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Penalita House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG **Tý Penalita,** Parc Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG



For all enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Julie Lloyd (Tel: 01443 864246 Email: barrerm@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Date: 25th October 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

A Special multi-locational meeting of the **Partnerships Scrutiny Committee** will be held in Penallta House, and via Microsoft Teams on **Tuesday**, **1st November**, **2022** at **5.30 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. Councillors and the public wishing to speak on any item can do so by making a request to the Chair. You are also welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, both these requests require a minimum notice period of 3 working days. A simultaneous translation will be provided on request.

Members of the public or Press may attend in person at Penallta House or may view the meeting live via the following link: <a href="https://civico.net/caerphilly">https://civico.net/caerphilly</a>

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Yours faithfully,

Christina Harrhy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

**Pages** 

1 To receive apologies for absence.



## 2 Declarations of interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To receive and consider the following Scrutiny reports: -

3 Gwent Public Services Board Draft Well-Being Plan - 2023-2028.

1 - 18

4 Development of a Regional Scrutiny Committee for the Gwent Public Services Board.

19 - 28

### Circulation:

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

And Appropriate Officers

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# SPECIAL PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: GWENT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD DRAFT WELL-BEING

PLAN- 2023-2028

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE

**SERVICES** 

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide to Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, as a statutory consultee, the consultation draft of the Gwent Public Services Board Well-being Plan 2023-2028, for consideration and comment.

## 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Gwent Public Services Board (PSB) has developed its draft well-being plan for the region. The attached report was presented to the Gwent PSB at its meeting of the 29th September 2022. A verbal update on comments received will be provided.
- 2.2 Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, as the relevant local authority overview and scrutiny committee are a statutory consultee for the local well-being plan under Section 43 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 2.3 The draft well-being plan is framed around three high-level well-being objectives and will be underpinned by work across the region to embed eight 'Marmot' principles designed to reduce inequity between populations across a range of determinants of well-being.
- 2.4 The draft well-being plan is subject to a formal 12-week public and stakeholder consultation, commencing October 2022.

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Committee consider and comment upon:
  - The proposal to adopt the Marmot framework as the underlying basis of the PSB Well-being Plan.
  - The wellbeing objectives and associated activities

• The proposed linkage between the Gwent PSB wellbeing plan and the council's emerging corporate plan

# 4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 To allow Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to discharge their responsibilities under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 having regard to the Welsh Government Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the scrutiny of Public Services Boards.

## 5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Gwent Public Services Board has developed the draft well-being plan for the area following the production of an assessment of local well-being using a range of data for the region, and public and stakeholder consultation. The local assessment of well-being has informed the development of the draft plan and was presented to scrutiny committee on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January this year, since when officers have been collaborating regionally to develop the Gwent Well-being Plan. The draft well-being plan is the first well-being plan of the regional Public Services Board and sets out the well-being objectives of the PSB and the steps it intends to take to meet those objectives.
- 5.2 The plan must be published within 12 months of an ordinary election i.e. the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and must be subject to a number of formal consultation and approval processes. Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are a formal statutory consultee under Section 43 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 5.3 The attached report was presented to the Gwent Public Services Board at its meeting of the 29th September 2022. A verbal report on comments received will be provided to Committee.
- 5.4 In developing the draft well-being objectives for the region:
  - We want to create a fair and equitable Gwent for all.
  - We want to create a Gwent that has friendly, safe and confident communities.
  - We want to create a Gwent where the natural environment is protected and enhanced.

the Gwent PSB have responded to the data and analysis in the local assessment of well-being. Within the draft plan are the proposed 'steps' to be taken to meet the objectives over the five-year term of the plan.

- 5.5 Committee will also note that the Gwent PSB is working with the Institute of Health Equity, based at University College London, on a proposal for the region to become a Marmot region. Becoming a Marmot region would involve embedding activity aimed at reducing inequality and inequity between populations under eight 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 over 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
- 5.6 As local elected members it will be important to note that the future generations legislation expects that individual member bodies will contribute to the PSB's plans and work to support its objectives. As such the new corporate plan for the Council will be cognisant of both the proposed well-being objectives and the Marmot principles.
- 5.7 The well-being plan will be revised and refined following the statutory consultation period which runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> of October to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

### 5.8 Conclusion

The views of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are important in refining the draft wellbeing plan. A similar scrutiny consultation process is being followed in each of the five local authorities in the region.

### 6. ASSUMPTIONS

6.1 There are no assumptions made in this report.

# 7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 The appended draft well-being plan is a high-level regional document and therefore not subject to the impact assessment process in use in Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- 7.2 Subsequent to the development and agreement of the regional plan work will begin on a local plan for the county borough area that will support the Gwent well-being objectives and consider any specific local delivery considerations.

## 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 the 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: Heather Delonnette, Senior Policy Officer - delonh@caerphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Councillor Sean Morgan, Leader of the Council

Christina Harrhy, Chief Executive

Councillor Gary Johnston, Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Councillor Brenda Miles, Vice Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director for 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: Welsh Govt guidance on the scrutiny of Public Services

Boards- Guidance on the scrutiny of public services boards |

**GOV.WALES** 

# Appendices:

Appendix 1: Report to Gwent Public Services Board 29th September 2022- Draft Gwent

Well-being Plan

Appendix 2: Draft Gwent Well-being Plan Autumn 2022



# **SUBJECT: Approve Draft Gwent Well-being Plan for consultation**

Report written and submitted by: GSWAG sub group

Author: Heather Delonnette, Senior Policy Officer, Caerphilly CBC

1	Areas Affected
1.1	Gwent – all local areas.
2	Purpose of Report
2.1	To present the draft Gwent Well-being Plan
2.2	To agree the draft Gwent Well-being Plan for consultation to meet with statutory timelines.
2.3	To agree an additional meeting in mid-April to approve the final version of the Well-being Plan for publication.
3	Draft Well-being Plan
3.1	The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requirements each Public Services Board (PSB) to prepare and publish a local Well-being Plan a year after the local government elections. This means that the first Gwent Well-Being Plan must be published by 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2023.
3.2	Using the information in the Well-being Assessment 2022 and the three response analyses completed on the three themes identified by the PSB a draft Well-being Plan has been produced.
3.3	Members of GSWAG have been involved throughout the development of the draft plan. The PSB has received updates on progress and the approach taken as the plan has developed.
3.4	The Office of the Future Generations Commissioner have been providing advice and supporting officers throughout the development of the draft plan. They have reminded us of the need to consider the latest Future Generations Report, particularly Chapter 4 on setting good well-being objectives. Their written advice is included as Appendix 2 to this report.
3.5	A Well-being Plan must include the following elements:  Objectives  Why these were chosen (WBA evidence)  Steps to achieve the objectives  How the five ways of working have been applied  Contribution to the seven Well-being Goals  It must also take into account the latest Future Generation Report

	An explanation of the Marmot principles and how these link to the objectives have also been included, as have the links to other initiatives which may affect delivery of the chosen objectives.
3.6	The consultation draft Well-being Plan for approval by the PSB is attached at Appendix 1.
	<ul> <li>The proposed objectives have been refined and are now:</li> <li>We want to create a fair and equitable Gwent for all.</li> <li>We want to create a Gwent that has friendly, safe and confident communities.</li> <li>We want to create a Gwent where the natural environment is protected and enhanced.</li> </ul>
	Each objective briefly explains the evidence used from the assessment and number of proposed steps to deliver those objectives. Finally the contribution to the Well-being Goals and links to the Marmot principles are detailed.
3.7	Further information, such as how the five ways of working have been used in developing the objectives and steps, and how we will measure success, will be developed during the consultation and once the objectives and steps have been finalised.
4	Consultation
4.1	The legislation sets out a 12 week statutory consultation period for draft Wellbeing Plans. It is anticipated that this will run from 1 <sup>st</sup> October – 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022.
4.2	As with the assessment there are a number of people and organisations that must be consulted with most of whom will be included in the general consultation (§43). However a copy of the draft assessment will be sent to the following: The Future Generations Commissioner  The local authority's overview and scrutiny committee (in the case of Gwent this will be the five local authority scrutiny committees)  Trade unions representing workers in the area
4.3	The Engagement Group has prepared a number of consultation methods including: Production of an easy read version of the draft Well-being Plan Stakeholder events – being organised as part of the Marmot work with IHE Community events – using existing events to connect with people Meetings with groups representing and supporting people from protected characteristics Online surveys
4.4	It is expected that the consultation will help to refine the Well-being Plan, providing further insights into what stakeholders and communities feel is important to improving well-being.  Some initial insights will be available for the PSB meeting in December.
5	Approval process
5.1	The final Well-being Plan needs to be signed off by each of the PSB members' boards before approval by the PSB. These meetings are taking place between

	February and March with many already timetabled. It is unlikely that all these meetings will have taken place before the March meeting.  It is therefore suggested that a very brief, one agenda item, meeting be arranged in mid-April at which the PSB can approve the plan for publication.
5.2	The detailed timeline is attached as Appendix 3. In order to publish the plan by 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 these are the key dates:  • Draft well-being Plan approved by PSB on 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2022  • 12 week consultation (including scrutiny) – 1 <sup>st</sup> October to 31 <sup>st</sup> December  • Analysing consultation responses and revising the plan – early 2023  • Member organisations approval process – Spring 2023  • PSB sign off Well-being Plan for publication – April 2023
	Decommon detions to the DCD
6	Recommendations to the PSB
6.1	PSB to approve the draft Well-being Plan for statutory consultation between 1st October and 31st December
6.2	PSB to agree that the draft Well-being Plan can subsequently be sent to the statutory recipients set out at 4.2
6.3	PSB agrees to identify a date in mid-April to sign off the final Well-being Plan for publication.

Draft date: 21/09/22

# **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1. The draft Gwent Well-being Plan

Appendix 2. Office of the Future Generations Commissioner's Written Advice

Appendix 3. Timeline

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# **Consultation Draft Well-being Plan for Gwent**



Welcome to the consultation draft of the first Well-being Plan for Gwent. The Public Services Board, or often called the PSB, have used the information contained in the Well-being Assessment to look at how to improve well-being across the region. We are interested to know if you think the plans we have will help to make things better for you and your community. We'd also like to know if you have any other ideas about how we can work together for the benefit of Gwent.

The plan will change and evolve over the next few weeks and months as we get more information and an even better understanding of what matters and how we can work together to make Gwent a better place to live, work and visit. That's why some of the detail around the proposed effectives and how we'll know if we're making a difference is missing.

We will be talking to people and gathering views until the 31<sup>st</sup> December so there's plenty of time for you to let us know your thoughts.

### Introduction

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act established Public Services Boards, more commonly known as PSBs, for each local authority area to work together to improve well-being in their area. PSBs are made up of senior leaders from the local authority, the health board, the fire and rescue service and Natural Resources Wales. A number of other organisations are also invited to join the PSB, such as the police service, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the voluntary sector.

In September 2021, the five individual PSBs for Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire and Torfaen, merged to become the Gwent Public Services Board. Together the Gwent PSB developed and published the Well-being Assessment for Gwent earlier this year, which showed that inequality and deprivation in our communities and the need to take action on the climate and nature emergencies were having an impact on well-being. This draft Well-being Plan used the evidence from the assessment to inform what the PSB could do over the next five years to tackle the social, economic, environmental and cultural issues which can affect well-being in Gwent – this is the Well-being Plan.

# A Well-being Plan

Must include: Local objectives – the long term vision for where we want to get to. The plan needs to explain what we want to do, why we chose the objectives, using the findings of the Well-being Assessment, and how we think the objectives can improve well-being.

Steps – the short term actions we're going to do to deliver the objectives.

mescale – when we're going to do things by.

The Sustainable Development Principle – how we've used this in developing the steps.

# Five Ways of Working

Just as when we were preparing the Well-being Assessment, we have used the five ways of working, collaboration, integration, involvement, long term and prevention, to guide our work. This means that while considering how to improve well-being in our communities now, we've also looked at how well-being could be affected in the future and how we can prevent issues becoming worse. We will need to work together to see what we're each doing in a community and how this affects what we do, individually and in partnership. Finally, but most importantly, we want our communities, professionals, businesses and others to identify the issues which are most important to them.



Figure 1: The 5 ways of working from the Well-being of Future Generations Act

This element of the plan will be developed as we work on the final plan, taking into account new information and ideas suggested during the consultation with communities and other stakeholders.

# Seven Well-being Goals

The actions in the Well-being Plan must contribute to the Well-being Goals for Wales. Together they show the Wales we'd like for the future and cover all aspects of well-being. While the Plan may not do as much for one goal as another, each of the goals are as important as each other.

# **Prosperous**

An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

# Resilient

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

# LLESIANT CENEDLAETHAU'R DYFODOL WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

# Healthier

A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

# **More Equal**

A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).

# **Globally Responsible**

A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

# Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

# Cohesive Communities

Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

Figure 2: The 7 Well-being Goals from the Well-being of Future Generations Act

# **The Marmot Principles**

Recognising the inequality that exists in our communities, identified in the Well-being Assessment, the Gwent Public Service Board has agreed to become a 'Marmot' region with the intent to implement this approach to undertake evidence-based action to reduce inequalities in Gwent.

This will re-focus and accelerate progress towards reducing the root causes of health and related inequalities across Gwent. As part of this, the PSB will use the eight Marmot Principles, alongside the Objectives and Steps, as part of the Well-being Plan.

# **Eight 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 over 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

The Public Services Board will use the evidence base Marmot provides to inform the actions it needs to take, by working with the specialist, and vastly experienced support of Professor Marmot and the University College London Institute of Health Equity Team to further build on the evidence already gathered and develop its actions in response to the challenges faced across Gwent. This work will help to inform the evelopment of the PSB's Well-being Plan.

# **Draft Well-being Objectives**

Using the evidence in the Well-being Assessment, the PSB has identified three draft objectives:

- We want to create a fair and equitable Gwent for all.
- We want to create a Gwent that has friendly, safe and confident communities
- We want to create a Gwent where the natural environment is protected and enhanced to maximise the well-being benefits that nature provides to current and future generations.

For each of these objectives, the tables below give more information about why they've been chosen, what steps we are considering taking to deliver them and how they contribute to each of the Well-being Goals. As explained earlier, these will be amended and refined during the consultation period as a result of more information and people's views.

The final Well-being Plan for Gwent will be published in May 2023.

	Obje	ective	1	-
Vhat	do we	want	to	achieve?

We want to create a fair and equitable Gwent for all.

## The latest Well-being Assessment shows that the inequalities that exists in our communities have the potential to impact on The Evidence all aspects of well-being both at a personal and community level. There are also a range of challenges that could potentially Why did we widen these inequalities in the future and impact negatively on well-being. People who live in more deprived communities choose this have fewer years of life that are free from ill health and are more likely to have shorter lives. Children from deprived objective? households get poorer school results; limiting their opportunities and increasing the risk that poverty will be passed from one generation to the next. Some people in our communities are experiencing in-work poverty with the amount of spare money they have after paying their bills making it difficult to afford food, transport, energy and to be digitally connected – especially as costs increase. The assessment tells us that house ownership is already unaffordable for many low-income households, and as house prices rise more pressure is put on our social housing stock. Future Gwent will also need more housing stock that meets the needs of an aging population and changing family structures and is resilient to a changing climate. 1. By reducing the gap in the number of years lived in good health between the most and least deprived communities in The Steps Gwent How will we 2. By ensuring that our communities feel empowered, healthy and safe. achieve the 3. By creating equitable opportunities in education and by reducing the gaps in achievement. objective? 4. By reducing the impacts of child poverty. 5. By improving low and no carbon transport links that enable access to employment, education, culture and leisure. Page 6. By supporting the creation of meaningful employment and training opportunities that enable everyone to receive fair pay for the work they do. 7. By working with housing providers and other stakeholders to ensure good quality, energy efficient and appropriate housing 3 for all. Performance Management

How will we know that we are making progress?

Links to the 5 Ways	Long Terr	n Inte	egration	Involvement	Collabo	Collaboration		Prevention
of Working								
Links to the 7	Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Cultur Langu		Global
Wellbeing Goals								
The Marmot Principles	<ul> <li>Give every child the best start in life.</li> <li>Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control of their lives.</li> <li>Create fair employment and good work for all.</li> <li>Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities</li> <li>Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention</li> </ul>							

Objective 2 What do we want to achieve?			W	We want to create a Gwent that has friendly, safe and confident communities					
The Evidence Why did we choose this objective?									
The Steps Thow will we achieve the objective?	we and enhancing our green spaces.  The analysis of the space of the s								
Managen How will we kno	Performance Management How will we know that we are making progress?								
Links to the 5 V	-	Long Term	Integr	ation	Involvement	Collabora	ation		Prevention
of Working  Links to the 7 Wellbeing Goals  Prosperous F			Resilient	Healthie	r Equal	Cohesive	Cultur Langu		Global

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The Marmot	Ensure a healthy standard of living for all.							
Principles	Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.							
	Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes.							

Objective 3 What do we want to achieve?				We want to create a Gwent where the natural environment is protected and enhanced.					
The Evidence Why did we choose this?	condition a deal with of of the futur unsustainaneed Gwer There will energy sys	latest Well-being Assessment showed that although Gwent is abundant in natural resources they are not all in a good dition and we know that many of our plants and animals are in decline. This decline is, in turn, making it more difficult to I with challenges such as climate change, poverty and inequality. The 'green economy' could provide jobs in the industries he future such as renewables, energy efficiency and decarbonisation and supporting good health. Many of the sustainable approaches that are putting pressure on our natural resources are also causing the climate to change. We demit's natural resources to be resilient to the impacts of a changing climate including more extreme weather events. The will also be challenges associated with transitioning to a low carbon future, and we will need to consider the whole regy system — heat, power and transport. Whilst projections of milder winters associated with a changing climate may help educe fuel poverty, we know that much of our housing stock has poor thermal efficiency and will be challenging to retrofit.							
The Steps How will we achieve it?  Page	<ol> <li>By dec</li> <li>By resp</li> <li>change</li> <li>By exp</li> <li>By tran</li> <li>By reco</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>By reducing the environmental impact of production and consumption.</li> <li>By declaring a nature emergency in Gwent.</li> <li>By responding to the climate emergency and protecting and preparing communities for the risk associated with climate change.</li> <li>By exploring and promoting community energy projects.</li> <li>By transforming food transport and energy in Gwent.</li> <li>By recognising biodiversity as an asset, addressing the root causes of biodiversity loss and better managing the pressures on natural environments.</li> </ol>							
Performance How will we keep making	_								
How does this		Long Tern	n Inte	gration	Involvement	Collabo	ration	Prevention	
5 ways of working?  How does this link to the 7 wellbeing goals?		Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Culture & Language	Global	
The Marmot	Principles				able places and o				

In each of the local authority areas which make up the Gwent region, Local Delivery Groups (LDGs) have been set up to deliver the PSB's objectives at the local level. Their membership is similar to that of the PSB, with additional local representation. Activity to deliver the objectives may look different in different areas and the LDGs will be able to better connect with and draw on local expertise and groups to provide a local flavour. In time these groups may want to deliver their own action plans creating a link between local and regional priorities and action.

Across the Gwent region, and beyond, there are a number of other partnerships and initiatives which will make a difference to people: the Regional Partnership Board is developing work to improve services for carers, older people and others; the Cardiff Capital Region, through the City Deal is working to improve prosperity in the region. Rather than repeat what these groups are doing, the Gwent PSB will look to work with them to deliver its objectives for Gwent.



# SPECIAL PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1ST NOVEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FOR THE GWENT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND

CORPORATE SERVICES

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform Partnerships Scrutiny Committee of progress towards the development of a regional scrutiny committee to scrutinise the work of the Gwent Public Services Board (PSB) under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Appended to this report is a report prepared by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and presented to the Gwent PSB on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2022.
- 2.2 It sets out the direction of travel towards a regional scrutiny committee to scrutinise the work of the Gwent PSB.
- 2.3 The Gwent PSB accepted all the recommendations in the report. The Scrutiny Managers in the five constituent local authorities are taking forward to work with a view to the regional committee being operational from January 2023.

## 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Partnerships Scrutiny Committee note the development of a new regional scrutiny committee to take forward the duties under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

### 4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 For elected members to be aware of the changing arrangements.

### 5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 Section 35 of the Act stipulates that there must be a local authority overview and scrutiny committee in place to:
  - 1. Review or scrutinise decisions made by the PSB
  - 2. Make reports of recommendations to the PSB with respect to the PSB's functions or governance
  - 3. Consider such matters relating to the PSB that Welsh Minutes may refer to it
  - 4. Carry out such other functions that are impose by the Act
- 5.2 This function has been carried out in the five local authorities in the region. With the creation of a regional PSB, scrutiny arrangements need to be in place to ensure that the above functions are carried out. It has been determined that the most effective way to do this, avoiding duplications and recognising the regional nature of the Gwent PSB, its plan and subsequent delivery is to create a new regional scrutiny committee.
- 5.3 The work will be taken forward by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and the appended report describes the proposed arrangements in more detail.
- The appended report details the membership agreed by the Gwent PSB for the regional PSB scrutiny committee and states that there will be two members per local authority. This is in line with the Local Authorities (Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2013, which states that the members of a joint overview and scrutiny committee must comprise an equal number of persons from each of the appointing authorities.
- 5.5 The regulations also state that each appointing authority must ensure that, as far as practicable, the members of a joint overview and scrutiny committee reflect the balance of political groups for the time being prevailing among the members of the appointing authority. Therefore, in line with the political balance reported to the Annual General meeting of Council on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 the political balance for 2 members is 1 Labour and 1 Plaid Cymru.
- 5.6 Council noted the creation of the Gwent PSB at the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and the requirement to establish regional Scrutiny. This report explained that a Local Delivery Group will be set up to continue the delivery of the existing Caerphilly well-being plan, until 2023. Thereafter, the Local Delivery Group will be responsible for any local activity and actions under the Gwent well-being plan and any contribution to regional PSB activity.
- 5.7 Therefore in the context of Caerphilly work there is an ongoing requirement to scrutinise activity under the current well-being plan, until 2023. As such Partnerships Scrutiny Committee will continue to meet until this time, with the last meeting being in January 2023.
- 5.8 Thereafter, local activity will continue under the Gwent well-being plan 2023-2028. There are two options for scrutiny of this work:
  - Option 1. Partnerships Scrutiny Committee continues to sit/ or additional meetings of Policy and Resources Committee are convened to cover the local activity, or

Option 2. Local PSB activity is referred to the most relevant sitting committee, depending on the project.

## 5.9 Conclusion

Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the report on the establishment of the Regional PSB scrutiny committee and comment on the future scrutiny of local activity projects after January 2023.

### 6. ASSUMPTIONS

6.1 There are no assumptions made in this report.

### 7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 The appended draft well-being plan is a regional report drafted by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and therefore not subject to the impact assessment process in use in Caerphilly County Borough Council.

## 8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 A contribution of £2,140 in the current financial year will be provided to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to cover the expected additional costs of running the regional scrutiny committee. An annual amount, expected to rise with inflation, will be provided in each subsequent year. The money will be taken from the Members Services budget.
- 8.2 All statutory partners in the PSB will contribute an equal amount, with the exception of Blaenau Gwent who will provide support in kind.

## 9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no personnel implications in this report.

### 10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 This report has been sent to the 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.
- 11.2 Local Government Act 2000
- 11.3 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

11.4 Local Authorities (Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2013

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Consultees: Councillor Sean Morgan, Leader of the Council

Christina Harrhy, Chief Executive

Councillor Gary Johnston, Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Councillor Brenda Miles, Vice Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director for 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: Welsh Govt guidance on the scrutiny of Public Services

Boards- Guidance on the scrutiny of public services boards |

**GOV.WALES** 

Appendix 1: Report to the Gwent Public Services Board 29.9.22- Development of a

Regional Scrutiny Committee



# **SUBJECT: Establishment of a Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee**

Report written and submitted by: GSWAG Sub Group (led by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council)

Author: Sarah King, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Consultees: Gwent PSB Partners (following June 22 GPSB meeting), GSWAG Partners and Local Authority Scrutiny Officers). This paper builds on the paper brought to Gwent PSB meeting on June 2022.

1	Areas Affected
•	Aleas Allected
1.1	The full Gwent PSB will be impacted by the establishment of a Regional Scrutiny Committee and all areas of Gwent represented.
2	Purpose of Report
2.1	The purpose of the report is to outline progress on the establishment of a Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee, and seek approval of recommendations to progress approach.
3	Background
3.1	The PSB has agreed to establish regional scrutiny arrangements to review and scrutinise the work of the Gwent PSB.
3.2	In June 22, the PSB received a paper outlining a series of recommendations for consideration for establishing regional scrutiny (appendix 1), taking into account the precedent already set by established arrangements of other joint committees such as: CCRCD / CJC; Regional Partnership Board; Cardiff and the Vale Partnership Board; and Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
3.3	The PSB discussed the recommendations and agreed further work was required between meetings where partner organisations would establish an appropriate pathway and consider practicalities to operate the arrangements.
4	Recommendation to the PSB
4	Necommendation to the FSB
4.1	Recommendation 1 – Operating Organisation  That Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council is identified as the lead organisation to facilitate committee support, with each other statutory partner organisation to identify a liaison Single Point of Conduct (SPOC) to interact with lead organisation.

**Action:** Subject to approval of recommendations, BGCBC will begin planning the implementation for regional scrutiny in-line with Terms of Reference and noted meeting arrangements outlined in June 2022 paper.

**Action:** Each statutory partner organisation identifies a SPOC to liaise with lead organisation.

# 4.2 Recommendation 2 – Resourcing Committee Support

That each statutory partner organisation (excluding the lead organisation, BGCBC, who will provide support in-kind) provides a nominal financial contribution to support the development and operation of the scrutiny committee.

It is anticipated the costs will be £15,000 and should be shared equally by the seven remaining organisations (i.e. Caerphilly County Borough Council, Monmouthshire County Council, Newport City Council, Torfaen County Borough Council, South Wales Fire and Rescue, Natural Resources Wales, and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board). The cost is based on existing models in place for CCRCD scrutiny processes, hosted by RCTCBC.

**Action:** Each statutory partner organisation raises a Purchase Order for £2,140 to BGCBC for invoicing, this will cover the costs for calendar year 2023.

Costs for operating the scrutiny committee will be monitored by BGCBC as the lead organisation and can be considered for fairness and sustainability as part of an initial evaluation of regional scrutiny arrangements after one year of operation (see recommendation 6).

# 4.3 Recommendation 3 – Identifying Membership

Two local authority elected member are identified by each of the five local authorities, and an additional one representative from the following partner organisations (note these cannot be officers of the organisations):

- The Fire and Rescue Authority
- Third Sector
- Health Board Member
- NRW

This will lead to 14 elected official participating in regional scrutiny processes for Gwent PSB, and should be based on general principles set by existing regional processes already in place i.e.: The Committee should have an equal number of elected members from each appointing local authority, none of which are executive or cabinet members; and that each local authority and statutory partner organisation will determine and nominate its representative(s) in accordance with its own arrangements. The term of office of the nominated elected members shall be a matter for each nominating local authority.

**Action:** Each partner organisation to identify their nominated elected representative(s) by no later than the end of December 2022.

# 4.4 Recommendation 4: Timeframe for Regional Scrutiny

Regional Scrutiny to commence from 2023, with:

# Initial Six Months (Jan to June 2023)

Training for identified members from each organisation in January /February 2023, this session will outline roles and responsibilities, go over the remit of the committee via the appended Terms of Reference (proposed to PSB in June 22 paper), and deal with any emerging considerations and issues.

This will place members of the committee in good stead, for an initial formal meeting of the committee in March/April (subject to PSB date confirmation) to scrutinise the final draft well-being plan, and allow the committee to report back any observations or recommendations to Gwent PSB before the plan is considered for agreement in-line with the legal timeframe.

During this initial period a draft forward work programme aligned to the work of the Gwent PSB will be developed to be considered by the committee at their first meeting.

# Following Six Months (July to December 2023)

Regional Scrutiny will follow a forward work programme, with meetings being aligned to the Gwent PSB meeting cycle to allow for effective interaction between the committee and PSB. This would see meetings 4 weeks before each scheduled formal Regional PSB Meeting (quarterly).

**Action:** BGCBC to draft timeframe and liaise with SPOCs from each organisation to avoid clashes with individual partner organisation programmes.

# 4.5 Recommendation 5 – Agree Draft Terms of Reference

Agree the Draft Terms of Reference for the Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee, to include other key recommendations from June meeting (appendix 2) i.e.:

- Voting: One vote per organisation (regardless of number of members).
- Chairs and Vice Chairs to be identified at the first meeting of the Committee. BGCBC to make formal nomination for Chair to aid the inception of the process as the lead organisation.
- Meeting arrangements as previously included e.g. key issues for hybrid meetings, with physical location for all meeting being General Offices, Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent.
- Quorum status of each local authority area to be represented, and at least one-third of the overall number e.g. 5 members.

# 4.6 | Recommendation 6 – Evaluation Approach

Agree that the arrangements set out for implementing and operating the Regional Scrutiny Committee are reviewed after one calendar year of operation to include key areas such as:

- Effectiveness of approach
- Expected tenure of lead organisation
- Financial contributions and sustainability

- Membership participation
- Effectiveness of approach and interaction between PSB and Committee
- Any other relevant factors that were identified in the initial year of operation.

**Action:** BGCBC to draft paper on evaluation of scrutiny processes for final calendar quarter of 2023 for Gwent PSB consideration and approval.

Report Date: Sept 2022

Appendix 2 - Draft Terms of Reference - Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee

# <u>DRAFT Terms of Reference – Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee</u>

The Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee will have the strategic oversight of the PSB and will hold the Regional PSB and Partners to account for the delivery of the Wellbeing Plan and supporting projects.

The Regional PSB Scrutiny Committee will:

- Perform the Overview and Scrutiny function for the Regional PSB on behalf of the five local Authorities of Gwent.
- Develop a forward work programme reflecting its functions.
- Review, scrutinise and challenge the performance, decisions made or actions taken by the Board;
- Review and scrutinise the Board's governance arrangements and function;
- Review and scrutinise the performance of the PSB projects including delivery and outcomes
- Make reports or recommendations to the Board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- Promote public engagement and participation;
- Consider matters relating to the Board as Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- Carry out other functions in relation to the Board that are imposed on it by the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. c).
- Review or scrutinise the progress of any joint project.
- Refer any matter to the Regional Gwent PSB which is relevant to its functions:
  - The matter relates to one of the functions of the authority and is relevant to the functions of the Regional scrutiny committee; and
  - It effects the electoral area of the member or it effects any person who lives or works there.

When considering whether to refer a matter to the Regional Scrutiny Committee a member should first consider if it falls within the remit of a single overview and scrutiny committee within the member's local authority, and if that is the case the member should raise the matter there. *Members should only refer a matter to a Joint scrutiny committee if it falls clearly within the responsibilities and terms of reference of the Regional Scrutiny Committee and if there is no scrutiny of the issue in the local authority to which the member belongs.* 

It is acknowledged that the establishment of a Regional Scrutiny Committee shall not serve to exclude a local authority's right to carry out its own individual Scrutiny of any decision of the Regional Gwent PSB.

In addition to these functions the Regional Scrutiny Committee's lines of Inquiry can include (but not be limited to), the following:

- The effectiveness of the Wellbeing Assessment;
- The effectiveness of the Wellbeing Plan;

- The effectiveness of performance measurement arrangements;
- The level of commitment from individual partners to the work of the Regional Gwent Public Services Board;
- The effectiveness of the Regional Gwent Public Services Board in communicating its work, objectives and outcomes to its stakeholders; and,
- The effectiveness of the Regional Gwent Public Services Board in addressing the issue of pooled funding to tackle priorities

The WBFG act allows for scrutiny of the PSB as a 'collaborative body', not the individual partners comprising the PSB. Paragraph 180 of the Future Generations guidance states that; 'The committee can require any member of the board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a member of the board under this Act.' This includes any person that has accepted an invitation to participate in the activity of the Regional Gwent PSB. The Regional Scrutiny Committee will therefore scrutinise the work of the Regional Gwent PSB and <u>not</u> the individual activities of partners.