to the fortnightly Tasking meetings that analyse the local crime and disorder priorities a multi-agency Organised Crime Group has been developed for Caerphilly to assist investigations and intelligence gathering. Community Safety Partners support Gwent Police in dealing with their most prolific/high profile offenders. The partners share intelligence and look to use their tools and powers to address offending. In 2021 partners worked together to obtain a court order against an individual who was part of an organised crime gang. The case is now used to demonstrate best practice and an example of good partnership working.

The community safety partners have also worked together to develop a new initiative called 'Community Assist Events' which are multi-agency community engagement events that are held in communities where there are emerging crime and disorder issues. Unfortunately these events had to be put on hold throughout the pandemic but we are now starting to plan more sessions again.

The Community Safety Partnership oversees the Prevent and Channel Counter Terrorism statutory duties for Caerphilly Council. The Community Safety Team have worked with partners across Gwent to review the Home Office Prevent Duty guidance and develop a regional action plan for Prevent delivery. The Community Safety Team manage Prevent referrals, provide Prevent training to appropriate frontline staff and co-ordinates the monthly Channel Panel meetings to manage and support individuals identified as being at risk of radicalisation.

Throughout the pandemic the Safer Caerphilly partners have worked together to maintain existing approaches and develop new initiatives to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour within the Caerphilly County borough area. Throughout this period partners have excelled in adapting to new ways of working in a rapidly changing environment whilst ensuring that our communities continue to be supported throughout these unprecedented times.

In addition to maintaining existing services and the above updates some examples of new developments include the following pieces of work:

### **Problem Solving and Reducing Demand:**

Gwent Police have formed a new Problem-Solving Team which will focus on reducing the Crime and ASB demand drivers and will also concentrate on Crime Prevention and Engagement within the communities. They will work closely with the Police Neighbourhood Teams, Partnership Hub and the local authority Community Safety Team.

To complement this –“We don’t buy Crime” has also been introduced within Gwent Police, this is the acquisitive crime taskforce. The team use analytical techniques to identify areas of risk and highlight emerging trends. They work with victims of crime and businesses to provide security advice, deliver SmartWater packages and minimise the chance of repeat offending. They also assist in delivering bespoke training to partner so that they recognise signs of organised crime and criminal exploitation.

### **Safer Streets Funding Round Three:**

The Home office granted nearly £300k to the Safer Streets Funding programme for the area of Rhymney, Caerphilly. The project was finalised in March 2022. The funding was intended to implement measures to prevent and reduce acquisitive crimes such as residential burglaries, theft from person and robbery that included:

- Additional CCTV and a review of street lighting
- Replacement of door locks
- Dusk-til-Dawn lighting to be provided to front and rear of dwellings in line with Secured by Design recommendations
- SBD approved Property marking kits to be distributed to victims
- Crime Prevention Signage along the A465 laybys
- Lighting and CCTV of laybys
- Police engagement with Haulage companies to deliver crime prevention

Door to door surveys were carried out and homes identified that would particularly benefit from measures such as security lighting and CCTV doorbells. These were properties that had previously been burgled or were identified as being potentially vulnerable due to the circumstances of the occupiers.

As a partnership, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Gwent police have successfully delivered the following interventions:

- A total of 201 households have been fitted with CCTV, ring doorbells, 24 hr night security lights, Smart water and a new TS007 door lock.
- Additional home security measures (car security packs, night-time shed sensors and locks, burglary tremor packs and bike security locks) have all been distributed to the community via local events.
- Industrial estates have been visited and Smart water property marking, and crime prevention advice provided to businesses and hauliers.

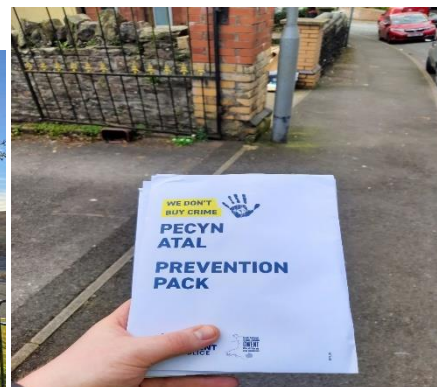
- Second-hand retailers have signed up to a force wide agreement to identify stolen property and have been given guidance and training. Additionally, CCBC Trading Standards and retailers have been given ultraviolet torches to identify items marked with Smartwater.
- 15 new CCTV locations have been established and 8x 4K ready 4G CCTV cameras purchased that are re-deployable to respond to crime demand throughout the Rhymney valley.
- 200 signs have been installed throughout the Rhymney valley to alert potential criminals that the area is protected by Smartwater property marking. Research from other areas of the UK has shown this to be an effective means of reducing crime.
- There have been 10 local engagement sessions held in the community and at local schools to provide home prevention advice. As a result of this engagement a further 300 residents signed up to the Smartwater home security pack.



4. Police Officers in the community



5. Gwent Police Officers



6. We don't buy crime Prevention Pack

## Safer Streets Round 4

In March 2022 the Home Office announced a further round of funding under the Safer Streets programme. They have invited bids from PCCs, Local Authorities and Community groups to develop projects intended to reduce neighbourhood crime (burglary, theft, robbery, vehicle crime), prevent / reduce violence against women and girls and / or prevent / reduce anti-social behaviour.

Following wide consultation during March 2022 it was decided that the Gwent PCC would lead a bid in partnership with each of five local authorities within Gwent. This bid focuses on preventing and reducing neighbourhood crime and tackling ASB. One of the areas that feature within the bid from the Caerphilly Borough is Blackwood and Cefn Forest. There has been consultation with Caerphilly County Borough Council in relation to current CCTV infrastructure. If the bid is successful, then Gwent Police will again lead on the delivery of the project and will work closely with key partners and the community safety representatives.

## Anti-Social Behaviour

Throughout the pandemic anti-social behaviour has been a challenge for Community Safety Partnerships. Caerphilly was not exempt from those challenges. Over the last year with restrictions lifted there were significant spikes in anti-social behaviour as communities readjusted. Town Centres were particularly affected and to address this we established a new 'Town Safe' initiative which is currently being piloted in Blackwood. The initiative will seek to work with community safety partners, business and the community to address local identified issues.

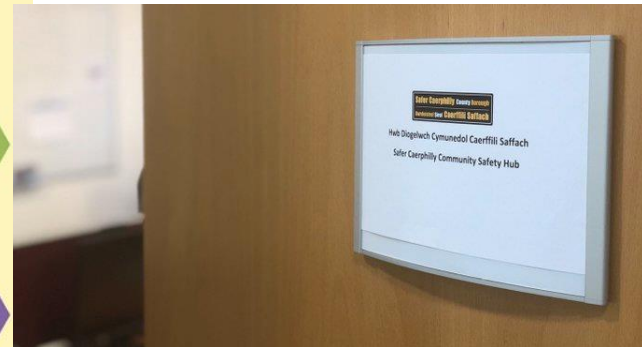
The Safer Caerphilly Anti-Social Behaviour Strike 4 process aims to address individuals who commit acts of anti-social behaviour in the community. During 2021-2022 a total of 14 multi-agency strike meetings were held to discuss 93 cases. Of these, 5 individuals continued to offend, and the community safety partnership applied for and obtained Civil Injunctions at court.



7. Community Safety Officer



8. Safer Caerphilly Community Hub



9. Safer Caerphilly Community Hub

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## **Action Area 4b - Resilient communities**

The place in which we live has a huge part to play in individual personal perceptions of wellbeing. Having attractive, well-used and connected communities with easy access to the natural environment, affordable and sustainable housing, local job opportunities and low crime levels will help to support community resilience.

### **Housing**

The Council continue to work with Pobl to redevelop the former Civic Offices in Pontllanfraith to provide much needed local homes for local people. Referred to as The Chartist Gardens, the scheme is proposed to be an exemplar garden suburb development. This incorporates sound placemaking features (including best practice for sustainable drainage systems), integrated well designed open space and formal children's play, comprehensive landscaping, active travel and high-quality housing within a parkland setting. The development will provide up to 125 new homes with a mixed occupancy.

The Council are also working with Pobl and United Welsh to redevelop the former Windsor Colliery Site in Abertridwr, whilst Caerphilly Homes are actively developing publicly owned land for future housing development throughout the county borough at Ty Darren Risca, Oakdale Comprehensive School, and a number of other sites are in the process of being assessed to determine their suitability.

### **Coalition for Change.**

In November 2020 the Council introduced the Caerphilly Cares Service to provide a new approach to service provision, This aims to build bridges with communities, mobilise individual and community assets, and enable a process of co-production, with individuals as active agents in their own lives. This new approach enables easier and earlier identification of vulnerable people within communities; better engagement; the ability to identify what the new service needs are in the community; the opportunity to build on and expand community and voluntary support; the mobilisation of community assets in empowered co-production and advance the holistic work of the Resilient Communities strand of the Public Service Board's (PSB) work.

The long term vision is for a much larger range of services to work collaboratively 'under the umbrella' of Caerphilly Cares to support early intervention and prevention in order to meet the needs of all residents in Lansbury Park and indeed across the Caerphilly county borough as a whole. The focus is on reducing inequalities and supporting the most vulnerable in our borough. to provide an environment for effective communication and coordination that puts the needs of residents at the heart of service delivery. The Caerphilly Cares workstream is reported separately and the Resilient Communities strand has therefore been refocused at the request of the PSB to concentrate on Town Centre Recovery post Covid 19.

### **Town centres**

Town centres throughout the UK are facing a series of significant challenges to their economic viability post Covid-19. The pandemic saw an overnight change in how people used our town centres. Shoppers' spending and travel habits changed, and whilst demand for public services increased, many people took advantage of online platforms to access these. Most town centres were already having to adapt to a significant period of change before the pandemic, as they have done in the past, reflecting societal changes over decades. But rarely has such drastic change happened in a short period of time, as restrictions were imposed on movement and business operations nationwide.

Our Business community has had to adapt quickly, and local and national government support had to be rolled out quickly and tailored accordingly, Welsh Government and Council officers administered over circa £62m of grant support in the County Borough to help businesses survive the crisis. Besides the many challenges faced, the restrictions also created opportunities for many businesses that adapted their operating model to reflect changing habits, and as restrictions ease, businesses that adapted quickly have benefitted from increased footfall, as people choose to stay local for shopping, work and leisure.



10- High Street modifications- New Parklet

A series of modifications have been made to many of our town centres to help businesses, including the introduction of parklets to help businesses trade outdoors. In addition, business grants have provided much needed financial support to help to transition to the new way of working and the Council is also working with several property owners to bring town centre premises back into beneficial use which Welsh Government funding support.





11.- High Street modifications- New Parklet 2

The focus now is to provide support and action to enable our towns to recover whilst continuing to support the Wellbeing Objectives set out in the Corporate Plan 2018-23. The economic recovery framework has been prepared to deliver on this strategic objective.

## Events

As Covid restrictions eased the events team delivered a successful programme of craft and food fairs to our key town centres before and after Christmas 2021 that delivered an uplift in Footfall across Bargoed, Caerphilly, Ystrad Mynach and Blackwood Towns.

For example, the Ystrad Mynach spring event increased footfall by 365%, with an attendance in the town centre of 6,400 on the day of the event compared to 1,376 the week before, effectively creating more than an extra two and a half Saturdays!



12.- Ystrad Mynach Spring Fair

In addition the Caerphilly Food Festival took place in May 2022 for the first time since lockdown and was back to its full capacity in terms of entertainment, stalls and activities. It was the first event since lockdown whereby all restrictions were lifted so a 'normal' event was permitted to be hosted with no hindrances to the layout. The event increased footfall with an attendance in the town centre of 13,949 compared to the previous Saturday of 1,588.

### Shop Local

In 2021/22 the Council introduced a shop local promotional campaign with marketing collateral including town centre banners, window stickers and social media paddles to support case study video content generated featuring high street owners. The campaign has been well received by local business.



13.- Choose Local

## Visit Caerphilly and the Valleys Regional Park

Work is ongoing with partners to develop the three regional significant Valleys Regional Park Discovery Gateways at Caerphilly Castle, Cwmcarn Forest and Parc Penallta. The aim of the Valleys Regional Park is to unlock and maximise the potential of the natural and associated cultural heritage of the Valleys to generate social, economic and environmental benefits.

Following significant investment from Natural Resource Wales, Cwmcarn reopened the forest drive in June 2021 after it closed in 2015 to allow for the felling of 150,000 trees affected by the disease Phytophthora Ramorum. The reopened drive incorporates seven car parks to allow visitors to absorb the breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding countryside, three new adventure playgrounds for children to enjoy, together with sensory tunnels, a woodland sculpture trail and several all-ability trails.



14.- Refurbished Cwmcarn Forest Drive- Reopened in 2021



15. New Adventure Play Area at Cwmcarn Forest

In addition to the significant investment at Cwmcarn the Council is working in close collaboration with Cadw in respect of its £5m Caerphilly Castle Investment Programme which will transform Caerphilly Castle from a sleeping giant into a world-class heritage attraction. The plans include improved visitor facilities in a new reception building at the entrance, refurbishment of the current shop, and access improvements to paths throughout the castle to ensure visitors of all abilities can enjoy the site.

Central to the project is a £1million overhaul of site interpretation including new state-of-the-art digital techniques, presenting the stories of the men and women who built and lived in Caerphilly Castle. The plans also include proposals to re-dress the Great Hall, the largest of its period in the country, to recreate the ambience and grandeur of its medieval heyday.

Carved from a former coal tip the third of the areas Discovery Gateways is Parc Penallta, which is well known for being home to one of the largest figurative earth sculptures in the country, "Sultan the Pit Pony". Sultan attracts visitors from far afield who come to see and admire him, whilst the High Point Observatory in the park provides panoramic views across the South Wales valleys. To add to the offer at Parc Penallta, the Council are in the process of exploring the possibility of providing a long-awaited new education hub to complement the existing facilities in the park.

This investment in the Valleys Regional Park Discovery Gateways is crucial in ensuring these sites have the capacity to provide safe and welcoming spaces that can be enjoyed by the local community, as well as visitors from further afield.

### **Providing Opportunities for new Companies to start up and thrive**

Whitebeam Court is a Joint Venture partnership between Caerphilly County Borough Council and Welsh Government. The development is the latest phase of an ambitious sustainable mixed-use development for Ty Du by Welsh Government and Caerphilly Council. A major scheme to undertake the enabling highways infrastructure works, including installation of services and estate roads was successfully completed in 2019 and has prepared the 18hectare landmark site for future residential and commercial development, which will include around 200 homes (including provision for affordable homes) and an area for employment use.

The development was part funded by the European Regional Development Funds through the Welsh Government and part funded by Caerphilly Council. The first phase of the employment area has created a managed business park offering five self-contained terraces of employment units that are available individually or combined. The units are of high quality, low maintenance set within a landscaped environment. The development has been designed to use traditional forms similar to barns and natural colours so that they harmonise with the surrounding landscape.



16.- Whitebeam Court, Ty Du, Nelson

### **The Lawns – Silver Birch Court**

The Council delivered 15 new starter business units totaling 15,000 sq. ft. of additional industrial space in the Spring of 2022 which are available for a waiting list of over 30 prospective tenants as part of regeneration objectives for the Upper Rhymney Valley. Located just 2 miles south of the A465 Heads of the Valleys road, with excellent links to the M4 and just an hour's drive from the M50. Rhymney Railway Station links directly to Cardiff Central with a journey time of one hour.

The site (which currently hosts a number of existing units) has three new buildings of 15 individual units. Units are available to lease from the Council and consist of eight 50 square metre units, four 75 square metre units and three 98 square metre units. This project has been made possible with funding from the Council and the European Regional Development Fund through Welsh Government providing a much welcomed boost to the local economy and the prospects of employment for local people.



17.- The Lawns- Silver Birch Court

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## Action Area 5 – Protect and enhance the local natural environment

### Projects

#### Tree Planting Group

The Tree Planting Core Group which is a sub-group of the Green Spaces Group organised a Tree Planting Week in March at Ynys Hywel Farm, Cwmfelinfach where a total of 4,500 trees were planted.

The opportunity was initially advertised via [the Gwent volunteering Wales website](#). Combined with social media outlets, email networks and through Corporate Volunteering. All opportunities that are accessible to staff was administered under the Caerphilly Cares Banner on the Gwent Volunteering in Wales website. Enabling attendance to be registered and hours to be monitored.

Across the 6 days volunteers from; CCBC, Llamau, Keep Wales Tidy, Groundwork Wales, GAVO, EOTUS, Coleg Y Cymoedd, Parent Network, Monmouthshire Building Society, Target Financial Services, ONS, Community, Shade, Gwent Police, Youth Service staff, Early Language and Play Team, Next Generation Police Cadets and Disability Supported Housing staff and residents. In total across the 6 days 105 participants took part.

#### Next Steps

Further Planting locations are required for next planting season, an exercise will be undertaken to identify sites. This will include the mapping of land holdings of partners and looking at existing data which could be used to identify areas for planting such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy. The results of this exercise can be used to inform planning for the next 5 years and contribute to meet the 2030 carbon neutral target.

#### Quotes-

*A lady travelled up from Langstone, she has been working from home during COVID, her place of work is Bristol. "I am here today to give something back, get outside from my four walls, engage socially and physically and look after my mental health in doing so".*

*74 year old gentleman rang me, "could I get involved in the tree planting as I'm so bored?" He signed up for 1.5 days and achieved the full 6 days planting, he brought with him his freeze gel and anti-inflammatory medication to deal with his arthritis and thoroughly enjoyed the engagement. He wore a mask and continually gelled his hands, he took measures to keep himself safe. I took a photo and framed it for him as a memory of his experience, a talking point.*

*A Cabinet member joined us for two days, she tries to engage 5 days a year, and had been helping locally with local food banks, but a lot of restrictions had been put in place due to COVID. The outdoor experience had been fabulous and a promise made to join us on the next scheduled plant.*

*A Mum joined who lives locally, she initially signed up for 2 days, walked to the farm daily and stayed the full 6 days of the plant. On the final day of planting she WAS overwhelmed with joy of the achievement of the physical activity. Since the day the lady has returned to the farm and assisted in the planting of wildflowers and is hoping to extend the interest of family and community engagement at the site.*



18. Tree planting



19. Tree planting



20. Tree planting

## **Cwmcarn Forest Enhancements**

Cwmcarn Forest in Caerphilly County is, managed by Caerphilly Council, and has multiple downhill bike tracks and glamping, camping and caravan sites which attract bike and outdoor enthusiasts to the park. 20 fruit trees have been planted in the camping and glamping areas. The fruit trees will enhance the biodiversity of the glamping and camping areas, the site of the trees was carefully planned to allow campers and community members easy access to the trees, for maintenance of the trees and access to harvest fruit.

### **The Trees**

The trees were sourced from an organic fruit tree grower based on the Welsh Border, who follow agroforestry and permaculture principles and has been certified Organic by the Soil Association since November 2020. They feed their soil with a range of green manures composted on-site and fed back into the soil, negating the need to apply artificial chemical fertilisers. Pests are controlled by a routine spray programme comprising organic seaweed extract, bio fertilisers and garlic oil throughout the growing season, which also helps with disease resistance as well as to promote strong healthy growth.

Cuttings for new trees are taken from a collection of Shropshire and Welsh Border varieties, some of these are varieties rediscovered by the company, such as Bringewood Pippin, Gypsy King, Round Winter Nonesuch and Rhymer

The trees approximately 2 years old were chosen and planted. The benefit of planting trees of this age instead of whips (which are less than a year old), means that a large proportion of the trees will be fruiting within the next two years. Being at this stage in development, also means the trees require far less protection from grazing animals such as rabbits and sheep.



Therefore, the success rate, whilst being properly pruned and looked after is far higher than that of whips.

At each of the sites a variety of apple, pear and plum trees were planted, ensuring pollination groups were kept together to allow for the best chance of successful fruit cropping.

## Impact

20 trees were planted covering 591m<sup>2</sup>. In addition to improving land, other environmental benefits of planting the orchards include:

- Increase in local biodiversity and air quality.
- Providing pollinator habitats.
- Providing food for humans in later years of growth and food for wildlife in the early years – an apple tree can yield 320kg of apples in a year.
- Reducing surface water runoff, therefore reducing flooding.
- Increase in shade.

## Social impacts:

- Strengthening of local pride and community cohesion, through ownership and interaction within the community - Orchards have played an important role in communities for many centuries, providing a focal point and gathering space for work and relaxation.
- Intergenerational planning and working takes place around orchards, reducing social isolation.
- Providing beauty to the area and attract new users to the site.
- Providing a place in which training of traditional skills can occur, such as pruning and grafting.
- Providing an area for education about the conservation of rare and endangered species of trees.
- Providing refuge for peace and tranquillity, part of wellbeing through nature goals.
- Orchards provide a place where people work together with nature to create abundant harvests.
- Social aspects of orchards include 'Apple Days' which bring communities together (usually over a weekend in harvesting season), where people bring their crops e.g., apple to be juiced, swap grafts from trees, children are involved in art competitions and apple bobbing games, apple baking competitions and recipes are shared.  
See : <https://marlborough.news/news/marlborough-celebrates-apple-day-as-it-inherits-rare-wiltshire-breeds-for-generations-to-come/> for an example.
- Community orchards provide fresh fruit with zero food miles, and little or no pesticides used in the growing process compared to commercial farming. They provide a place for physical exercise and improve wellbeing. Spending time in nature (whether tending trees, harvesting or serving coffees for community volunteers) has a positive effect on physical health wellbeing and increased community cohesion and pride.
- Local businesses can connect with community orchards and their initial setup and maintenance, for example, donations of soil, manure or materials needed.

- Tree adoption and memorial schemes can be set up to increase the size of orchards.
- Schools can link activity to the National Curriculum, therefore can be used to enhance learning.

## **Other Projects**

Several partners from the Green Spaces Group have been involved with Big Bocs Bwyd and Food for Life initiatives which actively contribute to one of the Green Spaces Group priorities which is the Grow it, Cook it and Eat it. Valleys Regional Park has been supporting the roll out of Big Bocs Bwyd school food and growing projects with 3 schools in the Caerphilly area



21.-Big Bocs Bwyd



22.-Big Bocs Bwyd 2

VRP continues to work strategically on issues like a Valleys wide, Local Authority verge management framework, green social prescribing and the development of the National Nature Service concept. In Caerphilly VRP has been supporting the evaluation of the Nature Prescribing Pilot with a range of partners such as the Aneurin Bevan integrated wellbeing network, Wildlife Trust, Groundwork Wales to name a few. The Wellbeing Work hub is also well on the way to completion at Parc Bryn Bach which will provide a spectacular remote working environment for the area.

## **Food for life**

In April, Groundwork Wales hosted a live webinar event as part of the Food for Life 'Get Togethers' promotion. The scheme is designed to create and share a series of events to share knowledge and inspiration to enable communities to connect through food. Rachael hosted the event, supported by one of our volunteers demonstrating how to create edible

hanging baskets. Using fruit, vegetables and herbs, Rachael showed how to create and maintain simple, cost effective and nutritious hanging baskets. The event was viewed live by 181 people from all over the UK and has been posted on the Food for Life website. [Network Events | Food for Life Get Togethers \(fflgettogethers.org\)](https://www.foodforlife.org.uk/network-events/food-for-life-get-togethers)

This initiative was inspired by Groundworks Routes 2 Life site in Pontllanfraith. Leading volunteers, local community groups and schools, to help grow and maintain vast amounts of fruit vegetables and flowers, sharing knowledge and skills to help people become more sustainable and self-sufficient.

### **Next Steps**

Groundwork is planning to host another event in the Autumn, potentially demonstrating what dishes can be made from the humble pumpkin. Valleys Regional Park (VRP) continues to help develop and support opportunities for communities to become involved in learning conservation skills at these local green spaces through the Guardian Scheme.

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## **Action Area 6 – Caerphilly Cares (a new Action Area added in 2021)**

As a result of the pandemic our communities have and will continue to suffer from economic, health and other social challenges. Well-being issues and inequalities existed in our communities before the pandemic, which has only served to exacerbate these and the coming months and probably years could prove particularly difficult as a result. However, conversely, the pandemic also resulted in strengthening of resilience both individually and at community level.

In February 2021 Cabinet endorsed the establishment of the Caerphilly Cares service and associated resources. The service was subsequently launched in April 2021 and the following report provides both an update on its implementation and an evaluation of the service to date.

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 underpins the delivery of Caerphilly Cares, providing support at the earliest point to reduce the need for statutory intervention and helping people to help themselves. Ensuring the ‘what matters conversation’ is intrinsic to all support offered and is relevant and directed by the individual not the professional deciding what someone needs.

The ethos of Caerphilly Cares is about a changing relationship with our residents and communities, it’s about mobilising assets within communities, promoting independence and increasing people’s control over their own lives. It is a key strand within the Council’s Strategic Recovery Framework Principle four, which aims to wrap support around individuals and communities and enable them to help themselves prosper and grow.

If Caerphilly Cares had not been implemented the pressure on other Council Services is likely to have been far greater. And whilst this is not clearly demonstrable at this point in time, over 1,700 people could have ‘slipped through the net’, 788 people would not have had their income maximised and over 2000 people would not have had food. As awareness of Caerphilly Cares grows and the impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt this number is likely to grow substantially.

However, Caerphilly Cares is not a ‘service’ that operates in isolation, it reflects the ethos of the Transformation Strategy #TeamCaerphillyBetterTogether that influences how we engage with our residents and how our services respond. COVID-19 has created intense pressures on local authorities to respond to unprecedented challenges. Communities have become even more reliant on public services and as a result, building social resilience and self-reliance in citizens is even more important than ever. With potential budgetary pressures due to changing patterns of demands and lingering levels of dependency we will also need to continue to deal with the longer-term impact of the pandemic alongside driving forward any plans for longer-term transformational change.

The need for strong networks, effective communication and collaboration across services and programmes that support our residents is essential to achieve this aim. We anticipate our communities will suffer from economic, health and other social challenges as a result of the

pandemic for years to come. The gap between the most deprived and the most affluent has widened, and with the increase in living costs, fuel costs, National Insurance, and inflation this is likely to be exacerbated. This highlights the need to take an in depth look on how we intend to support our communities moving forward to respond to the anticipated growing demand for support.

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## Enabler 1 – Communications and engagement

As the work of the Caerphilly PSB to deliver the Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023 comes into its final year of delivery the role of the Gwent PSB is increasing. For this reason the communications and engagement activity over the past year has largely been around the development of the Gwent region local assessment for well-being as the precursor to the new Gwent well-being plan from May 2023.

Over the course of the first six-months of the year partners across the region, representing all of the PSB member bodies, were involved in public and stakeholder engagement in their local communities and with their communities of interest to understand the conditions for well-being required in the region and to ensure that the views of communities and stakeholders were reflected in the assessment of well-being. To achieve this a new formal group was set up under the Gwent PSB, the Communications and Engagement Group, to manage and coordinate the activity across the partners and bring a degree of consistency to the process over what is now a very much wider geographical area.

Chapter 3 of the local assessment of well-being on the Gwent PSB website describes the process employed, the outputs and how they have fed into the main document. While engagement was a challenge during the pandemic period, when physical meetings were restricted, the outputs have provided a rich source of information to inform the assessment.

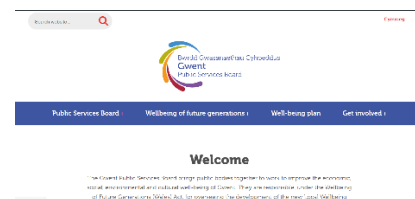
The Gwent PSB has determined that its own openness and transparency is important and is revising its terms and conditions to improve this. If approved, at the June 22, meeting this will mean making meetings open to the public, providing recordings of its meetings on the website and allowing questions from the public. A communications officer from one of the partners will attend each PSB to live tweet proceedings.



23.- Gwent PSB logo



24. Gwent PSB branding



25. Caerphilly PSB website

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## Enabler 2 – Procurement

The Procurement Delivery Group continued to be actively involved on a Gwent regional basis with the progressive procurement project, working in conjunction with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and Welsh Government. The areas of focus were redefined during 2021 and covered: Construction and Retrofit (Decarbonisation), Simplifying and Sharing Best Practice (Procurement Policy) and Food Procurement. CLES involvement in the project concluded in late 2021.

Progress had been made with respect to the identified themes and there is a definite appetite to continue to progress a collaborative community wealth building approach to procurement going forward. The workshop discussions have brought anchor institutions of different sizes and sectors together, leading to the development of new relationships and connections. The process has facilitated a considerable sharing of best practice and has elevated strategic issues which require a pan-Wales, Welsh Government enabled response. This relationship building is particularly important in the Gwent context with the pending single PSB structure.

An excellent example of the work undertaken via the project is from the Food Procurement Group and includes:

- Caerphilly County Borough Council has contacted all suppliers who produce food locally, looking to develop a consolidated list of local food producers.
- Monmouthshire County Council has also collected data on local suppliers.
- Torfaen County Borough Council has undertaken a food mapping exercise (producers and groups involved in tackling food poverty).

The above work supplements Monmouthshire's data platform and there is a shared aspiration to collate information to produce meaningful food related data across the Gwent geography and use this to produce a gap analysis and inform future supply arrangements. There is also a shared goal across Gwent and nationally to influence the wholesale supply chain to increase the percentage of food produce purchased from wholesalers which is produced and/or processed locally.

The establishment of the Procurement Delivery Group helped bridge the gap following the announcement in 2018 by the First Minister that the National Procurement Service would cease to operate in its current format. The Group were keen to fill the void in conjunction with the Welsh Local Government Association to positively take forward collaborative procurement on a regional and national footprint and to invest in procurement to deliver for future generations. Key success during the last five years include:

- Actively supported a collaborative response to the Covid-19 pandemic by participating in daily TEAMS calls with representatives of Welsh Government, WLGA, NHS and Social Care representatives in relation to Supply Management. The main commodity area discussed during those calls was the supply and distribution of PPE with the objective of ensuring a co-ordinated and collective response to this crucial area of supply regionally and across Wales. These relationships have continued post the pandemic and now

consider various other Procurement related matters such as (but not limited to) procurement reform, decarbonisation, Social Value and Community Benefits etc.

- Development and implementation of the Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMs) measurement framework on a regional and national basis and the TOMs were predicated on the 7 Well-being Goals. This work was undertaken in conjunction with the WLGA, National Social Value Taskforce Wales and Social Value Portal. The Taskforce is an ongoing stakeholder forum comprising of public sector bodies and entities including Welsh Government, The Office of The Future Generations Officer, Transport for Wales, Natural Resource Wales as well as a number of Councils and Housing Associations.

Procurement can be a powerful lever for delivering Cultural, Social, Economic and Environmental initiatives associated with organisations Well-being Objectives. A number of areas of focus identified over the past five years via the Procurement Delivery Group will continue to be taken forward on a local, regional and national basis.

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## **Enabler 3 – Asset management**

There has been some increase in activity within the Corporate Office accommodation as officers continue to return to the workplace. Many teams are now returning on a more blended approach as Covid restrictions continue to ease whilst awaiting the outcome of the Agile Working Review. At Ty Penallta, a café style working environment has been created to support the new ways of working and assist the return to the office environment. The space supports agile working with the provision of flexible working space offering access to desk space and WIFI.

CCBC secured money from WG's Valley Taskforce programme to create two co-working hubs in the County Borough. One hub is located at Ty Penallta and one at the Winding House, New Tredegar. The creation of the café style facilities and agile working space ties in with the preparation of the Co-working space, within the Glass Restaurant area, which will be available to employees of public sector partner organisations.

The opening date of the hub is yet to be finalised, but the green light has been given to open. There is a requirement for a welcome pack to be in place, this is currently being prepared in readiness for the opening. Facilities Management who manage Ty Penallta will provide operational guidance. The Hub based at the Winding House is already operational and open to the general public. The hub offers ample parking, a dedicated high-speed internet connection and a range of refreshments from the in house café. The hub will be open 09.30 – 17.30, Tuesday – Saturday and a launch date is likely to be in October 2021.

The Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST) currently has a crew rest room based in Tredomen Business Centre.

The former Woolworths building located on High Street, Bargoed has been redeveloped to facilitate the relocation and development of a collaborative, multi-agency service.

### **Past achievements and ongoing tasks within Property Services**

Various property development projects have been undertaken over the previous 5 years. These are managed by the Property Services team. Projects delivered by Building consultancy amount to circa £10,000,000 per annum. These include all types of projects from small to major projects for the various service areas. As an example, the demolition of Ty Pontllanfraith Offices. A housing scheme based on the Garden Village concept is being developed on site.

Work is ongoing to better utilise the existing property portfolio and all opportunities to rationalise are explored. Leased in buildings are given particular scrutiny. A number of leasehold sites have been released back to the respective Landlords and a number of sites held within our non-operational portfolio have been released, either via freehold sale or via

lease agreement. As an example, Penmaen House was vacated by the occupying service as there was an opportunity to relocate to existing Council buildings

This presented the opportunity to offer the site to a partner organisation who now occupy via a lease agreement. In the past year the Estates team have facilitated the disposal of 9 sites, achieving capital receipts totalling £1.543m. 398 council owned sites have been inspected, surveyed, photographed and documented for estate management purposes. We have recently vacated and returned Unit 5/6 De Clare Court and Ty Pontygwindy to the Landlord. Closure of Ty Pontygwindy has facilitated better use of existing buildings with the opening of Ty Caledfryn and associated moves to other offices. This results in improved use of our own assets and reduces our liabilities associated with leasehold assets. Facilities Management also support and coordinate various moves throughout the authority as required.

Most recently, occupancy levels of leased out industrial sites and office property has been maintained close to being fully let in the high 90%'s throughout this period and currently, all industrial units are fully let. A new estate of 15 units in Rhymney is due to be advertised as available shortly.

Over past 12 months, Property Services Facilities Maintenance Team have provided continued support to the free school meals service. There has been a continuation of adaption to ever changing Covid 19 regulations throughout the 14 corporate sites. Facility support workers assisted with the delivery of over 10,000,000 items of PPE to the residential care settings.

The condition of the Council's buildings is regularly surveyed. There is a rolling programme in place and this process is managed within Property Services. Available Asset Management maintenance funding is fully utilised each year with projects selected broadly using a selection hierarchy. Capital projects, all of which help raised the quality of the estate are project managed by Property Services are undertaken and planned on an annual basis. New buildings and building improvements continue and are planned. The Property Team continue to project management these and support colleagues in other service areas.

Property Services also provide a reactive maintenance service, coordinating remedial works where required. Approximately 10,000 calls are received by our Helpdesk each year from the various service areas. The team also coordinate and manage the statutory maintenance contracts ensuing statutory duties are fulfilled. On average, the team will organise and oversee approximately 3000 remedial tasks as a result of the statutory maintenance inspections carried out.

The Asset Management Strategy – Property and Land was revised and approved in 2019. Service Asset Management Plans are in the process of being developed with relevant service areas. Where in place these are being reviewed on an annual basis and will lead the delivery of the associated actions. This is also associated with the activity within the Corporate

Reviews, in particular work being undertaken within the Walk in Service Review and Agile Working Review.

We have recently secured a storage solution for new kitchen equipment being delivered on a large scale. This is facilitating the delivery of new kitchen equipment and roll out of installation at various school sites. This is required to support the delivery of free school meals at Primary School sites from September 2022.

Refurbishment of Longbridge Pavilion. This is a refurbishment of a dilapidated changing facility at Longbridge Playing Fields and will include demolition of selected elements including an outside pool. The project is underway.



26.-Ty Penallta Café area 1



27.-Ty Penallta Café area 2

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## Welsh language and culture

The PSB continues to be very keen to support and promote the use of Welsh within the county borough area. Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili has been a key partner in developing 'The Caerphilly We Want' Well-being Plan 2018-2023 and the Well-being Assessment, by facilitating the voice of Welsh speakers in their development. Menter Iaith also assists with the PSB's communications and engagement work, supports volunteering through the medium of Welsh, as well as supporting Welsh learners. During this period, Menter Iaith has also contributed as an organisation and facilitated opportunities for Welsh speakers and learners to contribute to the latest Well-being Assessment which will inform the 'Well-being Plan for 2023-2028.

Third Sector Welsh language organisations assist PSB members in delivering the actions in the Council's 5 year Welsh Language Strategy, which aims to improve services for families, children, communities, the workplace and help improve infrastructure. By working with the voluntary sector, the PSB is assured that it has the best expertise and capacity to assist with the important task of making Welsh an everyday part of the culture of the area. A key piece of work which has begun to develop in partnership with the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan Forum is the development of new, digital resources which will provide important and comprehensive information regarding the opportunities to raise children bilingually in Caerphilly County Borough and the choices parents have in terms of Welsh medium education. These resources will be published during the coming months and represent the collaboration between Third Sector Welsh language organisations and PSB members in delivering the actions of the Five Year Welsh Language Strategy and the Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

Menter Iaith coordinates the Welsh Language Forum for Caerphilly county borough which includes a range of Third Sector organisations, statutory partners and educational organisations. The Forum plays a key role in delivering the Welsh Language Strategy and during the past year its members have collaborated successfully during the process of developing a new Strategy for 2022-2027. This Strategy will ensure that all partner organisations plan and agree targets which will ensure that opportunities to use the Welsh language on a community level, for all ages, continue to develop and that there is a thriving Welsh language and culture across the borough.

The new Strategy for 2022-2027 will be launched during Ffiliffest on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022, Menter Iaith's annual Welsh language and culture festival. The festival returns for the first time in two years to the Owain Glyndwr Playing Fields in Caerphilly Town and is a celebration of the Welsh language, culture and heritage. It provides an opportunity for communities across Caerphilly County Borough and beyond to use the Welsh language or learn about all the opportunities locally to use the Welsh language. In November 2021, Menter Iaith was also able to hold its annual Christmas Fair at Llancaiach Fawr which is an opportunity for communities across the borough to enjoy performances by local children, visit stalls by local businesses and organisations as well as visit our Welsh speaking Santa!

Menter Iaith has continued to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 and has adapted its services to ensure that Welsh speakers and learners were able to access support and opportunities through the medium of Welsh. A clear link between well-being and access to Welsh medium services was highlighted by the pandemic and Menter Caerffili has responded by providing a range of digital opportunities in addition to outdoor activities when appropriate and safe.

The majority of opportunities, services and activities have now returned as face-to-face and in person and include weekly discussion sessions, workshops and activities for children and young people, walking activities, volunteering opportunities and support for vulnerable Welsh speakers across our communities. This work has been supported through funding from the Summer of Fun and Winter of Well-being initiatives by Welsh Government and has enabled Menter Iaith to provide a large and varied programme of Welsh medium activities and opportunities for children and young people within their communities.

This programme has supported young Welsh speakers locally to meet other Welsh speakers in their area and develop new skills and interests through the medium of Welsh. During COVID-19 many Welsh speaking young people were unable to use their Welsh language skills and therefore Menter Iaith's programmes have been crucial in supporting young people as Welsh speakers.

Similarly, Menter Caerffili was successful in securing funding from Welsh Government's Volunteering in Wales Grant, administered by WCVA. This funding has enabled Menter Caerffili to recruit and support Welsh speaking volunteers to take part in meaningful and varied volunteering opportunities across Caerphilly County Borough. These opportunities have supported many activities and services as well as vulnerable and isolated individuals. Volunteers which have taken part have also noted that the project has contributed positively to their well-being and has supported them to take part in further opportunities within their communities.

Menter Caerffili have also recently updated its Language Profile for Caerphilly County Borough which highlights the latest research in community use of the Welsh language. If we are to support the thousands of Welsh speakers to use the language as part of their daily lives, it is imperative that opportunities and accessible services of a high standard are available to them. By providing sufficient opportunities, we can demonstrate that it is possible to participate in community life through the medium of Welsh, and that using the Welsh language as a skill enables you to make a valuable contribution to your local community's development. Menter Caerffili has an important role in developing new Welsh-medium services for local Welsh speakers. By developing new Welsh-medium services, we are creating a local demand for Welsh-speaking workers and volunteers and enabling Welsh speakers to use their skills locally and see a significant value in those skills.



28.- Ffiliffest 2022 poster

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## Looking to the future

'The Caerphilly We Want' Well-being Plan 2018-2023 is now coming to the end of its delivery schedule. We hope that our annual reports have demonstrated that public services (working with communities, individuals and the voluntary sector) have helped us make significant inroads into the plan's objectives. We have all had to adapt significantly due to the Covid-19 pandemic and incorporated new objectives to meet these extra challenges.

The Future Generations legislation is designed to bring about generational changes in well-being and therefore the PSB are always mindful of much longer horizons than five years. As we have already highlighted, we are already working on the new Well-being Plan with our partners in Gwent and this will be published in May 2023. However, our focus will always be on the well-being of local communities and we will continue to assess needs and respond, as partners, within the Caerphilly county borough area.

## Measuring our progress

Progress against our four Well-being Objectives (Positive Change, Positive Start, Positive People and Positive Places) is supported by the activity under the Action Areas and Enablers discussed above.

Regular reports have been provided to the PSB on the progress of each of the Action Areas and these are scrutinised by local Councillors who hold the PSB to account. If you would like to look at any of these performance reports you can find them on the [Caerphilly PSB website's progress reports page](#).

## Contact us

If you have any comments to make regarding the contents of this annual report, or in relation to the Caerphilly or Gwent PSBs more generally, please contact us as follows:

- Residual Caerphilly Public Services Board, c/o Policy & Partnerships Team, Penallta House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG
- E-mail: [caerphillywewant@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:caerphillywewant@caerphilly.gov.uk) Tel: 01495 235108



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## **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE- 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2022**

**SUBJECT:        PROGRESS UPDATE – THE CAERPHILLY WE WANT WELL-BEING PLAN 2018-2023 (OCTOBER 2021 TO APRIL 2022)**

**REPORT BY:     CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **1.        PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1        To provide information to update Partnerships Scrutiny Committee on the performance updates for delivery against the Caerphilly Public Services Board (PSB)- Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023 for the period from October 2021 to April 2022.

### **2.        SUMMARY**

- 2.1        The attachments to this report provide details of the continued delivery under the action areas and enablers in the current well-being plan for the county borough up until April 2022. All reports have been agreed by the residual Caerphilly PSB and are available on the Caerphilly PSB website. Delivery of the existing well-being plan will continue until May 2023.
- 2.2        The report explains that the lead officer working group, the Local Delivery Group, will continue to provide updates to Members. The next set of reports will run from May 2022 to November 2022 and will be provided to Scrutiny Committee at the January meeting.
- 2.3        The report sets out which areas of the current well-being plan have been scrutinised in depth throughout the five-year lifetime of the plan.

### **3.        RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1        Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

### **4.        REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1        To advise Members of progress and to allow Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to discharge its duties under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations

(Wales) Act 2015.

## 5. THE REPORT

5.1 The performance of the PSB is included within the forward work programme of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee. This report includes the updates on progress against the actions and enablers in 'The Caerphilly We Want 2018-2023' well-being plan from October 2021 to September 2021. All updates are appended to this report.

5.2 Partnerships Scrutiny Committee has set its Forward Work Programme to consider selected areas of activity in the well-being plan thematically in more depth at each of its meetings. To date committee have received in depth items on:

- Resilient Communities
- Good Health and Well-being
- Natural Environment
- Apprenticeships and Volunteering
- Safer Communities
- Best Start in Life

Committee will receive, at this evening's meeting, a report on:

- Jobs Growth and Employability Support

Over the later part of 2020, and the first few months of 2021, the PSB asked its lead officers to consider which issues needed to be tackled in communities to support recovery from the pandemic. An analysis of some of the key drivers was considered and the PSB determined that they would like additional activity that would be worked on by partners up until 2023 and beyond. One of these areas has not yet been subject to scrutiny and therefore, Scrutiny Committee may wish to consider this additional action area activity in its Forward Work Programme.

- Caerphilly Cares

The remaining well-being plan delivery, from the original areas of activity, not yet examined thematically are the enabler areas. These are work that happens internally among partners and are not as outwardly focussed as the action areas above:

- Assets
- Procurement
- Communications and Engagement

5.3 While the Caerphilly PSB has dissolved in favour of a Gwent PSB it is important that the Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-2023 continues to be delivered until it is replaced by a Gwent well-being plan that will run from 2023-2028. For this reason, the Caerphilly PSB website will remain, and all performance updates will be lodged there after being confirmed by the PSB member champions, who have agreed to act as a residual virtual body until May 2023. They will confirm all performance reports and all information presented to local authority scrutiny committee until that time.

5.4 The lead officer delivery group responsible for the activity described above has reformed as a Local Delivery Group under the new Gwent PSB. This group will be chaired by the Deputy Leader of the Council. The group will continue to deliver the

Caerphilly well-being plan and, at the same time, begin to consider what activity will be needed for the Gwent Well-being Plan which is currently in development.

## **5.5 Conclusion**

This report provides Members with an update and notifies them of the areas yet to be subject to in depth scrutiny.

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 There are no assumptions made in this report.

## **7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 This report is for information only and reports on progress considered by the Caerphilly Public Services Board, acting as a collaborative body.

7.2 The work of the Caerphilly Public Services Board is consistent with the five ways of working as set out in the sustainable development principle in the Act, since it allows Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to consider how the actions of the Public Services Board are:

- Long Term – Balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
- Prevention - Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse to help public bodies meet their objectives
- Integration – Considering how the well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, or on the objectives of other public bodies
- Collaboration – Acting in collaboration with any other person that could help the board to meet its well-being objectives
- Involvement – Involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

## **9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no personnel implications in this report.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 This report has been sent to all consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Author: Kathryn Peters, Corporate Policy Manager, [peterk@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:peterk@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Consultees: Councillor Sean Morgan, Leader of the Council  
Christina Harray, Chief Executive  
Councillor Gary Johnston, Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Councillor Brenda Miles, Vice Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee  
Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director, Education and Corporate Services  
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning and Strategy  
Stephen Harris, Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer  
Rob Tranter, Head of legal Services and Monitoring Officer

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Performance reports of the residual Caerphilly Public Services Board

Action Area 1	Best Start in Life
Action Area 2a	Volunteering
Action Area 2b	Apprenticeships (now Jobs Growth and Employability Support)
Action Area 3	Good Health and Well-being
Action Area 4a	Safer Communities
Action Area 4b	Caerphilly Cares
Action Area 5	Resilient Communities
Action Area 6	Natural Environment
Enabler 1	Communications and Engagement
Enabler 2	Procurement
Enabler 3	Assets



## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### Action Area AA1

#### Best Start in Life

**Positive Change**—embedding prevention into all that we do

**Positive Start**—providing the Best start in life for current and future generations

**Positive People**—securing the best outcomes for current and future generations

**Positive Places**—supporting more resilient communities, prosperous economies and stronger societies by reducing inequalities.

**Sarah Mutch**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Have we achieved our Logic model – What will success look like ?	No
How will we know we are making a difference? What Matters to families	No
Upskill all staff, across partner agencies, to deliver interventions focused on the needs of the families	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Evaluation of Early Years Integration Pilot(s)	No
Reduction in the number of children on the Child Protection Register / Looked After or under a Care And Support Plan	Yes risk of initial increase due to impact of the pandemic then decrease over time
Improvement in school readiness	No
A reduction in children/young people requiring mental health support	Yes risk of initial increase due to impact of the pandemic then decrease over time
Improved Public Health outcomes	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Develop a Whole Systems Approach— To develop joined up and responsive Early Years’ services to ensure every child has the best start in life. Children should be at the centre of excellent, integrated services that put their needs first, regardless of traditional organisational and professional structures (Antenatal–age 7).	Working as a regional steering group including the 5 LA and ABUHB we have developed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Midwifery and Early Years Strategy</li> <li>• Midwifery and Early Years Core Programme integrating the operational delivery</li> <li>• Task groups to develop the communication plan, workforce development plan and the Gwent Information Sharing Protocol</li> <li>• Looked to cohesively plan the expansion of Flying Start programme Phase 1 for Sept 2022 and Phase 2 for April 2023</li> <li>• All LA are looking at how they can bring the funding streams together locally to integrate teams and enable support to a wider reach of families based on need instead of postcode. All LA recognise they are at different points in this progress</li> </ul>

Priority	Comment
	<p>The teams now include health visiting and local authority teams and are beginning to include the midwives, which is beginning to improve communication and support for families.</p> <p>Midwifery is developing an electronic app for pregnant women to have access to their notes and relevant information throughout their pregnancy. The 5 LA have developed their input so that there will be a regional integrated LA and ABUHB approach when the app goes live.</p>

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
1	<p>Gwent Midwifery and Early Years Strategy and then development of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication Plan</li> <li>• Workforce Development Plan</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy has been completed and is going to regional steering group for sign off on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June.</p> <p>The task groups to develop a regional multiagency communication plan and workforce development plan will be set up during June.</p>
2	Midwifery and Early Years Core Programme	<p>The Midwifery and Early Years Core programme has been developed to include all key contacts required during the antenatal and early years period by midwifery, health, and education. However, it has been developed as an integrated plan of support from a multiagency core team who work with the families building consistent trusted relationships and delivering support based on needs not postcodes.</p>
3	Data analysis and reporting and evaluation	<p>The LSOA data set needed has been agreed as a regional group and ABUHB Performance Manager is working with Cypris team to develop the reports able to retrieve the data.</p> <p>The data and outcome measures workshop is planned for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July.</p>

Ref	Task	Progress
		<p>Evaluation will be completed in monthly workshops with Vanguard to ensure objective evaluation of the system change and implementation.</p> <p>Evaluation of outcome measures and individual family stories will be commissioned and developed in 2022-23</p>
4	<p>Shared database across multiagency and multidisciplinary teams</p>	<p>The shared database is being developed in BG using WCCIS in the pilot area. This is proving interesting and may support wider implementation in the health visiting and early years teams for the whole of the region during 2022-24.</p> <p>As an interim measure Caerphilly LA have developed a shared chronology for children actively being supported with interventions so multidisciplinary and multiagency input into the record enabling better up-to-date sharing of information to support the family and not needing the family to repeat their story.</p> <p>ABUHB and Caerphilly CBC have developed online information tools to give families easy access to right information and support to meet their needs at the right time. This will complement Midwifery Notes which is an app for families in the antenatal period which also provides the right information straight to the mother's phone at the right stage. This app aims to go live in 2022-23.</p>



Ref	Task	Progress
5	Recognise the importance of the third sector and support the restart of community based support	The Hierarchy of Support focuses on family strengths, community network and support and only then moves to use early years team resource and then specialist support if needed. This approach empowers communities and families and builds their resilience. The Bridging Together group in St James are developing their own parent and toddler and peer support groups. Parent Network are supporting families/communities to set up their own parent and toddler sessions. This voluntary sector community support is building sustainable provision back into communities although it does take more time to set up and develop than staff run activity.

## Conclusion

There continue to be challenges around recruitment and retention of staff across the region and throughout many teams although most vacancies in Caerphilly should be filled by Sept 2022.

There is now a central health visiting contact line for ABUHB across Gwent and a central contact for Caerphilly Early Years Hub for families to access support when they need it antenatal to 7years.

ABUHB has developed an app for families to easily access health support and information alongside the Midwifery Notes (Badgernet) app for the antenatal period. Caerphilly LA has developed the Early Years and Childcare website which links to the resources in ABUHB and WG Parenting Give it Time as well as other reputable online sources.

Caerphilly CBC has progressed well to bring different funding streams together enabling families to access the right support to meet their needs at the right time regardless of where they live. This has been necessary to meet the increasing needs of families across the borough.



Communities are starting to coproduce community peer support groups for social contacts and release staff (who would have previously delivered the groups) to do more intense work with more vulnerable families.

The Strategy which includes the principles we have signed up to as a regional strategic steering group have shaped the development of future provision and commissioning as opportunities arise, including the development of Flying Start Phase 1 expansion and joint funding / development opportunities.

Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.

## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 21 – April 2022

### Action Area AA2A

### Volunteering

**Positive Change**— Developing a recognition of value and benefit of volunteering for well-being and encouraging involvement in the enablers

**Positive Start**— Embedding and supporting volunteering with children and families to develop citizenship

**Positive People**— Providing opportunities to develop a culture of sharing skills, supporting each other and promoting active citizenship.

**Positive Places**— Supporting resilient and cohesive communities by bringing people together for community action.

**Stephen Tiley**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Number of PSB partner volunteering opportunities promoted and filled	No
PSB staff take-up of volunteering opportunities	No
Number of volunteers moving into apprenticeships, employment	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Volunteering journey case studies	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Priority 1: Develop a coordinated approach to volunteering to enable all PSB partners to promote volunteering for wellbeing effectively	Continued use and promotion of the Volunteering Wales platform. There has been opportunities to advertise, recruit and support has been offered to partners and Volunteers alike to carry out specific and vital community activity.
Priority 2: Develop a PSB approach to Employer Supported Volunteering (corporate social responsibility) to enable staff of PSB organisations to volunteer	Support has continued through the Caerphilly Cares Scheme and the Caerphilly Buddy Scheme worker to support Employer Supported Volunteering, with many opportunities provided for staff of CCBC. Conversations will continue with all PSB partners on how this can be reviewed for maximum impact moving forward through a Volunteering workshop.
Priority 3: Recognise and utilise volunteering as a first step to the employment market	Volunteering is still seen as a key stepping stone into employment. The COVID 19 pandemic will mean that this is more important than ever, with future link in to apprenticeships a key priority.
Priority 4: Provide volunteering opportunities that are appropriate for all ages and sectors of the community	This continues to be the focus of GAVO but the COVID 19 pandemic has hindered this, in particular at the earlier stages of the pandemic. Caerphilly has the highest numbers of Volunteers placed and supported into opportunities across the 4 boroughs we work which shows recovery from COVID is in play.

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
2A.1.2	Mapping/capturing current volunteering opportunities across PSB Partners	GAVO has been in discussion over the last 6 months with all Public Service Partners, with Volunteering opportunities being put forward when needed.
2A.1.3 & 2A.4.2	<p>Research current volunteering policies &amp; strategies, good practice in volunteering, and corporate volunteering policies with PSB partners and wider network including regional, national and UK models</p> <p>To work with PSB partners to make reasonable adjustments to volunteering opportunities to enable the involvement of people with additional support needs, in line with the auspices of the Equality Act and the Corporate Values Statements of PSB Partners. Apply Equality Impact Assessment methodology</p>	<p>GAVO has been key in liaising with Welsh Government and WCVA on any policy changes in line with Volunteering. Where these have been updated, they have been communicated and publicised.</p> <p>As part of the Welsh Government guidance and changes to policy towards the health and safety of Organisations during COVID, GAVO has been in receipt of money from Welsh Government and has been utilising this to develop the Restart programme. This was Volunteering in Wales Recovery fund money aimed at aiding community venues to carry out Health and Safety assessments to enable them to have the confidence to reopen.</p> <p>The Volunteering Team has attended the Aneurin Bevan area Wellbeing meetings (Bargoed, Rhymney, Risca, Caerphilly areas) this has been an opportunity to engage with local groups and learn more regarding their activities and how we can work in Partnership to improve, raise awareness and address local issues, stimulate growth and plan a route forward post COVID. Current plans include a Risca Wellbeing Half Term event with a calendar of activities covering the entire week utilising several local centres and church floor space. GAVO is to advertise via Social Media the value of volunteering to all age groups, together with the advertising of Info Engine to source local area activities post event.</p>
2A.1.5	Promote volunteer recognition scheme as a PSB i.e. Annual Volunteering Awards and volunteering recognition certificates	For Volunteering, much of Q1 was communicating with organisations to prepare for Volunteers' Week which was from 1st-7th June. Volunteers week gave GAVO the opportunity to engage locally, for example, with

		<p>the Volunteers at Bargoed Taraggan Educational Gardens. Interviews were undertaken with those volunteering from various age groups and backgrounds and have been used for promotion and marketing. There has also been promotion of the work by The Parish Trust, Caerphilly Miners Centre and St Gwladys, all of whom have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic.</p> <p>Political leads such as Gerald Jones, Dawn Bowden, Councillor Carol Andrews, Jeff Cuthbert, the Police Commissioner, The Lord Lieutenant said thank you to all those community volunteers who have dedicated their time and passion to support others.</p>
2A.1.6	Develop a Volunteering Strategy for Caerphilly integral to which are the Caerphilly PSB Partners	There have been many new Volunteering initiatives created during Q1 and Q2 but this has been due to the landscape that COVID has placed us in and remains at present. This evolution of Volunteering needs to form a formalised strategy during Q3 and Q4.
2A.1.8	Apply technology to support the promotion of and participation in Volunteering – Volunteering Wales digital platform	<p>GAVO continues to promote the use of Volunteering Wales as the system to promote, recruit and manage Volunteers and opportunities.</p> <p>The work to drive and promote Volunteering Wales has been such a success that for the financial year 2020-21, the GAVO region had the most Volunteers recruited through Volunteering Wales and the most providers signed up across the whole of Wales. Coupled with this, the GAVO region has had the highest percentage of views across Wales to the Volunteering Wales website. This information has been provided and circulated via WCVA to Welsh Government.</p> <p>Facebook and Social media is also being used more for Volunteer recruitment, by GAVO, Organisations and the Caerphilly Buddy scheme, with the latter also having online sign up.</p>

		<p>Risca Community HACK (Channel View Community Centre) brought together groups and organisations in collaboration with a focus around the creation of activities locally supporting the enhancement of wellbeing post COVID lock down. The Wales Co-op formulated the day looking at areas around funding, buildings, advertising and engagement. GAVO Caerphilly Volunteering offered their third sector support around it's Recognition Awards Scheme, Volunteering advertising via the Gwent Volunteering in Wales Platform, Info-Engine advertising mechanism and personal participation within one of the individual group settings/activity.</p>
<p>2A.2.3 &amp; 2A.2.4</p>	<p>Understand and define the benefits of Employer Supported Volunteering programmes, and the Corporate challenges around implementation and work through the challenges</p> <p>Develop Caerphilly as a lead and exemplar for Employer Supported Volunteering (corporate social responsibility)</p>	<p>The Caerphilly Cares Scheme and Buddy scheme have been active over the last 6 months in supporting our Communities within Caerphilly. Our Volunteering Officer left us during Q1 and as a partnership, Caragh Porter has since been appointed to this role.</p> <p>There have been many successes with this project and within the last 6 months and before, with much learning available for other partners to utilise to benefit their own Employer Supported Volunteer Programmes.</p> <p>The Caerphilly Buddy Scheme currently has 56 active volunteers. There is an online recruitment post being planned for this month to be shared on the Council's Facebook page.</p> <p>The Buddy Scheme will play a large part in the Council's Employer Supported Volunteering Scheme which is due to launch this October. With an agreed upon amount of hours undertaken in a volunteering placement, the employee's will be eligible for extra days of annual leave.</p> <p>There are currently 575 hours logged by the volunteers on the Volunteering Wales</p>
2A.3.3	Recognise and celebrate volunteering achievements	As outlined in 2A 1.5, Volunteers week has been an important event to During Q1 to

	<p>and the personal journey of Volunteers and inspire participation through positive publicity and the celebration of and achievement of Volunteers.</p>	<p>celebrate volunteering achievements and the personal journey of Volunteers to inspire participation.</p> <p>This was again held online but has been a positive opportunity to thank all volunteers for their contributions.</p> <p>Over the past 6 months, GAVO has also distributed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Five thousand hour certificates</li> <li>• 1 Three thousand hour certificate</li> <li>• 1 Two thousand hour certificate</li> <li>• 1 One thousand hour certificate (all signed by the Lord Lieutenant)</li> <li>• 4 Two hundred hour certificates</li> <li>• 13 One hundred hour certificates</li> <li>• 6 Fifty hour certificates.</li> </ul>
2A.4.3	<p>To work with Third Sector Organisations, community groups and other partners to maximise participation in Volunteering from different ages and sectors of the community and implement promotion and communication strategies where there are gaps in participation from certain ages and community sectors.</p>	<p>The past 6 months have seen the return of the Voluntary Sector Representatives and the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committees which have given opportunity again re engage Third Sector Organisations into the Well Being agenda as COVID has restricted this towards the end of 2020 and beginning of 2021.</p> <p>GAVO has also received COVID recovery grants from Welsh Government which have been distributed to aid Third Sector Organisations with recovery.</p> <p>The Buddy Scheme has enabled many genuine connections and friendships to develop, those who have committed to the scheme have expressed they feel accomplished and really benefit from their volunteering. The support that the vulnerable people have been receiving has been vital and graciously received. The Buddy Scheme has aims to strengthen community relationships and encourage involvement in attending groups and events. Buddies are matched with people with similar interests and locations in order to make this possible.</p>





## Conclusion

Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.

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**Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report**  
7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

## **Action Area AA2b**

### **Job Growth & Employability Support**

**Positive Change**— working with PSB partners and local employers to establish a locally co-ordinated gateway into placement, apprenticeship and employment opportunities

**Positive Start**— providing a direct access route into opportunities for participants of employment support programmes, to match labour need with available local workforce

**Positive People**— support local people to fulfil potential and access relevant training and placements, apprenticeships and employment, to enable them to take up opportunities and achieve greater individual prosperity

**Positive Places** – develop local jobs and career routeways for local people, improving prosperity and reducing worklessness across communities

**Sarah-Jayne Irish/Andrew Griffiths**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Increase the number of people supported into employment via the flagship employment programmes.	No
Increase the number of residents engaged in apprenticeships, traineeships and work placement opportunities.	No
Increase the number of local businesses offering opportunities for apprenticeships, traineeships, work placements and sustainable employment.	No
Increase the number of apprenticeships, work placements and employment opportunities provided by Caerphilly Council.	No
Increase the number of opportunities for apprenticeships, traineeships, work placements and sustainable employment provided as a result of links with procurement contracts.	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
<b>34 P1, 73 P3</b>	
Achieve annual targets for people into work via employment support programmes, as follows: CfW – 72 job entries, CfW+ - 275 job entries	No
Support 100 local employers via participant matching with Employability Support programmes	No
Promote Kickstart take-up within CCBC departments and partner organisations, linking to Employability Support participants where appropriate – establish 15 Kickstart Placements	Yes – partially; final Kickstart bid was for 10 rather than 15 placements. Of which 8 applicants progressed into placements
Complete full pilot year of Caerphilly Academy – Gateway to Employment (apprenticeship programme) – develop 12 apprenticeships/opportunities via Academy	No
Work with Procurement departments to maximise community benefits and targeted recruitment and training opportunities (arising from public sector contracts) – develop 32 opportunities via procurement contracts	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
<p>AA2b.1 – Establish an all age apprenticeship programme across PSB member organisations with a co-ordinated point of access.</p>	<p>Significant progress made across CCBC HR and Academy teams to deliver range of placements and apprenticeships, both through central budgets and via the Kickstart scheme, aligned to workforce needs where appropriate. Supported by Academy Pilot programme and Academy Mentor who is in place to provide additional support to maintain individuals in post and maximise success of opportunities.</p> <p>Mapping work is still being developed to establish opportunities across PSB members and consider possibilities for co-ordinated point of access. Mapping document to be sent out to partners to assess both needs and opportunities.</p>
<p>AA2b.2 – Maximise the opportunities for residents through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and the Valleys Task Force, through local and regional job creation.</p>	<p>Significant levels of employer engagement occurring across PSB member organisations (see specific updates below), providing support with schemes including Kickstart, apprenticeships and training pathways, to grow local jobs and match individuals to these roles via employment programmes.</p> <p>Partnership work ongoing on local and regional level to develop shared investment plan via the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), to ensure ongoing employability support and job creation across the Borough and the Cardiff Capital Region.</p>

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
A	Support local and regional employers to grow sustainably through the provision of an appropriately skilled workforce (utilising processes including redundancy response and promoting initiatives such as the Welsh Government Employer Incentive Scheme, providing a financial incentive for businesses to recruit apprentices)	<p>The Kickstart scheme closed for new entrants as of 31/03/2022. Within CCBC, we succeeded in recruiting 8 of the 10 planned positions; and all 8 employees are still in their placements and progressing well. The rollout of Kickstart within CCBC was supported heavily by the Academy project, whereby the Academy Mentor was able to support all aspects of recruitment and on-boarding – as well as providing ongoing mentoring to the individuals once they had commenced in employment. This mentoring support has been essential in ensuring retention of some individuals whilst they have been settling into their placements for example where liaison with managers has been required in resolving initial “teething” issues.</p> <p>CCBC, DWP, local colleges and other partners working with employers across the county Borough to support growth.</p> <p>The new Jobs Growth Wales Plus (JGW+) programme has now launched for individuals aged 16 to 18 years of age and have 3 strands depending on the individuals entry point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Engagement Strand</b></li> <li>- <b>Advancement Strand</b></li> <li>- <b>Employment Strand</b></li> </ul> <p>The Apprenticeship Employer Incentive Scheme is continuing until 31<sup>st</sup> July 22 but only for disabled individuals.</p> <p>Kick Start and the old JGW programmes now due to end on 30<sup>th</sup> September 22.</p> <p>CCBC Business Liaison has supported local employers to grow through provision of workforce, via our CCBC Employment</p>

		<p>support programmes. Employers supported locally include Lovells, Kier Construction, QDL, Surf the Shop. This has included both placements and employment opportunities. Over 100 opportunities offered across more than 50 different employers during reporting period.</p> <p>As an example of this work, the Senior Business Liaison Officer has worked closely with a local contractor for CCBC to match job opportunities to participants accessing the employment support programmes. As a further element in this support, the CCBC Academy Mentor was able to offer additional support to applicants where required, to ensure their progression into these opportunities, for example by supporting them to access the additional qualifications and collate the necessary paperwork to enable them to start in the role. In one example, this additional support resulted in a successful outcome for both the contractor and the participant, who is now in full time employment.</p> <p>Business Liaison Officer also engaging with Caerphilly Business Club to promote support available to local businesses in meeting workforce needs.</p> <p>In addition, training pathways have been delivered to support the upskilling of local people to meet demand in local businesses, via relationships formed by the Business Liaison Officer, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction</li> <li>Hospitality</li> <li>Call Centre</li> <li>HGV</li> </ul>
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B	<p>Support local town centres and high streets to grow sustainably through engagement with employability support schemes to match emerging workforce with labour demand (utilising processes including redundancy response, Kickstart, Jobs Growth Wales)</p>	<p>Employment support teams have engaged with employers across town centres through general promotion, to advertise support available.</p> <p>Ongoing - Employment Manager working with Town Centres team to explore linking employability support in to Town Centre transformation agenda, via potential social value contracts etc.</p> <p>Staff across employment support, business support and town centre teams working together to develop plans under Shared Prosperity Fund, to consider joint proposals for supporting town centre growth and improved prosperity for local people via local employment.</p> <p>Survey sent out to businesses across town centres (and wider Borough) to explore employer needs, particularly in the wake of the pandemic – developed in partnership between CCBC Business Enterprise Renewal Team and Employment Support team. Further relationships developed and additional support offered as a follow up to this.</p>
C	<p>Engage effectively with local communities and residents to promote placement, apprenticeship and employment opportunities offered by PSB partner organisations</p>	<p>Ongoing - Locally, employment support teams within CCBC work with partners including the DWP to provide opportunities to local communities, directly via the Jobcentre Plus jobseeker referral process – and also via outreach engagement work to reach communities/individuals who are not engaged with JCP. Since January 2022, outreach work in local communities has been able to resume and has increased significantly throughout the spring months, improving the extent to which we are able to promote opportunities to local residents.</p> <p>In relation to the recent apprenticeships that have been made available within the local</p>



		<p>authority, CCBC have developed marketing materials and videos to highlight our services and jobs, specifically targeting our young people.</p> <p>In addition to this, CCBC Workforce Development Team and Academy Mentor worked in partnership with Coleg y Cymoedd in Q4 2022 to attend college events to promote the brand-new apprenticeship programme and opportunities to students.</p> <p>In addition, the Academy Mentor organised two events at Coleg y Cymoedd targeting Health and Social Care and Catering learners to give information about apprenticeships, the opportunity to talk with a representative from the departments and to provide time with employment mentors from the employment support teams to explain the application process.</p> <p>Caerphilly Homes department are now also recruiting for ten apprentices to start in September 2022. The roles are currently being promoted on the CCBC website and the Academy Mentor will be conducting a wider promotion to the local colleges, job centres and employment support programmes.</p>
D	Work with the Procurement Enabler to maximise community benefits and targeted recruitment and training opportunities arising from public sector contracts	Caerphilly Social Value (SV) Policy and Themes, Outcomes and Measurement (TOMs) Framework formally endorsed and implemented by Cabinet. Information circulated within the Council via Officers, Intranet and externally via Website. TOMs Framework has been included in several Procurement Procedures across various commodity areas with weightings attributed to the associated award criterion.

		<p>Supplier Relationship Officer continues to engage weekly with Procurement team to review Procurement Forward Workplan and identify opportunities to maximise social value including but not limited to targeted recruitment and training, supply chain, community and education initiatives.</p> <p>Regular meetings scheduled with Caerphilly CBC Employment Support team to discuss and review forthcoming procurement opportunities.</p> <p>Recent examples of social value include attendance at various supplier engagement events for Pen March Wind Farm and Cadw Caerphilly Castle projects to identify sub-contracting opportunities for local contractors/suppliers.</p> <p>Procurement team continue to publicise and raise awareness of embedding Social Value across the Council's third party spend.</p>
E	<p>Maximise the earning capacity of residents by ensuring they have the right qualifications and skills to meet local labour market needs</p>	<p>Colleges, training providers and Employment Support teams continuing to provide education, training and upskilling for local residents. Specific pathways delivered (e.g. construction, hospitality, call centre) and further pathways being developed to try to address current demand sectors including care and HGV.</p> <p>For example, within the past 6 months, more than 10 participants have completed LGV/HGV training, which has been identified as a demand sector. Many of these have concrete job offers upon completion of their training/licence. Business Liaison staff have developed a close partnership with a local employer who has offered assessments to 10 participants so far; and the first participant has now entered employment with this employer following completion of their training. There have been some delays in this</p>

		<p>process due to unavoidable delays in gaining the required licences, however we hope to see several more of these participants progress into jobs with this employer in the coming months.</p> <p>Employment programme participants are also supported to return to Further Education where this is identified as the appropriate route for their chosen career path.</p> <p>Over the last 6 months, CCBC employment support programmes have achieved 99 training outcomes for local residents as a route to employability.</p>
F	<p>Ensure apprenticeship and employment pathway programmes are aligned to workforce planning needs and where skill shortages are evident, including areas and roles that are difficult to recruit to across PSB partner organisations</p>	<p>Within CCBC, Employment Support and HR teams working closely together to align work placements, apprenticeships and employment pathways to workforce demands. Also carrying out specific activity with targeted departments who are experiencing specific recruitment problems, to develop new and possibly innovative ways to address these issues.</p> <p>Work has been undertaken with Heads of Service to consider how apprenticeship and employment pathway programmes can support workforce planning across the organisation, in particular in areas where there are local and national skills shortages.</p> <p>9 apprentices started with CCBC Caerphilly Homes department as level 1 maintenance assistants in January 2022. They are currently being supported by the Academy mentor to enrol with Coleg y Cymoedd onto the relevant apprenticeship courses. The mentor is providing the support to submit applications, arranging meetings with NVQ assessors and completing the WEST Assessments.</p>

		<p>Further to this, Caerphilly Homes department are now recruiting for ten apprentices to start in September 2022. The roles are currently being promoted on the CCBC website and the Academy Mentor will be conducting a wider promotion to the local colleges, job centres and employment support programmes.</p> <p>In addition, CCBC have approved £0.75m for the development of apprenticeships internally as part of the recent outturn report. The apprenticeship programme is currently being finalised with interview events scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> May – 24<sup>th</sup> May. Moving forward the scheme will be looking to employ more than 20 apprentices over the coming months.</p> <p>Apprenticeships have also been offered (and successfully filled) by other partners within the PSB, including ALS training.</p> <p>This work now needs to be expanded across PSB – a mapping exercise is being prepared to identify opportunities across the PSB.</p> <p>Reps from local authority also attend Regional Skills Partnership meetings, where insight is shared into regional labour demands, enabling Caerphilly teams to align activity to these demands where appropriate.</p>
G	<p>Create a robust schools, college and vocational career pathway into employment, in particular working closely with schools and colleges to engage young talent into vocational pathways as an alternative to university. This includes work experience</p>	<p>Links ongoing between CCBC staff and Coleg y Cymoedd futures team to support those learners seeking employment and avoiding becoming NEETS.</p> <p>Work is being undertaken with the Chief Education Officer and Head Teachers to consider how the Council can engage more effectively with schools and offer more work</p>

<p>placements and links with local businesses</p>	<p>experience placements so that pupils have a better understanding of the Council’s business and future employment opportunities. CCBC are also considering how we can support a request from Careers Wales to implement a Work Experience programme for Year 10 pupils who have become disengaged through the pandemic.</p> <p>Ongoing from previous update - The pandemic significantly impacted upon our work with schools across the PSB partnership group - as a PSB action area, we now need to consider our approach with schools and improve links.</p> <p>Employment programme staff are linking closely with Youth Progression co-ordinator and Careers Wales Advisers to identify destinations for those who have complex barriers and low attendance at school.</p> <p>To address this, CCBC have been working with Careers Wales to engage Year 11-13 pupils, raising awareness of the opportunities for employment within the authority and marketing our apprenticeship opportunities. As part of a wider recruitment campaign, CCBC have developed marketing materials and videos to highlight our services and jobs, specifically targeting our young people.</p> <p>Business Liaison Officer is also linking with businesses to offer support to Careers Wales to engage with young people.</p> <p>CCBC Workforce Development Team and Academy Mentor worked in partnership with Coleg y Cymoedd in Q4 2022 to attend college events to promote the brand-new apprenticeship programme and opportunities to students.</p>
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		<p>In addition, the Academy Mentor organised two events at Coleg y Cymoedd targeting Health and Social Care and Catering learners to give information about apprenticeships, the opportunity to talk with a representative from the departments and to provide time with employment mentors from the employment support teams to explain the application process.</p> <p>The Academy Mentor is also collating information from Coleg y Cymoedd learners who have expressed an interest in gaining work experience onsite with CCBC (liaising with the department to assess learners' availability and arranging health and safety inductions at Tir y Berth depot prior to going out on site.)</p>
H	Ensure existing staff within PSB partner organisations are able to undertake training to improve their skills and knowledge, and access apprenticeship opportunities where appropriate	No further update at this stage
I	Develop a shared apprenticeship programme (Caerphilly Academy) within the local authority and across PSB partner organisations	<p>Caerphilly Academy has progressed well over last 7 months, following a delayed commencement as a result of the pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work has been ongoing with HR to develop processes, terms and conditions to enable placements and apprenticeships.</li> <li>- 8 young people supported into Kickstart placements within CCBC (see detailed update in section J below)</li> <li>- 9 apprentices supported as part of Caerphilly Homes team; success of this support has meant that Academy support has been requested for further 10 apprentices in Sept 2022.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Academy support given to CCBC HR dept in rollout of over 20 apprenticeships (currently in recruitment stage)</li> <li>- Now preparing to host first paid placements, including 1 x 12 week placement and 1 x 6 month placement. Considerable support given by Academy Mentor to address barriers such as those relating to Occupational Health.</li> <li>- Scheme not yet at stage of rolling out further across PSB, as still embedding within CCBC as single organisation at present.</li> </ul>
J	<p>Promote Welsh Government and UK Government initiatives (including Kickstart, Jobs Growth Wales, Traineeships) to employers as an entry point to apprenticeships and/or sustainable employment</p>	<p>Business Liaison and Business Support staff continue to support local employers, which includes discussing opportunities to build and upskill workforce.</p> <p>Staff from across the PSB have attended briefings on new Jobs Growth Wales + programme.</p> <p>Employment Support and HR teams working closely together to develop a framework to support pathways to employment through placements. HR are developing terms of reference and safe procedures for onboarding to support this.</p> <p>8 unemployed young people were successful in gaining employment with CCBC through the Kickstart Scheme. CCBC supported the scheme by increasing the wage offered by the DWP from National Minimum Wage to Foundation Living Wage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The scheme was promoted heavily within the local job centres to the target audience and communicated to a wide number of internal CCBC</li> </ul>

		<p>departments who work with the eligible individuals and promoted widely to local partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Academy worked very closely with departments to create job roles that would allow the successful applicant to gain the much-needed experience and knowledge to start a career in their chosen field. The Academy Mentor worked closely with CCBC HR Department to provide a smooth onboarding process for the successful applicants and in most cases the very tight turnaround time from interview to start date was met and this was deemed a successful joint venture.</li> <li>- All applicants were offered support from the Academy and the CCBC employment support programmes at every opportunity. The successful applicants were introduced to their future mentor at interview stage and have developed and continued that relationship.</li> <li>- The 8 Kickstart employees have now been in post for between 5-8 weeks and are receiving support not only from their supervisors but also meeting regularly with their mentor to discuss future plans.</li> </ul>
K	Develop a career offer locally that promotes the foundational economy as a route to economic prosperity for people of all backgrounds (linking to the Resilient Communities Action	CCBC Employment Support and Academy teams have developed multiple employment pathways supporting care & health services, linking in partnership with the Council's Transformation team to consider innovative recruitment solutions.



	<p>Area), supported by appropriate pathways</p>	<p>Teams have supported Care managers to recruit and retain a Kickstart placement in March 2022. Academy support has proved essential in this instance to resolve some initial issues relating to workplace behaviour etc. This has resulted in a positive outcome, with both the employee and the recruiting manager happy with current progress – and demonstrates the difference that additional mentoring support can mean for job sustainability in the case of those with little to no prior work experience.</p> <p>Teams are also working with CCBC care, cleaning and catering teams on an ongoing basis to address problems with recruitment, including development of a sector specific vacancy event.</p>
<p>L</p>	<p>Provide support to businesses to improve their competitive edge and to take advantage of new opportunities through the provision of placements, apprenticeships and/or paid employment – linking directly to available regional workforce via employment support programmes</p>	<p>CCBC Business Liaison have continued to support many businesses across the borough by supporting in the development of work experience, apprenticeships and placements – and promoting these opportunities to participants from all employability programmes. The Business liaison team is able to offer a bespoke employment service to each business it serves. This service provides a competitive advantage to those companies that use our services, enabling access to training budgets and support staff to enable them to identify the correct candidate for each job and providing opportunities to develop training and recruitment pathways to upskill individuals to meet employer needs.</p> <p>Over the past 7 months, key employer relationships formed/maintained have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- QDL Painting and decorating</li> <li>- RF Brookes</li> <li>- Caledan Production</li> <li>- Lovells</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Surf the Shop</li> <li>- Celtic Oriental</li> <li>- IG Design</li> <li>- Transcend</li> <li>- Shadow Scaffolding</li> <li>- David Lloyd Window Cleaning</li> <li>- Walters Demolition</li> <li>- Kier Construction</li> </ul> <p>As a PSB action area group, we now need to expand this activity across the group, to coordinate key employer contacts to avoid duplication across agencies.</p>
M	Develop close links with the Volunteering element of the Action Area to provide residents with opportunities for progression into employment	No significant update at this stage – to be developed. (However, CCBC Employment teams maintain strong links with Caerphilly Cares team, who support volunteers alongside GAVO and refer in to employment programmes where appropriate).
N	Map all current traineeship and apprenticeship programmes and structures across PSB partner organisations	<p>Mapping exercise currently being prepared, with intention to send out to PSB members to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What staffing/training/apprenticeship needs PSB member employers may have</li> <li>b) What PSB member training providers can deliver to meet these needs</li> </ul> <p>Currently compiling updated list of PSB contacts for this action area, to ensure mapping is communicated to correct people across all PSB member organisations.</p>
O	Explore the most appropriate way to deliver a ‘one stop shop’ approach across PSB partner organisations, to raise awareness of apprenticeship opportunities	No significant update at this stage. Individual and ad hoc work being done to promote opportunities with different PSB members (e.g. recent work between CCBC and Coleg y Cymoedd to promote apprenticeship opportunities to students), but there remains significant potential to co-

		ordinate this activity across all PSB members once mapping exercise complete.
P	Identify how best to influence and maximise apprenticeship and training opportunities from the Cardiff City Region for Caerphilly county borough and its residents	<p>Ongoing - A number of senior officers are working with officers from the Cardiff City Region to maximise apprenticeship and training opportunities.</p> <p>Reps from CCBC also attend CCR Regional Skills Partnership meetings, to influence discussion around opportunities offered by group, feeding back and linking in where appropriate.</p> <p>Reps from CCBC, local colleges, WG and others have been part of recent ongoing discussions concerning the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) and how it may be allocated across Caerphilly to ensure delivery of outcomes relating to People and Skills. This is part of a co-ordinated regional approach to employability across the CCR, to include regional interventions, pathways and opportunities, where appropriate, to meet labour market demand in priority sectors across South-East Wales.</p>
Q	Engage with schools at the earliest possible opportunity in a child's life to highlight the positive benefits of apprenticeships as a realistic alternative to university	<p>CCBC - Work is being undertaken with the Chief Education Officer and Head Teachers to consider how the Council can engage more effectively with schools and offer more work experience placements so that pupils have a better understanding of the Council's business and future employment opportunities.</p> <p>CCBC Employment teams considering how best to involve schools within evolving engagement plans, now that restrictions due to pandemic have lessened.</p> <p>CCBC Workforce Development have been working with Careers Wales to engage Year 11-13 pupils, raising awareness of the opportunities for employment within the</p>

		<p>authority and marketing our apprenticeship opportunities. As part of a wider recruitment campaign, CCBC have developed marketing materials and videos to highlight our services and varied job opportunities, specifically targeting our young people with a view to giving them a better understanding of their options.</p>
R	<p>Identify upcoming growth sectors and labour market demand across Borough and wider Gwent region</p>	<p>By constantly liaising with CCBC business team, JCP, community groups, partner organisations, Business Wales, CCR Regional Skills Partnership and Welsh Government, we are able to identify upcoming growth sectors and labour market demands. We have strong communications with local community groups, other local authorities and also local colleges. Through constantly liaising with these groups we are able to be proactive in our approach to employment support for Caerphilly and the wider Gwent region.</p> <p>Staff from across the PSB are also represented on regional groups to develop joint plan for Shared Prosperity Fund, which includes consideration of regional growth sectors when developing proposals.</p>

## Conclusion

The past 7 months have shown positive progression within this action area, as recovery from the pandemic continues. In particular, CCBC has seen significant growth in its apprenticeship offer, driven forward by the HR team. The Caerphilly Academy is also now beginning to deliver as intended prior to the onset of the pandemic, with individuals supported into Kickstart positions, additional paid placements and apprenticeships, with the support of the Academy mentor proving central to the success of these placements in many cases.



There is still much to be done to develop a co-ordinated Borough wide apprenticeship offer across Caerphilly, however the group is now meeting on a quarterly basis and a long overdue mapping exercise is now being progressed which will form the basis of this partnership approach to apprenticeships.

Much success has also been seen in terms of general job growth in both the public and private sectors, with local employers being supported by employment support teams to fulfil recruitment needs in the form of an appropriately skilled workforce.

Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.

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## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### Action Area 3

#### Good Health and Well-being

Good Health and Well-being is one of 5 Action Areas within The Caerphilly We Want Well-being Plan 2018-23. It supports the achievement of the plan's 4 Well-being Objectives:

**Objective 1: Positive Change** - A shared commitment to improving the way we work together

**Objective 2: Positive Start** - Giving our future generations the best start in life

**Objective 3: Positive People** - Empowering and enabling all our residents to achieve their own potential

**Objective 4: Positive Places** - Enabling our communities to be resilient and sustainable

**Alison Gough**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Outcome	Is there a risk this will not be achieved
<p><b>AA.3.1 Outcome 1</b> – Working with public health on promoting good health such as smoking cessation. Smoking prevalence reduced to 16% by 2020.</p> <p><b>AA.3.1 Outcome 2</b> – Working with public health to achieve uptake in childhood vaccinations flu vaccinations and Covid -19 vaccinations <b>There should be a 95% uptake in childhood vaccinations, an uptake in flu immunisations as follows - 75% in 65-year-olds and over and 55% in at risk groups aged 6 months to 64 years.</b></p> <p><b>See below for Caerphilly area Covid 19 vaccinations update.</b></p> <p><b>AA.3.1 Outcome 3</b> – Achieve targets in national screening programmes. <b>There should be an uptake in the following areas for national screening: 60% uptake for bowel; 70% uptake for breast; 80% for cervical.</b></p> <p><b>AA3.1 Outcome 4</b> – Working with partner agencies to promote good mental health and awareness of available services such as counselling with Caerphilly Mind, Hospital Discharge Service with Age Cymru Gwent, MELO website and the Green Nature Prescribing Initiative. Working with GP’s to ensure working knowledge of the Green Nature Prescribing initiative. Promote MELO website and resources. Promote resources and access to Caerphilly MIND and Age Cymru Gwent.</p> <p><b>AA3.2 Outcome 1</b> – Ensure relevant information sharing and access to up-to-date resources such as Care First and MELO Connect 5 training. Caerphilly Council staff will have access to an Employee Volunteering Scheme. Roll out MELO Connect 5 training to staff and evaluate uptake. Work with communications teams to distribute documents and resources related to well-being. The Employee Volunteering Scheme is linked to staff well-being and provides benefits to partner agencies.</p>	<p>No</p>



**AA3.3 Outcome 1** – Improved delivery of preventative and effective services in each geographical area. Improved awareness and access to services provided locally. Ensure strategic priorities between the NCN, IWN and PSB are linked and are working together.

**AA3.4 Outcome 1** - More communities and residents engaged and involved in place-based discussions and decisions regarding health and wellbeing.

Feedback from community groups and uptake in services for health and well-being groups in local areas.

## EVIDENCE

(See Appendix below)

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
AA 3.1	Promote and encourage people to avail of smoking cessation support and details of how this can be accessed. Promote and encourage people to avail of screening services with details of how these can be accessed. Promote positive messages about vaccinations and encourage reading from reputable resources.	Outcome 1 - Data for Q4 2021/22 was not yet available for Caerphilly. In 2020/21 we treated 3% smoking population in ABUHB and will need to achieve 0.8% in Q4 – at the moment we are 2.2%. This may be a challenge this year as Varenicline, a Prescription Only Medication, has not been available for nearly all 2021/22 and community pharmacies only include that data in their Q4 returns..
		Outcome 2 - The was good uptake in the older age group, however it will be important to work with colleagues across health and social care to ensure an improved uptake in the next seasonal flu immunisation campaign. The NCNs are working with partners to develop alternative models of programme delivery. As at 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar, Flu uptake was as follows - Children aged 2-3 years = 49.5% ; Clinical risk 6months – 64 years = 51% ; Age 65+ = 78.3%. Additional data on Child immunisation uptake (Oct

		2021- Dec 2021) is contained in the Appendix below
		Outcome 3 (Achieve Targets in National Screening Programmes) – See Appendix below
		<p>Outcome 4 – Working with partner agencies to promote good mental health and awareness of available services – It is recognised that one impact of the pandemic is an increased need to support key interventions for local populations around good mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Caerphilly NCNs have again this year invested in the Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner role which is now fully recruited and are aligned to our 21 GP practices.</p> <p>The NCNs have actively promoted and invested in the IRIS Training and support programme which enables GPs and GP practice staff to identify patients affected by domestic violence and abuse and refer them to specialist services, benefiting the patient and saving NHS resources.</p> <p>Investment has already been agreed to continue with the additional counselling capacity with Caerphilly Mind who support the primary care mental health service to address the volume of referrals received.</p> <p>The NCNs will continue to use and promote these services as well as working and engaging in the Green Nature Prescribing Initiative, MELO website and all other resources available.</p>
AA 3.2	<p><b>INVEST IN THE WELL-BEING OF STAFF</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ensure that Connect 5 training is rolled out to staff and monitor uptake and feedback.</li> <li>Ensure up to date resources shared on Care First and alternative internal communications</li> </ul>	<p>Outcome 1 - Ensure relevant information sharing and access to up-to-date resources such as Care First and MELO Connect 5 training. Caerphilly Council staff will have access to an Employee Volunteering Scheme. Roll out MELO Connect 5 training to staff and evaluate uptake. Work with communications teams to distribute</p>

		<p>documents and resources related to well-being. The Employee Volunteering Scheme is linked to staff well-being and provides benefits to partner agencies..- Caerphilly NCNs have undertaken a recent pilot of mindfulness sessions with staff groups to support their wellbeing. A review of the pilot will be undertaken and if proven of value to staff and service delivery will consider extending this in 2022-23 period. The ABUHB intranet webpages has a dedicated wellbeing section and staff can access this and signpost to support and advice. We have funded them for the delivery of 132 modules of Gwent Connect 5 – each GC5 course has 3 modules. 44 full courses. About one a week (allowing for holidays).</p>
<p>AA3. 3</p>	<p>Provide an integrated system of health, social care and well-being closer to home through the Neighbourhood Care Network Ensure synergies between the strategic priorities of the PSB, the three Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCN) and the Integrated Wellbeing Networks: encourage opportunities and promote delivery through: Green and community-based creative wellbeing initiatives, including appropriate social and more formalised ‘prescribing’ routes Ensure synergy with other PSB workstreams especially: Caerphilly cares Preventing vulnerability/ inequality Town centre recovery</p>	<p>The NCNs continue to work towards place-based care and service delivery working collaboratively with partners to achieve this. From a third sector perspective, we have seen an increase in groups setting up to support various health conditions, namely dementia and mental health support. Particularly following the pandemic, mental health groups will likely be the theme going forward, and we need to ensure they are set up appropriately and have the correct support. Partnership between GAVO's Community Development and HSCW teams on developing a Wealth Building Partnership model to promote to communities to increase localised collaboration and empowerment, in line with the wellbeing economic model promoted by Welsh Government. Participatory budgeting - the mapping element will be a big task going forward, to map both public and third sector provision. Financial wellbeing - with rising costs of living, energy prices surging and no increases in pay, financial wellbeing could become a huge issue for all sectors in the coming months and years. This will have a direct impact on people's overall physical,</p>

		<p>mental and emotional health. We need to start working more collaboratively with CAB, and local credit unions on how we mitigate these issues. Financial issues could also see a rise in crime and substance misuse.</p> <p>Vaccination uptake - David Llewellyn and Laura Brosnan- James will look at revamping the V for Vaccination talks to focus specifically on families of children who are unsure about the Covid vaccine, following various comments seen from parents who are worried about their children getting vaccinated.</p>
<p>AA 3.4</p>	<p>Create a supportive environment that enables communities and residents to manage their health and wellbeing, appropriately in partnership with services. Develop place-based approaches to enable community wellbeing and empower residents to access support services and get involved in funding opportunities. Ensure promotion and awareness of local services in the following areas: Reducing loneliness through 'Ffrind i mi' Mental health services to residents in partnership with Caerphilly MIND and MELO Promotion of support for digital exclusion Support the roll out of Iris in partnership with Llamau</p>	<p>IWN place-based collectives were held in its focus areas - Bargoed, Rhymney, New Tredegar and Risca - in February 2022 and will continue on a quarterly basis throughout the year. These will help inform the new Participatory Budgeting opportunities being developed in conjunction with CCBC, GAVO and others which will be supported by ABUHB Connections funding for new post-COVID wellbeing activities and initiatives. New CWTSH community weekly wellbeing guides to local wellbeing activities for each focus area have been developed with Dewis Cymru, Caerphilly Wellbeing Friends and the Community Connectors. Feedback has been hugely favourable to date. These will expand their location reach as appropriate in coming months. A new CWTSH website with details of these and more wellbeing information has been created and is being enhanced. An IWN focus has been the Rhymney area. Working with partners, a new revamped weekly Talking Café (Cwtsh Café) at Rhymney Library has proved very popular in reconnecting people and helping to address isolation. A biweekly Caffi Croeso in Welsh has similarly proved popular which will become weekly in April. A new Social Strollers group along with community-led heritage walks are developing and starting to get people more connected and physically active whilst a new men's mental health</p>

	<p>group is about to commence. We produced a series of 15 short wellbeing films highlighting the work and opportunities of groups and services across Caerphilly and encourage members of the public to get involved. These are being made available to partners and are being loaded onto a new YouTube Channel. The Nature Wellbeing /Green Prescribing pilot was completed and evaluated which demonstrated its value. This will provide the basis for developing this more formally along with the opportunity for an Arts on Prescription approach for which an initial meeting, facilitated by Wales Arts and Wellbeing Network, was held with creative partners lead by the IWN and Arts Development in CCBC. GAVO worked with CCBC around the tree planting initiative, focussed on the benefits of volunteering for health and wellbeing, alongside promotion of outdoors and green space and its impact on good health. V for Vaccination sessions have been delivered on a reduced basis to continue to respond to vaccination hesitancy and promote reputable resources for additional information. Covid IMT has continued to be supported by the IWN lead re community intelligence and information Virtual Caerphilly Wellbeing Friends coffee mornings have continued to run led by GAVO working with the IWN. These will be revamped in the spring.</p> <p>Monthly Wellbeing Friends coffee mornings have continued, as requested by the attendees. These are seen as a great resource of information and a great way of connecting with others across the borough. Several new community members have joined and engaged with promoting good health and wellbeing messages. Talks during this time have included Bonesetter Reese heritage talk, Coeliac UK awareness session, Walking Friends, Community transport</p>
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		<p>discussion, Covid restriction updates and general messages for Health and Wellbeing. Following feedback from IWN meetings, a Rhymney ‘Chatty Café’ has been formed to tackle social exclusion falling from Covid isolation. These started in February 2022 and have been extremely well attended by community members and support services alike. We have also used this as an opportunity to consult with the community on their wellbeing needs.</p> <p>Age Friendly Communities – linking to good health and wellbeing for an aging population.</p> <p>GAVO has worked on a Transport to Health scheme, ensuring transport options for communities are more suitable, affordable and accessible in order to access their health appointments. 3 transport schemes have been supported in Caerphilly, in partnership with three third sector groups.</p>
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## Conclusion

Caerphilly Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCNs) have continued to support the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery process following the various incidence waves over the last year.

All our clinicians and support staff have worked hard to maintain operational service delivery and have had to adapt ways of working to do this. GP practices like all other independent contractors worked above and beyond to sustain accessible and timely services to their patients. Our District Nursing teams and Community Resource Team within Caerphilly have operated throughout the last year where staff shortages existed and have worked tirelessly through this difficult period to sustain services without detriment to patient care.

## Appendix 1

### AA3.1 outcome 2 additional data Childhood Immunisation Uptake (Oct2021-Dec2021)

The end of December reporting period indicating very good uptake in the majority of childhood vaccination categories. The older age groups still require some improvement and the NCN will work with colleagues to address this.

Child's Age	Vaccination	Uptake Achievement
1 year	6 in 1 primary*	97%
1 year	PCV primary (2 doses)	98%
1 year	Rotavirus (2 doses)	95%
1 year	MenB (2 doses)	97%
2 years	MMR (1 dose)	95%
2 years	PCV final (3 doses)	96%
2 years	Hib/MenC booster	96%
2 years	MenB (Complete course)	96%
4 years	4 in 1 pre-school booster*	92%
4 years	Hib/MenC booster	97%
4 years	MMR (2 doses)	92%
4 years	Up to date**	90%
5 years	4 in 1 pre-school booster*	93%
5 years	MMR (1 dose)	98%
5 years	MMR (2 doses)	93%

Child's Age	Vaccination	Uptake Achievement
14 years	MMR (1 dose)	98%
14 years	MMR (2 doses)	96%
15 years	MMR (1 dose)	98%
15 years	MMR (2 doses)	96%
15 years	3 in 1 teenage booster***	78%
15 years	MenACWY	78%
16 years	MMR (1 dose)	97%
16 years	MMR (2 doses)	95%
16 years	3 in 1 teenage booster***	82%
16 years	MenACWY	82%

The delivery of the COVID mass vaccination programme was a resounding success in Gwent as a whole has been achieved by all services responding and supporting. As at 22nd March 2022, uptake of COVID-19 vaccination of Caerphilly residents is as opposite.

The Spring 2022 booster programme for those aged 75+ and in vulnerable groups has commenced in the care home settings and will be commenced for the mass vaccination centres and housebound mobile teams in early April 2022.

Potential of holding V for Vaccination talks for parents in light of the vaccines being made available for 5 – 12-year-olds, and some vaccine hesitancy around parents. Will look at this into the next period.

GAVO continue to promote vaccination updates via networks and social media, and via the Coffee Mornings.

<b>Uptake Dose 1</b>	<b>Uptake Dose 2</b>	<b>Uptake Booster</b>
92%	90%	77%



### Area AA 3.1 Outcome 3 – Achieve Targets in National Screening Programmes

BTW Screening Uptake, Latest Screening Round as at 30/04/21:

Health Board	Unitary Authority Name	Unitary Authority Code	Eligible / Invited	Tested	Uptake %
Aneurin Bevan University	Caerphilly	6B2	24922	18126	72.7

Cervical Screening Age-Appropriate Coverage as at 01/04/20, Aged 25-64

Health Board	Unitary Authority Name	Unitary Authority Code	Eligible / Invited	Tested	Coverage %
Aneurin Bevan University	Caerphilly	6B2	44685	33737	75.5

Bowel Screening Uptake 2019-20

Health Board	Unitary Authority Name	Unitary Authority Code	Eligible / Invited	Tested	Uptake %
Aneurin Bevan University	Caerphilly	6B2	15016	9420	62.7
<b>GAVO have worked with Bowel Cancer UK's new Wales team to promote</b>					

<p><b>workplace and community free awareness sessions. Bowel Cancer UK also attended the Wellbeing Friends Coffee Morning to promote screening.</b></p> <p>Wales uptake %: Breast = 72.3 Cervical = 73.2 Bowel = 61.5%</p>					
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## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### Action Area AA4a

#### Safer Communities

**Objective 1 - Positive Change** - Improved partner working and sharing of workspace, facilities and information will use assets and resources more intelligently

**Objective 2 - Positive Start**—Educating young people in community responsibility, providing diversion from negative behaviours, work with Gwent Police ACES and Early Intervention providers.

**Objective 3 - Positive People**—Building and maintaining collaborative working/engagement with partners to explore concerns, identify and action relevant solutions. Use of community engagement events to encourage increased reporting.

**Objective 4 - Positive Places**—Work with partners to tackle environmental crime and property defacement and development of mediation services to help residents address problem persons and behaviour directly

**Natalie Kenny**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Reduced number of people entering Criminal Justice System	Yes
Effective response to ASB—Strike 3 and 4 numbers	No
Identify and respond effectively to crime and ASB challenges	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Feedback provided by the community following engagement re. issues in area, perception of community safety and effectiveness of actions being taken.	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Reduced number of people entering Criminal Justice System	
Effective response to ASB—Strike 3 and 4 numbers	The Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership (SCCSP) and constituent partners involved in the 4 Strike Process for tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) are committed to continual improvement to protect the community. The process incorporates elements of intervention/ prevention, education, and enforcement through the utilisation of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. For the year of 2021/2022, The Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership has undertaken 9 Strike 3 meetings discussing 84 cases and 5 Strike 4 meetings with 9 cases discussed. From these, 5 cases have progressed to court in the last 6 months with a 100% prosecution success rate.

Identify and respond effectively to crime and ASB challenges

CSP Board – Community safety partners have reviewed the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) governance arrangements in Caerphilly and agreed to reintroduce the CSP Board. This will ensure that local decision making is fluid, efficient and managed appropriately. A first meeting of the CSP Board was held in February and a terms of reference established. As part of the reintroduction of the Board a community safety workshop event has taken place with over 40 partners to look at how the CSP is currently working and identify priorities going forward. This will assist with developing a future workplan for the partnership and ensure all relevant stakeholders are engaged and consulted.

ASB Bargoed – A number of ASB related incidents on the town centre was impacting on residents retailers and customers. Partnership work that included police, CCBC, youth services and local retailers helped to tackle this issue. As a result 66 ASB referrals were submitted, 30 advisory letters were sent to parents , 13 Acceptable Behaviour contracts were signed and 1 ASB injunction went to court. Youth intervention work was also implemented at the Morrisons store with educational inputs from SWFRS.

We continue to work closely as a partnership in relation to tackling crime and ASB matters. There is real focus on tasking and placing appropriate resources in areas where the repeat demand is highlighted. The performance data packs together with weekly police analytical data assists in identifying repeat victim / location and subject. As partners we collectively look at solutions/ interventions and other agency support to reduce this demand.

We are also supported by the We don't buy crime Department and Problem Solving Hub at

	Gwent Police that assist with crime prevention tactics and co-ordination of activity.
Feedback provided by the community following engagement re. issues in area, perception of community safety and effectiveness of actions being taken	Safer Streets Project – Rhymney – Feedback has been received from Dawn Bowden (member of Senedd for Merthyr and Rhymney) – she was very complimentary of the work conducted by the Neighbourhood Team in relation to the Safer Street Project. The project has been well received in Rhymney with key engagement by partners / councillors and police. Smart Water packs have been distributed and crime prevention advice provided. All recommendations in relation to home safety measures (door locks / CCTV / Signage) has been implemented. In addition to this Operation Jackal was running alongside this project whereby several individuals classed as an organised criminal group were arrested as a result of search warrants. These individuals have since received substantial custodial sentences for Class A Drug dealing offences.

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
	Community Mapping – Develop an understanding of the demographic and diverse composition of our local communities. This will assist with key engagement initiatives to involve our communities in problem solving issues that affect them. This will allow them to feel empowered and informed in order to deal with localised community safety.	This is still being developed and progressed with Gwent Police collaboratively working with South Wales Police to create a digital platform for this information to be held. There is a dedicated community support engagement officer for Caerphilly that is currently looking at opportunities to increase our watch schemes that will assist with problem solving. These include Allotment Watch/Shop Watch/Neighbourhood Watch/Pub Watch. Face to face engagement has been difficult during the pandemic, however engagement during that time resorted to messaging via our digital platforms/emails and TEAMS meetings. As the restrictions

		<p>continue to lift, this will provide more opportunities to engage in public spaces and community groups.</p>
	<p>Maintain an accurate picture of Anti-Social Behaviour and those responsible; encouraging and facilitating reporting and strengthening community confidence by effectively tackling issues through use of statutory powers or partnership referral and utilising early intervention and prevention schemes</p>	<p>Due to an increase in anti-social behaviour incidents in Blackwood town centre a partnership initiative has recently been introduced to help address the issues. The Blackwood Town Safe Initiative will aim to work with local businesses, partners and the community to tackle anti-social behaviour and youth nuisance problems within the town. An initial meeting has been held and community engagement events are planned in the near future along with training for local businesses to enhance the partnership response. Good work has also been undertaken in the Aber Valley where there has been partnership working between community safety wardens/police/youth workers and SWFRS to tackle ASB in the area. Regular meeting have also been held with residents and councillors to discuss ways of improving community safety and to provide relevant updates.</p>
	<p>To stand up to Hate/Intolerance and Extremism in our communities by ensuring we robustly monitor and deal with incidents and victims of hate-crime. To ensure that the responsibilities for PREVENT and CHANNEL under Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 are met and to implement the Regional Prevent Action Plan that covers training, policy, Channel and community cohesion.</p>	<p>The Caerphilly Channel Panel continues to meet monthly to oversee Channel cases and manage the risk of individuals becoming radicalised. Regular Prevent and Channel training and updates are provided to Channel Panel members to ensure their knowledge and skills are enhanced and kept up to date with recent developments. Prevent training continues to be delivered to frontline staff including a number of specific sessions for education and enforcement staff. Sessions at this time are currently held online via Microsoft Teams. The regional Contest Board and Prevent Training and Delivery Group continue to meet regularly to ensure all statutory duties are met. The Regional Prevent group are currently reviewing the Prevent action plan to ensure key objectives are met. In relation to incidents of Hate Crime reported to the police, a new robust process map has been</p>

		<p>implemented that offers victims additional support if required. Every incident that is reported is scrutinised and monitored by the local Inspector on a daily basis to ensure an appropriate investigation response is adopted. A Hate crime toolkit has also been developed.</p>
	<p>To continue working in partnership with statutory, specialist and internal partners to co-ordinate activity in relation to emerging areas of repeat demand, Serious Violence/Serious organised criminality, intelligence and community issues. This will be facilitated via the Tasking process through both Community Safety Hubs and the Serious Organised Crime Partnership Group</p>	<p>Repeat demand/serious organised crime is monitored on a daily basis by police. Repeat demand drivers around location/subject and victim are co-ordinated via our problem solving hub and local neighbourhood teams. They work closely with the local authority and partners to create problem orientated policing plans to help tackle these issues. An appropriate tasking process is in place with diarised partnership meetings. There is also a separate organised crime partnership group that meet regularly to discuss intelligence updates and operational activity.</p>
	<p>To enhance engagement and activity in relation to the Night-Time economy – to reduce those incidents intrinsically linked to NTE such as violent crime/Disorder and areas of vulnerability (CCE/CSE/ Modern Day Slavery)</p>	<p>The problem solving hub has two dedicated operational licensing police officers covering the WEST of the force area. They regularly engage with licensed premises and work closely with Licensing officers from CCBC. Every incident that is reported to police that involves a licensed premise or occurs near a licensed premise is brought to the attention of these officers who investigate accordingly and take appropriate action. The officers and team also work closely with the Modern Day Slavery Team to target those premises that may be involved with illegal immigrants and/ who are trafficking /exploiting others. A recent operation had been conducted in Gwent where over 60 people were safeguarded within a two week period.</p>

## Conclusion

No guidance is sought from the Board at this time





Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.

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## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### Action Area AA4b

## Caerphilly Cares

**Positive Start**— providing the Best start in life for current and future generations

**Positive People**—securing the best outcomes for current and future generations

**Positive Places**—improving services, improving health and well-being

**Tina McMahon**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Strengthening relationships and connections between residents, and between residents and agencies.	No
Mobilising and empowering residents to become self-organising and active.	No
Map all community groups and support currently available	No
Create a mechanism for sharing best practice and increased community participation for residents.	No
Develop the process mapping internally and across external partners, then establish the monitoring and evaluation framework including customer journey mapping.	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Satisfaction levels/positive outcomes %	No
Number of successful case studies / positive journeys	No
Lessons learned identified and continuous improvement – linked to exit surveys	No
80% of engaged community groups trained in safeguarding, coproduction, community involvement etc. within first year	No
Number of new community groups supported to become established	No
Service responds to most common barriers via calls/customer journey	No
Respond to evaluation of first 12 months delivery	No
Successful process mapping achieved in establishing CC service (successful partnership with transformation)	No
Within the first 12 months, XX% of residents are aware of the 'Caerphilly Cares' service	No
Successful launch on 6th April 2021	No
Extent of awareness raising – internally and partners/community groups – networking opportunities	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Satisfaction levels/positive outcomes %	Online MS Forms survey redesigned to meet service delivery. All documentation/evidence paperwork is being standardised to go live in Q1 (22/23).
Number of successful case studies/ positive journeys	The Team has made a positive difference to over 1000 people who engaged with our service. Case studies available on request.
Lessons learned identified and continuous improvement – linked to exit surveys	First year review report delivered to Social Services Scrutiny on 7th March 2022. Full copy of the report is available on request.
80% of engaged community groups trained in safeguarding, co-production, community involvement etc. within first year	Due to the ongoing restrictions this work has been delayed. As community groups are now restarting face to face delivery, this work will roll over into the next reporting year.
Number of new community groups supported to become established	Supported the formalisation of community groups that started informally as a result of lockdown. Isolation & Loneliness grant established and groups supported to apply to facilitate new community activities post pandemic (March 2022 onwards).
Service responds to most common barriers via calls/customer journey	There are several key themes identified through caseloads to date, the most common ones being: Financial (including food) insecurity Mental health (all tiers), Housing. Due to the impact of the pandemic on the lives of vulnerable people and the needs presented, the focus to date has been within the Social Services and Housing Directorate. an agreement to work jointly with Mental Health services on individual cases. Support is being provided to the Caerphilly Cares team on a case-by-case basis to enter formal mental health support services when needed.
Respond to evaluation of first 12 months delivery	Full annual review report went to Social Services Scrutiny on 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2022. Future direction is being discussed at CMT on 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Successful process mapping achieved in establishing CC service (successful partnership with transformation)	Process mapping within CCBC took place during the first year including visioning and planning workshops with partners. This will continue during 2022/23.
Monitoring awareness of Caerphilly Cares in the community	Since its inception, the Caerphilly Cares Duty Team has received over <b>1200</b> calls and <b>500</b> emails asking for help. The team has made <b>330</b> referrals to appropriate partners & services to provide relevant support. Of the <b>1200</b> calls received, over <b>850</b> have been direct from residents who have learned of the service over the past several months
Successful launch on 6th April 2021	Launch successfully carried out throughout April/May 2021 inclusive of several member seminars, social media releases and cross-team information sessions and workshops.
Extent of awareness raising – internally and partners/community groups – networking opportunities	Cross-team meetings and workshops ongoing alongside information sessions with partnership organisations such as Community Connectors, Housing, Tenancy Support, Benefits, Council Tax, 50+ Forum and the Older People teams.

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
A	Establishing an appropriate customer journey measurement	Abavus system went live on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2022 to standardise the data staff are capturing. All associated paperwork is currently being updated to ensure it is fit for purpose.
B	Establish panel of community volunteers – exploring training and development needs – first six months (training to then be completed within 12-18 months)	Continuing to work the with IWNs and existing volunteers. Food Network has been established and launched with a successful event on 28th March 2022 including private sector businesses and community organisations & foodbanks.
C	Develop tool to measure impact for individuals – in partnership with Public Health Wales + community insight work (change to geographical area)	Due to restricted resources within Public Health Wales this work has not yet been implemented.
D	Community groups trained in safeguarding, coproduction, community involvement etc. within first year	Risca CV UK lead volunteers trained in Safeguarding Level 2 and will undergo ‘train the trainer’ training to roll out further. Caerphilly Cares Development Officers will also be trained to assist roll out of this

		training due to capacity issues. Due to the ongoing restrictions this work has been delayed. As community groups are now restarting face to face delivery, this work will roll over into the next reporting year.
E	Service/asset mapping in geographical areas	Caerphilly Cares Dewis pages are live and will be updated as and when. Detailed Community Asset Mapping to commence now restrictions have lifted commencing with a pilot in Rhymney.
F	Identify most common barriers via calls/customer journey	Service delivery continuing to evolve to meet customer needs and ongoing developments through the pandemic. Main issues identified to date include; Mental Health (all levels), Housing Benefits, Tenancy Support, Food Poverty, Isolation & Loneliness (Buddy Scheme) and COVID. Several customers are reporting that their issues are being dealt with across several departments resulting in confusion and hinderance.
G	Evaluation of first 12 months delivery	Full annual review report went to Social Services Scrutiny on 7th March 2022. Future direction is being discussed at CMT on 7th April 2022
H	Develop delivery plan for year 2 onwards	To be assessed April 2023
I	Production of quarterly newsletters to promote Caerphilly Cares	Facebook pages launched in January 2022, publicising numerous grants available to the public (winter fuel allowance, isolation grant etc.). Caerphilly Cares literature has been redesigned and will be distributed during 2022/23.
J	Caerphilly Cares team are suitably upskilled	The Caerphilly Cares team has undergone a range of training both formally and informally. All members of staff are at least Level 2 trained in Safeguarding, with 3 Co-ordinators/managers having completed train the trainer to deliver Safeguarding to staff & volunteers. Mental Health Awareness/First aid is a core requirement for the team and a refresher is due this year.





## Conclusion

If Caerphilly Cares had not been implemented the pressure on other Council Services is likely to have been far greater. And whilst this is not clearly demonstrable at this point in time, if Caerphilly Cares had not been implemented over 1,700 people could have 'slipped through the net', 788 people would not have had their income maximised and over 2000 people would not have had food. As awareness of Caerphilly Cares grows and the impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt this number is likely to grow substantially. However, Caerphilly Cares is not a 'service' that operates in isolation, it reflects the ethos of the Transformation Strategy # Team Caerphilly Better Together that influences how we engage with our residents and how our services respond. COVID-19 has created intense pressures on local authorities to respond to unprecedented challenges. Communities have become even more reliant on public services and as a result, building social resilience and self-reliance in citizens is even more important than ever.

With potential budgetary pressures due to changing patterns of demands and lingering levels of dependency we will also need to continue to deal with the longer-term impact of the pandemic alongside driving forward any plans for longer-term transformational change. The need for strong networks, effective communication and collaboration across services and programmes that support our residents is essential to achieve this aim. We anticipate our communities will suffer from economic, health and other social challenges as a result of the pandemic for years to come. The gap between the most deprived and the most affluent has widened, and with the increase in living costs, fuel costs, National Insurance, and inflation this is likely to be exacerbated. This highlights the need to take an in depth look on how we intend to support our communities moving forward to respond to the anticipated growing demand for support.

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## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### Action Area 5: Resilient Communities

**Positive Change**— working with the business community to understand the importance of our town centres in terms of providing the essential services that we rely on for our daily lives and well-being.

**Positive Start**— Creating and maintaining healthy, green, accessible, and well-connected towns to deliver multiple benefits for well-being.

**Positive People**— Enhancing and promoting our town centres, to help residents to shop local for their everyday needs

**Positive Places**— Providing an excellent environment that has a choice of new homes, accessible workspaces, a diverse and varied retail and leisure offer that satisfies everyday requirements and affords access to bespoke products and great food and refreshments day and night.

**Rhian Kyte**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Free Wi-Fi introduced in 5 Principal Towns, 2 Local Centres and introduction of Near me Now	No, however roll out will run into new financial year
Reduction in the number of problematic empty properties in our Town Centres	This will be dependent on the level of funding available to attract investment into our town centres.
Introduction of new homes into town centre locations.	This will be dependent on the level of funding available to attract investment into our town centres.
Increase in the number of new businesses created in our Principal Town Centres with the aid of grant support (annual monitoring)	This will be dependent on the level of funding available to attract investment into our town centres
Increase in the number of new active travel schemes introduced in Principal Town Centres.	This will be dependent on the level of funding available to attract investment into our town centres
Increase in the number of businesses supported with their training and development needs (Employment mentors' data).	No
Increase in the number of prospective employees provided with training in partnership with the college. (Employment mentors' data).	No
Increase in the number of residential units introduced into Principal Town Centres through new development schemes and property conversions	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Increase access to free wi-fi to help address digital exclusion.	No
Reduce the number of problematic empty properties within the Principal Town Centres through proactive action by the Local Authority.	No

Increase the number of business start-ups in our Principal Towns.	This will be dependent on the level of funding available to attract investment into our town centres
Support business with their training and development needs and provide appropriate training for potential employees in partnership with the college.	No
Align active travel funding proposals with emerging Transforming Towns projects.	No
Introduce new homes into town centre locations to diversify the uses in town and increase footfall	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Digital Towns, data, and marketing	Officers are working with the Communications provider to provide free wi-fi roll out to 5 Principal Towns and 2 Local Centres to facilitate access and help address digital exclusion. Wi-Fi analytics are also being explored and a draft Functional Specifications Document has been issued for the proposed Analytics & Data Feed. Funding secured for a new Shop Local Campaign.
Empty Properties, Meanwhile Uses and Strategic Acquisitions	Funding secured to run a pilot initiative to bring empty properties back into beneficial use in Bargoed. Transforming Towns Funding secured to pilot meanwhile uses and introduce a property enhancement grant.
Supporting Town Centre Business growth and start-ups	Caerphilly Enterprise Grants and Caerphilly Start Up Grants supports new and established businesses and community enterprises throughout the County Borough.
Active Travel and Transport	Earlier in 2021 the Council sought resident's views on how cycling and walking provision in Caerphilly can be improved. This public engagement was very successful with over 1000 people participating. The Council has carefully

	considered all the comments and combined public opinion together with other relevant information to produce a draft Active Travel Network Map which was subject to public consultation up to November 2021 and was submitted to WG in December 2021.
Town Centre Diversification	Case studies have been provided to illustrate the work being undertaken in this area. PSB organisations also need to identify opportunities when appropriate to locate public sector/ third sector commercial occupation in town centres to help diversify towns, increase accessibility to service and enhance footfall.

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
A	Roll out free wi-fi to 5 Principal Towns and 2 Local Centres. Wi-Fi analytics being explored.	Officers are working with the Communications provider to provide free wi-fi roll out to Caerphilly, Risca, Bargoed, Ystrad Mynach, Blackwood, Rhymney, and Newbridge to facilitate access and help address digital exclusion. Risca and Rhymney went live in March 2022 and Ystrad Mynach and Bargoed will go live early in the new financial year (anticipate May). Wi-Fi analytics are also being explored and a Functional Specifications Document has been issued for the proposed Analytics & Data Feed.
B	Assess the ability of town centre traders to offer increasingly popular digital services such as click and collect, and look to share best practice where this has worked well	Several platforms are being explored with a view to running a pilot to complement the provision of free wi-fi in our town centres. Working Group has been set up with providers and business to trial a new app for the digital High Street.
C	Establishment of enforcement action plan - targeting statutory action on empty properties in Principal Town Centres with an initial focus on Bargoed.	Empty Property Action Plan prepared and submitted to Welsh Government. Funding secured to run a pilot initiative to bring empty properties back into beneficial use in Bargoed. If this proves successful, the focus will then move to other towns. Transforming Towns

		<p>Funding secured to pilot meanwhile uses and for property enhancement grants. Circa £170k of grant aid has been awarded to businesses in Bargoed in 2021/22 via the Transforming Towns initiative which has brought 4 empty properties back into beneficial use.</p>
D	<p>Supporting Town Centre Business growth and start-ups.</p>	<p>The Caerphilly Enterprise Fund actively supports new and established businesses and community enterprises throughout the County Borough. It is aimed at small and medium sized enterprises with less than 250 employees. The Caerphilly Start-Up Grant provides a grant scheme delivered through a partnership with UK Steel Enterprise and Caerphilly County Borough Council. It is designed to help residents of Caerphilly County Borough set up a full-time business for the first time, who are not able to access any other sources of funding. The Caerphilly Business Start-Up Grant provides financial support to help eligible new businesses develop and grow. Applications are continuously assessed by the Business Enterprise Renewal Team and both initiatives are over-subscribed. Notably, over £700k of Business Enterprise Renewal Team Grants have been delivered since April 2021.</p>
E	<p>Review active travel requirements around town centre access across the 5 Principal Towns.</p>	<p>The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 requires all local authorities in Wales to continuously improve their active travel routes and plan how routes will join up to form networks so that people can more easily get around by bicycle or as a pedestrian for their everyday journeys to work, school and other local destinations.</p> <p>Following a period of public engagement, the legislation requires councils to undertake statutory consultation to give the public the opportunity to check their opinions have been taken on board. The revised Active Travel Network Map was submitted to Welsh Government in December 2021 and will be approved /published early in the new financial year.</p>

		<p>The legislation is primarily (but not exclusively) based on settlements with a population of more than 2000. In Caerphilly County Borough this means we are consulting about improvements to the walking and cycling routes in; Aberbargoed, Abercarn, Abertridwr, <b>Bargoed, Blackwood, Caerphilly</b>, Llanbradach, Newbridge, New Tredegar, Nelson, Pontllanfraith, Pontlottyn, <b>Risca</b>, Rhymney, <b>Ystrad Mynach</b>, Wattsville.</p>
F	<p>Investigate and encourage all opportunities to locate public sector/ third sector commercial occupation in town centres. To include service hubs, health, and well-being provision to increase accessibility and enhance footfall etc.</p>	<p>PSB organisations to identify opportunities when appropriate to locate public sector/ third sector commercial occupation in town centres to help diversify towns, increase accessibility to service and enhance footfall. Town centres to help diversify towns, increase accessibility to service and enhance footfall.</p>
G	<p>Increase and diversify the town centre offer to increase the number of residents residing in town centres.</p>	<p>Town centre living is now regarded as a key element in regenerating towns. New housing strengthens community ownership of town centres, creates vibrancy throughout the day and importantly generates footfall to sustain retail, leisure, and other uses. Regeneration Officers are working with several property owners to diversify our town centres and increase the number of residents living in towns in the county borough. Two recent examples in Blackwood are outlined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 87-89 High Street is a landmark building in that has been vacant for a number of years. The owners acquired the property in 2019, with a plan to let it out, however, it is apparent that there is no longer a need or requirement for large retail premises in Blackwood. Therefore, the property has been converted with grant support into five, smaller retail units at the ground floor, facing onto High Street. Now complete, the project boasts eight one-bedroom apartments and one two-bedroom apartment on the second story, and five retail units on the first story. The basement level also houses private parking. All the</li> </ul>



		<p>retail units have now been let to local businesses – Tamp and Grind (Deli Company), JDs Barbershop, Cheesesteak Company &amp; Summer Nails. In total, 1,319m<sup>2</sup> of vacant floor space has been brought back into good use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 195 – 197 High Street, covers two properties also located on the high street. 195 is a three-storey property while 197 is a two-storey property. The upper floors of both premises have been vacant for a several years, solely used for storage and were in a poor state of repair. This project upgraded and refurbished the property to building regulation standards and converted the vacant upper floors to provide much needed residential accommodation within the centre of Blackwood. The project has improved the streetscape, secured two existing businesses, and created 5 self-contained one- and two-bedroom rental units. A total of 465m<sup>2</sup> of commercial floor space and 299m<sup>2</sup> of residential floor space has been brought back into beneficial use.</li> </ul>
H	<p>Identification of suitable town centre sites and locations for supporting and taking forward Greening and Green Infrastructure projects to enhance well-being and increase the sustainability of towns.</p>	<p>NRW funded (£5k) a place-based look at assets and opportunities in Ystrad Mynach, to help bring the Green Infrastructure Strategy to life on the ground. The focus was engagement with the community to consider how they used green spaces, what they valued, what the barriers and opportunities were to using green spaces if it is to be a greater part of people’s daily lives. This work needs to be replicated for the 4 remaining Principal Town Centres.</p>
I	<p>Establishment of Markets and Events programmes, enabling promotion of local products and strengthen links with tourism and destination management.</p>	<p>Funding secured from WG for a new Choose Local Campaign in the run up to Christmas.</p> <p>As covid restrictions eased the events team delivered a successful programme of craft and food fairs to our key town centres before and after Christmas that delivered an uplift in Footfall across Bargoed, Caerphilly, Ystrad Mynach and Blackwood. For example, the Ystrad Mynach spring event increased footfall by 365%, with an attendance in the town centre</p>

		<p>of 6,400 on the day of the event compared to 1,376 the week before, effectively creating an extra 2.65 Saturdays.</p> <p>Expanded Town Centre Events Programme planned for 2022.</p>
J	Identify locations that are suitable to be used as co-working hubs for businesses, public sector, third sector etc.	<p>2 Co-working hubs for business, public sector and the third sector have been created with the help of WG funding. The first of which is the public sector hub located at Ty Penallta which is now available for use by public sector partners and the second hub which can also be used by the private and third sector is at the Winding House in New Tredegar. Officers are actively working with partners to identify other locations that are suitable to be used as co-working hubs and will progress these as funding becomes available.</p>
K	Support business with their training and development needs and provide appropriate training for potential employees in partnership with the college	<p>Our CCBC Employment Programmes are working in partnership with Coleg Y Cymoedd, CCBC Service Areas and Local Business, to develop tailored training pathways, to support residents with the skills they need to move into Hospitality, Construction and Care. The training pathways provided, will give residents the qualifications and experience they need to move into their chosen sector and secure a sustainable job.</p>

## Conclusion

This is a rapidly evolving yet vital area of action for PSB partners within Caerphilly, as the local authority area and wider region continue to recover from the economic impact of the Covid pandemic. The focus of activity has been on recovery, and whilst there has been significant amounts of work undertaken for this action area there has been a stall in co-ordinated partnership activity. The focus for the next period should be on the recovery and revive phase for our town centres and on working more closely in partnership to deliver on this area.



Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.

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## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### Action Area AA6

### Natural Environment

**Positive Change**— working with others to help everyone to understand the importance of the natural environment and how it underpins how we live, work and play.

**Positive Start**— Creating and maintaining healthy, green, well-connected green spaces and habitats to deliver multiple benefits for well-being.

**Positive People**— Enhancing and promoting local. natural environments, to help residents be more active and engaged.

**Positive Places**— Providing a network of connected green spaces to deliver multiple benefits for both individuals and nature.

**Kirsty Lewis (Chair of Green Spaces Core Group) and Green Spaces Stakeholders**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Improved access to green spaces in the local community	No
Improved knowledge of barriers to accessing green space	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Improvement in access to green space in the local community to encourage greater use.	No
Improved knowledge and understanding to the barriers to accessing green space	No
Community involvement in protecting and enhancing the natural environment	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Priority 1: Targeted improvement of green spaces	A major tree planting and habitat improvement programme, that engages with residents and volunteers to maximise the carbon offsetting, biodiversity benefits and understanding of climate change issues.
Priority 2: Grow, cook, eat	Involving people in sustainable local food activity as a way to enhance connection to nature, promote sustainable behaviours and improve health, e.g. increasing allotment provision, involving volunteers, supporting community initiatives.
Priority 3: New Recovery Priority Flooding:	Flooding is a key issue in Caerphilly. Green Spaces group to feed into new LDP, Natural Flood Management to be explored alongside engineering works with multiple benefits of Green spaces to be integrated into development for people and biodiversity to benefit all. Policy Planning to be included in Green Spaces Group.

The Green Infrastructure plan	The Green Infrastructure plan for the county borough has been approved.
Green Active Travel	Green Active Travel project at Tir y Berth delivered
Ystrad Mynach mapping project	Ystrad Mynach mapping project (looking at use of green space and future opportunities completed)

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
A	Establish a funding group of PSB organisations to share knowledge and identify opportunities for collaborative projects and funding bids.	Members of Core Group feed into existing Gwent-wide partnerships - Resilient Greater Gwent (ENRaW funded) and Gwent Green Grid Partnership (hoping for ENRaW funding). Also Resilient Uplands project and fed into GSWAG and Area Statement work so the work in Caerphilly is aligned with that across Gwent and benefitting from shared learning and approaching delivery at the right scale.
B	Deliver Tree Planting to contribute to 2030 carbon neutrality	Tree Planting Week in March at Ynys Hywel Farm, Cwmfelinfach where a total of 4,500 trees were planted. Further Planting locations are required for next planting season, an exercise will be undertaken to identify sites. This will include the mapping of land holdings of partners and looking at existing data which could be used to identify areas for planting such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy. The results of this exercise can be used to inform planning for the next 5 years and contribute to meet the 2030 carbon neutral target.
C	Implement actions to increase the contribution that the environment makes to the health and well-being of residents.	The GI Strategy continues to help us to spatially prioritise where next delivery should be following on from Tir Y Berth projects. Nature Prescribing Initiative by ABUHB highlights the importance on access to nature, how to become active with what is on your doorstep, accessibility to green spaces and enhancing our environment with the group identifying activity opportunities to feed into local newsletter.

D	Identify and mitigate against flood risk in the county borough	Flooding is a key issue in Caerphilly. Green Spaces group to feed into new LDP, Natural Flood Management to be explored alongside engineering works with multiple benefits of Green spaces to be integrated into development for people and biodiversity to benefit all. Lead Local Flood Authority Team Leader is now part of the Green Spaces Group and the group will be able to feed into the Flood Strategy. A River Restoration Plan has been completed by NRW which includes opportunities for Natural Flood Management and wetland creation.
E	Identify the opportunities for PSB Partners to share resources, assets and staff.	Core Group continues to work well in partnership and contribute funding to shared projects especially in relation to the Grow it, Cook it, Eat it project ensuring no overlap or duplication of resources across Local Authorities and identifying opportunities for organisations to work together.
F	Identify biodiversity opportunities and habitat creation	A River Restoration Plan has been completed by NRW which includes opportunities for Natural Flood Management, wetland creation, floodplain connectivity and invasive species identification for the River Ebbw.
G	Grow, Cook, Eat	Expand existing provision and promotion of Grow, Cook, Eat initiative, support partners involved and link other initiatives such as Nature Prescribing to volunteering opportunities and supporting community initiatives.
H	Green Infrastructure opportunities	Seek out local opportunities to “Green” areas.

## Action Areas

Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.



## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

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### E1 – Communication and Engagement

**Positive Change** – A shared commitment to improving the way we work together

**Positive Start** – Giving our future generations the best start in life

**Positive People** – Effective communication and engagement is crucial in supporting the Caerphilly Public Services Board in striving towards achieving its vision and is fundamental to the “Involvement” element of the sustainable development principle.

**Positive Places** – Enabling our communities to be resilient and sustainable

**Kathryn Peters**

15/06/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
E1.1 – Use of the Caerphilly PSB social media identity	Yes- Gwent PSB identity will now take precedence
E1.2 – Use of the Caerphilly PSB website	Not able to record visitor numbers

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
<p>The Caerphilly Communications and Engagement Group has disbanded in favour of a regional Communications and Engagement Group to take forward the work of the Gwent PSB. The group is currently chaired and supported by CCBC officers.</p> <p>The group is supporting the regional engagement activity to feed into the local assessment of well-being by May 2022.</p>	<p>Will report to the Gwent PSB in time. However, the PMF is yet to be set and so updates will continue to be provided to the Caerphilly LDG on regional work.</p>

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Merge the work of the Caerphilly PSB in terms of communication and engagement into the work of the Gwent PSB	Local engagement work is still being delivered by CCBC officers but working under regionally agreed frameworks.

Develop the Gwent PSB website	Website is live and published. Now hosting the Gwent PSB member profiles and meeting papers. In time it will host the local assessment of well-being, well-being plan and performance reports for Gwent level projects. The Caerphilly PSB website will host local performance reports until 2023.
Reflect the new PSB and sign-post from the Caerphilly PSB website to the Gwent PSB website	Caerphilly PSB website will reflect the work of the Caerphilly- Local Delivery Group and already signposts to the merged Gwent PSB website
Support the local assessment of well-being engagement exercises i.e. social media survey, hard copy forms, engagement events and focus groups	A Gwent wide Engagement exercise ran on-line from mid-August to end of September. Local engagement events took place in each of the Local Authority Areas. Engagement and Communications Planning for the Well-being Plan is well underway and will contain local as well as Gwent wide activities
Draft the global engagement chapters and the community area chapters for the regional local assessment of well-being.	Output from the local and regional engagement exercises was drafted into the consultation local assessment of well-being in time to be presented to the Gwent PSB meeting on 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2021

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
A	Develop a meaningful long-term engagement and communications strategy	Engagement Strategy in place  Branding Guidelines in place  Social media guidelines in place  Website updated to meet accessibility standards and these have been replicated on the Gwent PSB website
B	Identify, Map and Develop communication and engagement opportunities	Going forward engagement activity will be planned at a regional level and delivered both locally and regionally.

C	Jointly communicate the positive messages about the county borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The responsibility for communication is shared by all partners. As the work of the Caerphilly PSB to deliver the “Caerphilly We Want” Well-being Plan 2018-2023 comes into its final year of delivery, the role of the Gwent PSB has taken precedence. Therefore, the communications and engagement activity over the past year has largely been around the development of the Gwent regional assessment for well-being as the precursor to the new Gwent well-being plan from May 2023.</li> <li>• It is vitally important that the Caerphilly Local Delivery Group and Gwent PSB remain open and transparent through their websites and the sharing of all key documents.</li> </ul>
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## Conclusion

Over the course of the first six-months of 2021, PSB partners across the region were involved in public and stakeholder engagement in their local communities to understand the conditions for well-being required in the region. Engagement activity took place at regional and local level to ensure that the views of communities and stakeholders were reflected in the assessment of well-being. To achieve this a new formal group was set up under the Gwent PSB, the Communications and Engagement Group, to manage and coordinate the activity across the partners and bring a degree of consistency to the process over what is now a very much wider geographical area.

[Chapter 3](#) of the local assessment of well-being describes the process employed, the outputs and how they have fed into the main document. While engagement was a challenge during the pandemic period, when physical meetings were restricted, the outputs have provided a rich source of information to inform the assessment.

The Gwent PSB has determined that its own openness and transparency is important and is revising its terms and conditions to improve this. If approved, at the June 22, meeting this will mean making meetings open to the public, providing recordings of its meetings on the website and allowing questions from the public. A communications officer from one of the partners will attend each PSB to live tweet proceedings.



Contribution to the 7 Well-being goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A globally responsible Wales.

Effective communication and engagement is intrinsic to the development of a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of cohesive communities, a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, and a globally responsible Wales.

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## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

### E2 - Procurement

**Positive Change** - A shared commitment to improving the way we work together to develop a modern, flexible and innovative approach to procurement.

The proposed work also has the potential to support and contribute to other Action Areas, and links are being made to these Groups. There is particular synergies with the Apprenticeships, Asset Management, Job Growth and Employability Support and Resilient Communities Groups.

The work will make contributions towards a Prosperous, Resilient, Healthier, Cohesive and a Globally Responsible Wales.

**Ian Evans**

25/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Food Procurement and Strengthening Local Supply Chains	No
New Build Construction and Green Retro Fit	No
Simplifying and sharing Best Practice (Procurement Policy/ Contract Procedural Rules).	No
Manufacturing Deep Dive to explore potential to re-localise spend currently outside of Wales.	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Develop a collective approach to maximising the impact of Food Procurement, including: Local Employment; Strengthening Local Supply Chains; Carbon Reduction & Wider Environmental Objectives; Strategic Regional Approach to Food Procurement Policy. Collaborative Analysis of baseline Spend. Learning & Exploring Opportunities.	No
Exploring potential collaboration on existing housing stock and planned new build. Understand and maximise the potential of the local supply chains & local markets, including: Social Value (Economic recovery & reform post-Covid); Skills and Employment Opportunities; Fair Work / Living Wage Agenda; Decarbonisation Agenda; Manufacturing Capacity (National and Local); SMEs/Micro-Business Sub-contracting Opportunities.	No
Streamline and develop approaches to Contract Procedural Rules and strengthen links with Economic Development/ Business Support activity. Enhance opportunities for Local Suppliers (incl. SMEs/Micro-Businesses etc.); Increase visibility of Local Suppliers (incl. development of a Gwent Supplier Directory); Supplier Engagement Processes.	No
Explore the contracts which constitute 'leakage' (i.e. spend with Suppliers based outside of Wales) in the manufacturing sector. Understand the potential for local Suppliers to meet demand, or the support needed for local Suppliers to repurpose or new business development activity to achieve this objective. Original spend data analysis identified that the manufacturing sector was one of the highest areas of 'leakage'.	No



## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Food Procurement and Strengthening Local Supply Chains	Circa 20 meetings have been held from October 2021 to April 2022. These include (but not limited to) Food in Schools, Universal FSC, Foundational Economy, Monmouthshire Food Resilience, WLGA & Welsh Government. Additional meetings held with Suppliers re: supply and cost pressures.
New Build Construction and Green Retro Fit	Representatives meeting on a regular basis via various forums to discuss New Build Construction and Green Retro Fit. This includes representatives from Procurement, Property, Housing, Education and the wider Construction sector. Forums include (but not limited to): The South East & Mid Wales Collaborative Construction Framework, Welsh Procurement Alliance.
Simplifying and sharing Best Practice (Procurement Policy/ Contract Procedural Rules).	Meetings held on 20 October 2021, 18 November 2021, 18 January 2022, 17 February 2022 and 17 March 2022. Future meetings also planned.
Manufacturing Deep Dive to explore potential to re-localise spend currently outside of Wales.	Meeting held with representatives of Welsh Government on 21 March 2022 to discuss supply chain mapping in relation to manufacturing.

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
3.1	Develop a common approach to considering wider social, economic, cultural and environmental value. Using Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMs). Understand what social value outcomes organisations are seeking to achieve or influence via food procurement.	On 20 January 2022 the Director of Commercial & Procurement within Welsh Government announced a review on the scope and understanding of the term Social Value on a national basis. Social Value is a broad term that has been used to describe the social, environmental, cultural and economic impacts of actions taken by communities, organisations, governments and individuals. Procurement is one of many powerful levers that has the ability to deliver Social Value outcomes for the well-being of Wales. Welsh Government commissioned the services of Wales Co-operative Centre

		(now known as Cwmpas) to map the current Social Value landscape, including the various tools available to the Welsh Public Sector. Interview undertaken with Cwmpas on 15 February 2022 and a workshop on 4 April 2022.
3.1	Develop a collaborative analysis of baseline spend on food (by product as opposed to sector specific) ascertain commonality on spend and any emerging quick-win opportunities.	Caerphilly CBC are the lead organisation on food procurement on behalf of the WLGA and other public sector bodies. Working is continuing in this area across the Welsh Public Sector in conjunction with Welsh Government Food Division and Foundational Economy Teams. This initiative titled : Covid-19 Rapid Recovery Plan: Public Procurement 2021/22. The aim is to increase the volume of Welsh products available for schools, hospitals, universities, colleges and other public sector bodies. Additional work being taken forward in relation to supply and cost pressures associated with food.
3.1	Explore opportunities to learn from and engage with organisations current data (combining data on: production, supply dynamics, demand (public plate, hospitality and citizens), land etc.).	There is a shared aspiration to collate information to produce meaningful food related data across the Gwent geography and pan Wales and use this to produce a gap analysis and a common structure. Caerphilly, Torfaen and other organisations have shared information on data and approaches to local and national food projects and initiatives.
3.2	Project pipeline collaboration to include: Mapping of current and potential contractors and gap analysis; Consistent approach to decarbonisation and capturing and leveraging social value via Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMs); Develop options to maximise local social and economic impact as driver for local economic recovery and reform post-Covid, to include: Plurality of supply chain (generative businesses) and simpler model for SMEs/micro-business to access sub-contracting opportunities; Coordination to ensure smoothing out of demand	This work stream is being considered via the WLGA South East Wales (SEW) Delivery Group. It should be noted that certain anchor institutions of the PSB are not associated with the SEW Delivery Group e.g. NRW, NHS. However, there will be opportunities to discuss this work stream with representatives of those organisations via the National Procurement Network.

	(avoiding boom and bust for contractors whilst maximising opportunities for business and employment growth) in a mixed model of provision (DLOs plus procured contractors); Fair work / living wage agenda; Skills and employment opportunities.	
3.2	Establishing the potential to link local manufacturing capacity to new build programmes: Establishing the potential pipeline across anchors; Linking Welsh Timber production and manufacturing to modular new build; Local manufacturing capacity for recycled plastic components.	Welsh Government leading on a national approach titled: Health of the Sector – Manufacturing, Engineering, Technology. Online Survey (with c.700 businesses) : 13 April to 31 May 2022. Deep-dive interviews (with a limited number of businesses) : May 2022. This data will be reviewed in Q2 with results in Q3 and an updated Manufacturing Action Plan later this year. Please note the timelines and associated information is with Welsh Government.
3.3	Streamline and develop contract procedure rules and practice in relation to lower value contracts e.g. below £25k, below £50k. Consistency of approach re specifying local contractors; Improve visibility of local suppliers and procurement opportunities; Explore the current approaches to business support and opportunities to give more equal weight to the social and solidarity economy; Develop a joint statement of intent for consideration / approval at PSB level; Share information and best practice across Gwent Cluster.	Information submitted and collated by CLES on the participating organisations Standing Orders for Contracts/ Contract Procedural Rules and approaches to sourcing from local supply chains and publicising opportunities. Best practice shared across the PSB on different approaches. It is anticipated that the wider UK and Wales Procurement reform agenda will aid this specific workstream.
3.3	Seek to improve coordination across business development functions (supported by intelligence from procurement) to consolidate/streamline supplier engagement processes.	Business as usual in Caerphilly CBC and best practice being shared.

3.4	The aim of this working group will be to explore the contracts which constitute 'leakage' (i.e. spend on suppliers based outside of Wales) in the manufacturing sector and the potential for existing local suppliers to meet this demand, or the support needed for local businesses to repurpose or new business development activity to achieve this objective.	Spend analysis data submitted to CLES. Organisations can identify spend by commodities such as manufacturing with suppliers outside Wales. There has had been limited progress with this work stream. However please refer to work stream being progressed via 3.1. above and specifically Project pipeline collaboration via the WLGA SEW Delivery Group.
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## Conclusion

The areas of focus agreed by the 'Gwent Cluster' was: Food Procurement; Construction and Decarbonisation; Procurement Policy and Manufacturing Deep-Dive. It is important to highlight that at the outset of the project certain tasks and priorities were subject to change as the programme develops and also taking into account other similar programmes that Procurement practitioners are actively participating on a local, regional and national basis. There has been progress in relation to all four areas of focus, however that progress is not specifically attributed to the CLES project alone. A number of representatives from organisations within the Gwent Cluster participate in other collaborative forums in relation to Food Procurement, Construction & Decarbonisation and Procurement Policy. These are areas of specific interest to Welsh Public Sector bodies and are actively being progressed. Manufacturing is currently being progressed via Welsh Government as outlined in the key tasks stated above. The CLES project and funding has concluded and a draft report has been produced, however the next steps are to be confirmed.

Community Wealth Building & Progressive Procurement contributes to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.

## Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

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### E3 - Asset Management

**Positive Change** – A shared commitment to improving the way we work together

**Positive Start** – Giving our future generations the best start in life

**Positive People** – Empowering and enabling all our residents to achieve their own potential

**Positive Places** – Enabling our communities to be resilient and sustainable

**Mark Faulkner**

20/05/2022

## Performance Levels

Performance measures where identifiable	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
E4.1 – Maximise the use and value of all our assets	No
E4.2 – Work together to reduce our energy use and increase our generation and use of green energy	No

Quantifiable measures	Is there a risk this will not be achieved?
Collaboratively, the PSB partners have a huge number of assets and the opportunities for shared use and collaboration need to be explored. Identify and explore opportunities for collaborative working with PSB partners and report on progress.	No
Providing our future generations with access to facilities that can provide them with the best start in life. Exploring shared opportunities for use of facilities and service delivery. Consider opportunities for community engagement such as community asset transfers.	No
The potential benefits from sharing and maximising assets include reduced costs, increased utilisation and efficiency, reduced usage, a reduced collective carbon footprint, which will have a positive impact on a local community.	No

## Evidence

Priority	Comment
Public Sector Hub based in Ty Penallta and Public/Private sector hub at the Winding House	Ready to open as soon as it is safe to do so in line with WG guidelines. Confirmation that the Co-working space in Ty Penallta can now open. A welcome pack and operational guidance is now required and this is being progressed. Winding House Hub is open and operational.
Awaiting the recommendations from the Flexible Working Review and Corporate Walk in Service Review.	Reviews on going. Once complete will review any Service Asset Management Plans that are linked to the review/s.

<p>Liaising with other public sector organisations to establish their short , medium and long term estate goals and where we can provide support regarding colocation.</p>	<p>Use of various sites including Ty Penallta, Former Aldi site, Rhymney and Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre to support COVID response – testing and vaccination centres, Track and Trace teams. Vaccination Centre at Pontllanfraith LC still in place. Welsh Ambulance Service, WAST – agreed expansion of the Ambulance Service at Tredomen Campus. Safeguarding Hub at Foxes Lane colocation with Social Services, Police Service and Health.</p>
<p>Safeguarding Hub has been created in Foxes Lane where the Police have co located with Social Services and Health.</p>	<p>The hub has been operational since January 2021 with police colleagues working from the building in line with Covid requirements. Hub development is on-going and other agencies may come on board as things progress.</p>
<p>Recently completed Bargoed MyST project, a highly intensive wraparound CAMH service which provides an alternative care package for looked after young people.</p>	<p>The development of the Bargoed project has enabled Myst to move forward in the development of a regional service and has brought a large building back into beneficial use.</p>
<p>Declutter exercise at Corporate office sites rolled out as part of the preparation of staff returning to the office and adoption of new ways of working. Development of Ty Penallta ground floor to create café style working environment to facilitate new ways of working.</p>	<p>The space offers a flexible working environment to facilitate agile working when staff return to the office. This space also includes the co-working space which will be available for partner organisations when ready</p>

## Key Tasks

Ref	Task	Progress
A	Identify current use of buildings and opportunities for shared use with PSB Partners. Split into different assets (land, transport, supporting delivery, etc).	Reviews are on-going. Recommendations and outcomes will provide a clear steer on the asset availability for PSB partners.
B	Identify and explore opportunities for collaborative working with PSB Partners and report on progress. Share expertise where possible.	Bespoke COVID safe furniture has been delivered to the sites and enhancements to existing Wi-Fi connectivity.

	<p>Liaise with other public sector organisations on their short, medium and long term asset goals. Support COVID recovery work e.g. vaccination centre at Ty Penallta.</p>	
C	<p>Link with Ystadau Cymru</p>	<p>Chair of chair meetings attended to discuss best practice – Awaiting next quarterly meeting invite.</p>
D	<p>Establish a Public Sector Hub based in Ty Penallta and a Public/Private Hub at the Winding House. Creation of a safeguarding hub at Foxes Lane with CCBC, Police and Health.</p>	<p>Public Sector Hub based in Ty Penallta and Public/Private sector hub in the Winding House funded by WG’s Valleys Task Force Programme, ready to open as soon as it is safe to do so in line with WG Guidelines. The hub at Ty Penallta is located in the Glass Restaurant area and available to employees of public sector partner organisations. The hub has individual work stations and a dedicated high speed WI FI service. The opening date for the hub has yet to be finalised but is likely to be in line with the opening of the new café facilities in Penallta House to provide an enhanced offer to users of the hub. No firm date for opening but confirmation that it is now possible, a welcome pack is being produced in preparation. FM to provide operational guidance.</p> <p>The Winding House Hub is open to the general public with ample parking, a dedicated high speed internet and access to the in-house café. The launch date is likely to be in October 2021.</p>

## Conclusion

Contribution to the 7 Well-being goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A globally responsible Wales