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Date: 14th September 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee** will be held in the **Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Wednesday, 21st September, 2016** at **10.30 am** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. **The meeting will be concluded by 12.15 p.m.**

PLEASE NOTE

Arrangements have been made for a **pre-meeting of the County Borough Members only, at 10.00 a.m. in Core Meeting Room 1.3**, and **all Voluntary Sector Representatives at 10.00 a.m. in the Sirhowy Room**. All other council officers and representatives of external organisations should assemble in the Reception Area for the main meeting at **10.30 a.m. in the Sirhowy Room**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Chris Burns'.

Chris Burns
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A G E N D A

	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.

A greener place Man gwyrddach



To receive and consider the following minutes: -

- | | | |
|---|---|---------|
| 3 | Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee held on the 15th June 2016. | 1 - 10 |
| 4 | Question and Answer Session on Voluntary Sector Funding - Antony Bolter, CCBC. | |
| 5 | Compact Working with National Bodies and Future Strategic Direction for County Voluntary Councils - Martin Featherstone, GAVO. | 11 - 14 |
| 6 | Discussion with Caerphilly Public Services Board on Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan Annual Report 2015-16 - Verbal Update, Martin Featherstone, GAVO. | |
| 7 | Compact Action Plan 2016-17 Suggestions - Jackie Dix, CCBC. | 15 - 20 |
| 8 | Open Discussion: What's Happening in the Caerphilly Borough - An opportunity for all Compact Partners to Raise Key Issues. | |

Items of interest concerning the Voluntary Sector from Compact Partners: -

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 9 | GAVO. | 21 - 36 |
| 10 | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent. | 37 - 40 |
| 11 | Natural Resources Wales. | 41 - 42 |

To receive and note the following information items: -

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 12 | Community Planning Quarterly Briefing - July to September 2016. | 43 - 52 |
| 13 | Dates of future meetings all commencing at 10.30 am in the Sirhowy Room, Penallta House:

Wednesday 7th December 2016.
Wednesday 15th March 2017.
Wednesday 28th June 2017. | |

Circulation:

Councillors L. Ackerman, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, D.G. Carter (Chair), Mrs P. Cook, R.W. Gough, Mrs P. A. Griffiths, C. Hawker, K. James, G. Johnston, A. Lewis, D.W.R. Preece, J.A. Pritchard and R. Woodyatt,

Representatives of the Voluntary Sector:

Ms H. Billington, Abbeyfield (Caerphilly) Society Limited
Mr L. Clay, Abertridwr Community Church
Ms J. Price, Bargoed YMCA

Mr D. Morgan, Caerphilly 50+ Forum
Ms P. Jones, Caerphilly Care & Repair
Mr R.H. Cooke, GAVO (Vice Chair)
Mr C. Luke, Caerphilly People First
Mr A. Read, Cancercareline
Mrs C. Williams, Cruse Bereavement Care
Mrs H. Williams, Disability CANDO Organisation
Mrs E. Forbes, GAVO
Ms K. Stevenson, Groundwork Wales
Ms A. Jones, Homestart Caerphilly
Ms L. Jones, Menter Iaith
Ms C. Loring, Right From The Start
Mr M. Bridgman, SYDIC
Ms M. Jones, The Parent Network
Mr J. Wade, Van Road United Reformed Church
Mrs M. Wade, Vanguard Caerphilly
Mr D. Brunton, VOLUME

Aneurin Bevan Health Board:

Mrs B. Bolt and Ms S. Crane

Gwent Police:

Chief Inspector N. McLain

The Office of the Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner:

Mrs M. Chapman and Mr N. Taylor

South Wales Fire & Rescue Services:

Mr R. Hassett

Caerphilly Business Forum:

Mrs D. Lovering

Town & Community Councils Representative:

H. Llewellyn

Natural Resources Wales

Mr J. Goldsworthy (Natural Resources Wales)

And Appropriate Officers

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN
ON WEDNESDAY 15TH JUNE 2016 AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

Mr R.H Cooke – Chair

Councillors:

J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, P. Cook, R.W. Gough, P. Griffiths, K. James, A. Lewis, D.W.R Preece, R. Woodyatt

Together with:

Abertridwr Community Church	-	Mr. L. Clay
Age Concern Gwent	-	Ms. D. Johnston
Caerphilly 50+ Forum	-	Mr. D. Morgan
Caerphilly Parents & Carers Forum	-	Mrs. B. Helps
Cancer Careline	-	Mr. A. Read
GAVO	-	Mr R.H Cooke
Groundwork Wales	-	Ms. K. Stevenson
Homestart Caerphilly Borough	-	Mrs. M. Snowden
The Parent Network	-	Ms. M. Jones
The Vanguard Centre	-	Mrs. M. Wade
Van Road United Reformed Church	-	Mr. J. Wade
VOLUME	-	Mr. D. Brunton

Also present:

J. Dix (CCBC), P. Cooke (CCBC), K. Peters (CCBC), A. Dredge (CCBC), A. Palmer (CCBC/GAVO), Bronwen John (Aneurin Bevan University Board), R. Hassett (South Wales Fire & Rescue Service), Mr J Goldsworthy (Natural Resources Wales) and Mr. M. Featherstone (GAVO)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. E.M Aldworth, D.G Carter, C Hawker, and also from, H. Billington (Abbeyfield Caerphilly Society Ltd), J. Price (Bargoed YMCA), P. Jones (Caerphilly Care and Repair), C. Luke (Caerphilly People First), E. Forbes (GAVO) L. Jones (Menter Iait), C. Loring (Right from the Start), S. Jones (Scope), S. Crane & C. Gregory (Aneurin Bevan University Health Board), Chief Inspector N. McLain (Gwent Police), Mr. H. Llewellyn (Town & Community Council Representative), M Chapman and J Reed (Office of the Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent).

2. TO ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair - Cllr D. Carter, the meeting was open by the Vice Chair – R.H Cooke. The Committee moved for Bob Cooke to be appointed as Chair, and Cllr Carter as Vice Chair of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee. Bob Cooke paid tribute to Cllr Carter as Chair of the Committee for the previous year's term.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2016 were accepted as a true record. There were the following matters arising:

Policy Unit restructure - Jackie Dix (JD) updated on the restructure noting that Kathryn Peters (in attendance) was the new Corporate Policy Manager and Paul Cooke (in attendance) the new Senior Policy Officer. JD informed that she was still the key liaison person for the committee, and around the workings of the Compact Agreement. JD introduced Amy Dredge (Legal Assistant) to the committee, who from September 2016 will be providing committee support.

Compact Review – JD noted that the next two meetings of the Compact Review Group will be taking place on 11th August at 2pm, and 11th October at 10am both in Penallta House. JD encouraged more members of the committee to participate in the Compact Review Group.

Welsh Government's working group on the third sector scheme – an update from GAVO who sit on the group was requested to inform the work of the Compact Review Group, and to be reported to the September meeting of the committee.

Natural Resources Wales representation – Jon Goldsworthy was welcome to his first meeting of the committee representing Natural Resources Wales, who have been invited by the committee to become a Compact Partner. It was noted that Natural Resources Wales now sits on all the Public Services Boards in Wales (formerly Local Service Boards).

Caerphilly County Borough Assessment of Local Well-being – JD updated that she was working with Alison Palmer to hold a special event on this assessment for members of the committee to impart their views.

Local Government re-organisation – JD updated that Mark Drakeford, the new Minister for Finance and Local Government has confirmed he is looking to explore a new way forward regarding local government reform, not based on the current map in the Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill. He has stressed his intent to develop strong relationships built on trust with local government and the WLGA. He intends to visit all councils by early autumn, having already visited authorities in North Wales, enabling him to listen to local government leaders before considering the long-term approach.

The Minister wants to explore how local government is taking forward innovation through the new regional partnerships around the Cardiff City Region Deal, Swansea Bay City Region, the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, Mersey Dee Alliance and Growing Mid Wales Partnership (being the Welsh Government Minister with oversight of City Deals). These are based on local councils coming together at the regional level. The developments have been locally led, are maturing quickly and have the potential to offer benefits to local communities

without the costs of major local government re-organisation. The Minister stressed the vital importance of the new regional arrangements in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act in this respect. The Minister is also responsible for the Future Generations Act.

In discussion with the WLGA the Minister has noted there are elements of the Draft Bill that he would like to press ahead with if an agreement could be found such as the new improvement framework for councils, and power of general competence. He felt that the Draft Bill was lacking, however, in terms of emphasis upon citizen responsibility and the role of communities in service models.

5. LAUNCH OF COMPACT ACTION PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16, AND GRANT SCHEMES BOOKLET 2016-17

Cllr Ken James (Cabinet Member Regeneration, Planning and Sustainable Development welcomed members to this special meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, which was seeing the launch of the Compact Action Plan Annual Report. Cllr James noted it was good to see representatives from so many key agencies present, because the success of the Compact is dependent on effective partnership working to deliver benefits for the local community. Cllr James stated I am sure that all are proud to be associated with the Compact Annual Report and the impressive list of achievements it contains. He noted that the Annual Report is full of positive case studies and examples of how residents are benefitting in so many different ways thanks to the collaborative approach. He commented that I would like to thank you all for your contribution, and would ask you to convey this appreciation to everyone in your organisation who has played a part in this success.

He noted that in looking forward, work is underway to update the Compact Agreement for the next four years, taking into account the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The new Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales and replaces Local Service Boards with Public Services Boards. The new Caerphilly Public Services Board will be required to oversee an assessment of local well-being, which must be published by April 2017. From this, a local well-being plan will be formed, setting key priorities for partnership working in the future. He stressed to succeed in this, the close partnership work of the Compact Partners will be essential, and this will be the focus of the work of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee over the next four years.

Cllr James then proceeded to announce the launch of the new Grant Schemes Booklet for 2016/17. He noted that this useful publication provides a wealth of information on the grants available to support community groups, individuals and business across the county borough, and was sure that it will be put to good use in helping draw down funding for many positive schemes and projects.

In closing, Cllr James noted he would again like to thank all Compact Partners for the success of the partnership working, noting he will look forward to working again with Compact Partners in strengthening this bond even further in the future.

The Chair, Bob Cooke (BC) thanked Cllr James for launching the Compact Annual Report and Grant Schemes Booklet. He noted that right from the beginning of the authority in 1996 the work between the Voluntary Sector and the Council had been exemplary, with the compact working acknowledged as good practice by the Welsh Government, Wales Council for Voluntary Action and the Welsh Local Government Association. BC urged more committee members to get involved with the Compact Review Group.

Cllr R. Gough requested that Mark Drakeford, the new Minister for Finance and Local Government, is sent a copy of the Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan Annual Report.

6. COMMUNITIES FIRST FUNDED HEALTH PROJECTS

Bronwen John (BJ) Head of Partnerships, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) explained that the Communities First Health Projects were directly linked to the Healthier Caerphilly outcome of *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*. BJ stated that the main form of delivery is through the General Practitioner cluster of Neighbourhood Networks (NCNs) in Caerphilly. There are three NCNs in the borough covering the north, east and south of the borough. Communities First are in attendance at these cluster meetings, which helps aid GP awareness of services provided by Communities First such as: X-Perit Prevention of diabetes (diabetes prevention/management project), Foodwise (a weight management programme). The ABUHB provided *kit funding* for such projects, which provides equipment such as projectors.

Cllr P.J Bevan raised concerns with lack of dialysis for the treatment of kidney disease, and asked if kit funding could be provided for this. BJ responded that this was not possible, as the ABUHB only had £100,000 a year for NCNs to deliver Single Integrated Plan priorities.

Cllr D.W.R Preece noted that diabetes could commence in young age, and queried how much intervention was going into schools to teach children correct eating habits. BJ responded that kids with diabetes type 1 were provided with the support of the school's nurse.

Cllr D.W.R Preece further queried around school based interventions for children with a high Body Mass Index (BMI), and asked what was happening. BJ responded that this has been subject to much work by Public Health Wales who had been talking to all Public Services Boards around developing childhood obesity plans, and had published *10 Steps to a Health Weight* to tackle this in schools. The Aneurin Bevan University Health Board has also published a Gwent Childhood Obesity Strategy - *Fit for future Generations Obesity Strategy for Gwent Childhood to 2015*. Martin Featherstone (MF) commented that a presentation had been given to Caerphilly Public Services Board on this strategy. BJ also noted that NCNs will adopt obesity as one of their key themes for this year.

Following the committee meeting this additional update was given by Catherine Gregory, ABUHB:

NCNs in Caerphilly will continue to work closely with Communities First in strengthening links with their projects and making referrals/signposting into them. Communities First and GAVO representation will continue on the NCN membership across Caerphilly with all relevant information on the services and initiatives disseminated and circulated to all practices and partners. A meeting is to take place in August with Susanne Maddax (Health and Social Care Facilitator, GAVO) which is set specifically to discuss and agree future working with the Voluntary Sector and for NCN presentations linked to the NCN agenda, making it more meaningful. Feedback from this meeting will be provided to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee.

7. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE THIRD SECTOR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

Kathryn Peters (KP) Corporate Policy Manager responded to this question from the Voluntary Sector Representatives. She informed that the Future Generations Act came into effect from 1st April 2016, with a set of statutory guidance produce in making sense of the requirements. She emphasised that people and communities are at the heart of this legislation, which is looking at both generational and collaborative change. KP stated that the Voluntary Sector, was at the heart of communities, with key linkages to the diversity of groups making up communities. KP referred to Martin Featherstone (Chief Executive Officer, GAVO) as sitting on Caerphilly Public Services Board, representing the Voluntary Sector, and Alison Palmer (Community Planning Co-ordinator) working jointly for GAVO, and the Council's Policy Unit.

KP explained that just how the *Caerphilly Delivers Single Integrated Plan* structure was reflected in the Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan, so it would fit with the requirements of the Future Generations Act. KP referred to the local well-being assessment now being directed by Caerphilly Public Services Board that the Voluntary Sector had a key role with in providing qualitative data on what people are telling us about the borough. KP referred to a series of engagement events being held in the five community areas in the borough: Upper Rhymney Valley (incorporating Bargoed), Mid Valleys West, Mid Valleys East, Lower Sirhowy Valley and Caerphilly Basin, over the summer, which voluntary sector organisations will be invited to. She thanked the Voluntary Sector Forum for the qualitative data provided in May 2016 to feed into the local well-being assessment.

KP explained how the local assessment of well-being is required to be published by April 2017, and would feed through into the development of the local well-being plan by April 2018. KP noted that the well-being assessment and plan will be framed around the 7 well-being goals of the Future Generations legislation:

1. A more prosperous Wales
2. A resilient Wales
3. A healthier Wales
4. A more equal Wales
5. A Wales of cohesive communities
6. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
7. A globally responsible Wales.

At the moment the Single Integrated Plan focuses on five outcomes:

1. Learning Caerphilly
2. Greener Caerphilly
3. Healthier Caerphilly
4. Safer Caerphilly
5. Prosperous Caerphilly.

KP stated the committee will start to see changes as work begins to mirror the 7 well-being goals in both the revised Compact Agreement, and new Compact Action Plans.

Adrian Read (AR) Cancer Careline asked how was this going to work without shared definitions of *well-being* noting this was a potential huge agenda to cover. He noted that Cancer Careline provides support around *well-being*, but notes the difficulties in costing services around this concept given its open-endedness. KP noted there are different definitions of *well-being* stemming from different legislation, but contended that what is important about the Future Generations legislation is that it enshrines being mindful of well-being both now and in the future. Preventative services need to be there right from the start in ensuring future well-being, such as around childhood obesity. KP stressed that the well-being assessment was looking at assets within communities in preventing need further down the line.

Katy Stevenson (KS) Groundwork Wales observed that each voluntary sector organisation in the room would contribute to all 7 well-being goals. KS asserted the importance to come out of silos in look at this – and push up to the Council what the Voluntary Sector is doing around the goals through illustrative case studies.

Dave Brunton (DB) Volume Network noted that young people have two issues: what this generation will leave them, and what say they have in this. DB noted that young people will often have varying needs for support across the board. DB would like to get young people involved out of schools about what they think about the 7 well-being goals in being part of the process.

KP responded that the Act provides for the Public Services Board to include in its analysis the well-being of particular categories of persons, including people who are considered vulnerable or disadvantaged. This would include children and young people with needs. KP noted that in asking young people about what is good and bad in the borough linkages will be made with DB.

Cllr. D.W.R Preece informed that the Youth Forum had recently presented at the Education for Life Scrutiny Committee. He praised their *forward thinking* and commented the Youth Forum was *second to none*.

The Chair emphasised that Compact Partners will all work together around contributing to the local well-being assessment.

8. COMMITTEE DEBATE: HOW CAN THE THIRD SECTOR SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNITY ASSETS IN THE CAERPHILLY BOROUGH

The Chair invited Richard Davies (RD) Regional Community Asset Transfer Support Officer, GAVO to open the debate. RD briefly gave his background of working with Blaenau Gwent Council in developing a Good Practice Guide for Asset Transfer, which was subsequently adopted by the Welsh Government. In April 2015, GAVO received funding from the Welsh Government to undertake a Gwent region pilot project on Community Asset Transfer Support covering Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire and Torfaen, which RD is leading. The project has involved: RD talking to local authorities in Gwent; helping organisations develop a sound business plan that includes adequate due diligence before presenting to the local authority; acting as a conduit and independent broker between voluntary sector organisations and local authorities, and ascertaining level of support needed in areas in rolling out RD's role across Wales, with RD submitting a report on this to the Welsh Government by 31st August 2016.

In opening up for debate it was queried if there were any examples of success with asset transfer. RD noted the Good Practice Guide he produced was based on a proven track record on procedure and policy, but it was for local authorities to determine their own policies on asset transfer.

The transfer of the Ty Mynyddislwyn building was raised as a good example of asset transfer from Caerphilly County Borough Council to Groundwork. Katy Stevenson (KS) said Groundwork was one of the first 8 voluntary organisations in Wales to receive a grant from the Big Lottery to develop a robust business plan. In year 5 Groundwork is now realising its business planning in generating its own income to keep the asset transfer sustainable.

It was asked why GAVO and Communities First cannot provide support around asset transfer. RD responded he will be recommending to the Minister Carl Sergeant the level of support he feels is needed gained from his direct observations over the last three years. He said support could come from Communities First and County Voluntary Councils (CVCs) but that was a matter for the Minister.

Martin Featherstone (MF) said it was an opportunity for GAVO to respond to the request from Welsh Government to run a pilot, noting this was a specialist area requiring expertise. MF commented it was not about duplicating what is out there, but about adding value to what is there already, and making best use of resources within the borough.

The Chair invited Colin Jones (CJ) to comment as asset transfer fell within his service area as Head of Property Services. CJ said speaking personally the Welsh Government seemed to think there is a whole range of bodies there to take on community assets, and was not convinced that the whole principle of asset transfer was as solid as what the Welsh Government makes out. In moving forward CJ observed that hybrid solutions could be developed through closer collaboration between councils and community organisations where

a community asset transfer was supported by a robust business case with input from a public service. A public service level of support would need to be balanced to the extent that it plugged any potential capacity gaps whilst still allowing a community organisation to develop and grow with some independence.

Cllr. D.W.R Preece observed that CJ had *hit it on the head* with suggesting hybrid solutions, as they are different degrees as to what the move to shared services could involve. He noted that it was sometimes impossible for services to be profitable, with the bottom line having to be providing for the needs of residents.

Dave Brunton (DB) commented that it was important to stress *the independence of the broker role* between local authorities and voluntary sector organisations in the model being developed.

RD noted he has met with Colin Jones and Steve Hawkins at the Council in developing interest around a hybrid approach. He noted that having the support of local authorities was crucial, as it avoided all the strain being putting on voluntary sector organisations and community groups. Relating back to his experiences with Blaenau Gwent, RD did not initially think they were enough community groups to take on sports and leisure services, but groups did eventually come forward.

Cllr. R. Woodyatt noted how positive the experience of the Council's Ty Mynyddislwyn building asset transfer to Groundwork had been. He emphasised the importance of being realistic on how much money can be raised for long term sustainability of the asset transfer, as while short term grant funding could be obtained, often grants get pulled. RD agreed noting that while grants were important in supporting a service, there was the need for the organisation to secure their own revenue for the day to day running. While pump priming was fine for first 12 months, more solid funding was needed for the long term viability of the asset transfer.

9. COMPACT ACTION PLAN 2016-7

JD alerted that following the Committee's decision at the March meeting the Compact Partners were contacted to outline their key activities with the Voluntary Sector to form the content of the Annual Compact Action Plan for 2016-17, in this the transitional period in paving the way for the Compact Agreement to align with the Caerphilly borough local assessment of well-being, and ensuing well-being plan. Unfortunately few suggestions were received by Compact Partners.

Cllr R. Gough commented that people pay lip service to the Compact Agreement but the new Caerphilly Public Services Board need to be informed of the importance of the Compact Agreement, and the responsibilities of their organisational representatives on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee to meet their obligations under the Compact Agreement, in providing items of information reports to the committee, and responding to request such as around the content to shape the Compact Annual Report for 2016-17. Cllr R Gough called for a letter to be sent to the Caerphilly Public Services Board on the Compact Agreement, and responsibilities as signed up Compact Partner organisations. The Committee endorsed this action.

The Committee requested that JD contacted Compact Partners one more time for their outline key activities with the Voluntary Sector to form the content of the Annual Compact Action Plan for 2016-17, explaining the context of this transitional period in moving from an Compact Action Plan based on *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan* to meeting the well-being requirements under the Future Generations legislation.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH

Michelle Jones (MJ) The Parent Network informed of a Parent Network event on 30th September 2016, and enquired if Alison Palmer could give a presentation on Future Generations. MJ also informed she would be happy to join the Compact Review Group.

11. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMPACT PARTNERS

The following Compact Partners Reports were received, with no comments made during the meeting: GAVO, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent and Caerphilly County Borough Council. The Chair invited Compact Partners to come back to either Jackie Dix, or Alison Palmer with any queries stemming from the reports.

12. COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING JANUARY TO MARCH 2016

The above report was received and noted as an item of information.

13. DECISION & ACTION SUMMARY

SUBJECT	DECISION	ACTION
1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair	R.H Cooke was elected Chair and Cllr. D Carter as Vice Chair	Both R. H Cooke and Cllr. D Carter agreed to assume the roles of Chair and Vice Chair of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee.
2. Compact Review Group	R.H Cooke and Jackie Dix encouraged more Compact Partners to participate in the Compact Review Group	The next two meetings of the Compact Review Group will be taking place on 11 th August at 2pm, and 11 th October at 10am both in Penallta House. Michelle Jones, The Parent Network, agreed to join the group.
3. Welsh Government's working group on the third sector scheme	GAVO who sit on the group was requested to produce a report to inform the work of the Compact Review Group	GAVO to produce a written report for the 21 st September 2016 committee meeting.
4. Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan Annual Report	Cllr R. Gough requested that Mark Drakeford, the new Minister for Finance and Local Government, is sent a copy of the Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan Annual Report	Jackie Dix to send Compact Agreement and Compact Action Plan Annual Report to Minister for Finance and Local Government.
5. Compact Agreement	Cllr R. Gough requested for Caerphilly Public Services Board to be informed of the importance of the Compact Agreement, and the responsibilities of their organisational representatives on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee to meet their obligations under the	Jackie Dix to liaise with Chair in drafting a letter to the Caerphilly Public Services Board on the Compact Agreement, and responsibilities as signed up Compact Partner organisations to the Compact Agreement.

	Compact Agreement	
6. Annual Compact Action Plan for 2016-17	The Committee requested Compact Partners to be contacted one more time for their outline key activities with the Voluntary Sector to form the content of the Annual Compact Action Plan for 2016-17	Jackie Dix to contact Compact Partners.
7. Parent Network event on 30 th September 2016	Michelle Jones, The Parent Network, enquired if Alison Palmer could give a presentation on Future Generations	Alison Palmer to liaise with Michelle Jones.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 21st September 2016 at 10.30am in the Sirhowy Room, Penallta House.

Future dates:

Wednesday 7th December 2016

Wednesday 15th March 2017

Wednesday 28th June 2017

Meeting ended 12 pm.

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: COMPACT WORKING WITH NATIONAL BODIES, AND FUTURE STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR COUNTY VOLUNTARY COUNCILS

REPORT BY: GWENT ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Members with an update from Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) on their work with the Welsh Government around developing the third sector scheme following: Continuity and Change - Refreshing the Relationship between Welsh Government and the Third Sector in Wales, and around the infrastructure of County Voluntary Councils (CVS) with Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA).

2. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 2.1 This work is fundamental to the workings of the Compact Agreement with the Voluntary and Community Sector in the Caerphilly county borough. Currently there is a transitional phase as the Compact Agreement moves into alignment with the provisions of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 over the next two-years up to July 2018.

3. THE REPORT

3.1 Working with Welsh Government around the Third Sector Scheme

A Local Third Sector Scheme is an agreement between Third Sector representatives and public sector bodies to work together on agreed outcomes for the benefit of the wider community. This can address funding arrangements to reach desired outcomes as well as joint working and common understanding of key principles. Previously these agreements have usually been known as Local Compacts. Essentially this is an agreement as to how the relationship between statutory and Third Sectors should be established, maintained and monitored locally, with a view to providing a platform for dialogue to improve the well-being of people and communities. There is scope to develop Third Sector Schemes on a regional basis if deemed appropriate by local partners.

- 3.2 Welsh Government committed in their revised Third Sector Scheme 2014 to prepare guidance to support statutory partners in preparing Local Compacts or Third Sector Schemes to support local and regional implementation. A national Working group was created by Welsh Government's Third Sector Unit and GAVO's Deputy Chief Executive Officer was invited to offer expertise in drafting the guidance document. A draft was initially consulted on in a workshop with a range of representatives from third sector and public bodies. Given the new Minister, the new focus on Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the yet unknown Programme for Government, this guidance has not yet been published. However, the final guidance is likely to include:

- *What is the purpose of these guidelines?*
- *Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015*
- *What is a Local Third Sector Scheme?*
- *Who are the Partners in a local Third Sector Scheme?*
- *Why is it important to develop a local Third Sector Scheme?*
- *What is the distinctive contribution of the Third Sector to Public Service Delivery?*
- *Producing a local Third Sector Scheme.*
- *Agreeing Outcomes*
- *Monitoring the Third Sector Scheme and Welsh Government's role.*

3.3 The guidance will also include *Principles underpinning Partnership Working*. Since the previous guidelines on producing local Compacts was issued, two important sets of Principles have been published: the Principles for Public Engagement and the Welsh Government Principles for Working with Communities. Taken together, these provide a solid foundation on which to build a relationship both between organisations and with the wider community, and are offered here as a basis for development of local Third Sector Schemes. See link below:

<http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/communities/principles-for-working-with-communities/?lang=en>

3.4 GAVO is now awaiting an update from the Welsh Government on the latest draft and revised timetable for publication.

3.5 **Strategic Direction for Wales Council for Voluntary Action and County Voluntary Councils**

Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) and the 19 Community Voluntary Councils (CVCs) across Wales are currently working on a joint bid for Welsh Government core funding from April 2017. This bid will be submitted in October 2016 and will outline a shared strategic framework for infrastructure provision across Wales and will reflect recent increased collaboration between WCVA and the CVCs, under the emerging branding ambitions of - *Third Sector Support Wales*.

3.6 Welsh Government infrastructure funding distributed through WCVA was subject to a 9% cut in 2015/16. It is clear that further funding reductions for 2017/18 will drive structural change, reference the WCVA and CVC architecture in Wales.

3.7 Initial meetings with Carl Sargeant, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children, suggest that the following are priorities and provide a framework for the further shaping of an innovative and responsive infrastructure offer:

- The Cabinet Secretary recognised the ongoing need for infrastructure support and that this was needed more now than ever before, it was acknowledged that without infrastructure support there was no mechanism by which the Sector could be galvanised.
- It was acknowledged that the 4 pillars of infrastructure support i.e. Good Governance, Strategic Engagement and Representation and Sustainable Funding reflect the core business of CVCs and WCVA.
- Governance – aspiration to see increased diversity in the Trustee pool and also leadership from the sector to encourage improved governance.
- Innovation, evidence and impact – an interest in identifying people focused on locally based solutions to issues.
- Safeguarding – no additional funds available for the DBS checking service, ambition to progress alternative solutions and which could be across other Government Departments.
- Volunteering – interested in developments linked to the National Citizen Service and representation of young people and roles for trusted individuals in volunteering.

3.8 In summary the conversations with the Cabinet Secretary have been positive, affirming and constructive. The infrastructure offer was valued and there was an aspiration to commit to longer term funding agreements, although there was a re-iteration of increasingly challenging financial constraints and that more difficult funding decisions would need to be made in the future. Priorities were confirmed as around economic regeneration and well-being and the critical role the Third Sector has to play in these agendas. Issues and solutions linked to Adverse Childhood Experiences were also a real focus. A direct dialogue and further meetings with WCVA and CVC representatives were welcomed.

Authors: Emily Forbes and Martin Featherstone, GAVO

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: COMPACT ACTION PLAN 2016-17 SUGGESTIONS

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Members with suggestions received from Compact Partners for forming the content of the Compact Action Plan Annual Report 2016-17.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee at both their April and June meetings in 2016 have requested that all Compact Partners come up with a few actions of shared activity with the Voluntary Sector/other Compact Partners for a brief transitional action plan for 2016-17 in moving to a new approach in aligning the Compact Agreement and future Compact Action Plans with the local well-being assessment (to be published by March 2017) and ensuing well-being plan (to be published by May 2018) as required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* is currently the pre-eminent partnership document for the Caerphilly county borough, which sets out a plan for improving quality of life for local people and communities. Transitional working is now underway in developing the well-being plan, which will replace the Single Integrated Plan under the provisions of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, and puts in place the following seven 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, and a Globally Responsible Wales.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Appendix 1 contains a proposed Compact Action Plan 2016-17 developed out of the suggestions received by the Compact Partners.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of community planning, and is an integral part of *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*, and the Future Generations assessment of local well-being and ensuing well-being plan.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council is a major contributor in both financial and human resources to the community planning process.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None arising.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 Suggestions received by Compact Partners have been included in forming this proposed Compact Action Plan 2016-17.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 To discuss, and agree a Compact Action Plan for 2016-17.

10. STATUTORY POWER

- 10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix – Policy Officer, CCBC
Consultees: All Compact Partners

Appendices:
Appendix 1 - Proposed Caerphilly Voluntary and Community Sector Compact Action Plan April 2016 to March 2017

Appendix 1 Proposed Caerphilly Voluntary and Community Sector Compact Action Plan April 2016 to March 2017

AREA OF ACTIVITY	COMMITMENT TO ACTION	SPECIFIC ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	PROGRESS
A. Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	1. Continued quarterly meetings of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	Four committee meetings held June, September, December, March	CCBC (Policy Unit) & GAVO	
	2. Pre-meetings for Voluntary Sector Representatives	Four meetings held February, May, August, October	GAVO	
	3. Voluntary Sector to be kept informed of relevant issues by Compact Partners	<i>Items of interest</i> reports for the Voluntary Sector prepared for each meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	Reports from All Compact Partners	

	4. Compact Agreement and Action Plan	For the Compact Agreement to be reviewed, and revised for 2017- 2021 to align with the requirements of the Future Generations legislation, with a new format developed for the annual action plans	All Compact Partners by July 2018. Note following two key stages for informing review of Compact Agreement, and annual Compact Action Plans: i) publication of assessment of local well-being by March 2017 ii) well-being plan published by May 2018	
	5. Consultation with the Voluntary Sector over changes to national and local policies and services affecting the Sector	Reports and presentations to Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	Reports from All Compact Partners	
B. Future Generations	1. Involvement of voluntary sector organisations in the assessment of local well-being	Contributing to the developing assessment of local well-being	Reports CCBC (Policy) & GAVO by 31 st March 2017	
	2. Involvement of voluntary sector organisations in the local well-being plan	Contributing to the development of the well-being plan	Reports CCBC (Policy) & GAVO by 31 st May 2018	

	3. <i>Caerphilly Delivers Single Integrated Plan (SIP)</i>	Continued GAVO and Voluntary Sector support until the SIP is replaced by the well-being plan	Reports by GAVO	
	4. Exploring the potential impact of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act 2015 on the Council's Asset Management Strategy for Buildings	Joint work through GAVO's Asset Transfer Officer (post currently funded to September 2016) and CCBC	Reports by CCBC (Policy) & GAVO	
	5. Public Services Board (PSB)	GAVO to report on their role of representing the Voluntary Sector on the PSB	GAVO reports at each quarterly meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	
C. Voluntary Sector Partnership Events, and GAVO projects	<i>One Beat Voluntary Roadshows</i> National Play Day Event Volunteering Awards GAVO Trustees Week GAVO Funding Events GAVO Third Sector Volunteer Manager	2015/16 events completed and evaluations circulated with further events to be agreed on evaluation	GAVO and CCBC	

	<p>Network (Gwent regional working)</p> <p>GAVO Sunflower Project</p> <p>GAVO Community Voices Project</p> <p>GAVO joint project with Gwent Office Police and Crime Commissioner</p> <p>GAVO's Training Team Programme for Voluntary Sector</p>	<p>Outcome of extension application awaited</p> <p>Continuation of Valley Voices projects in the Caerphilly county borough with emphasis on looking for engagement opportunities through Future Generations legislation, and Social Services (Wales) Act 2014</p> <p>Continuation of post until September 2016</p> <p>Provision of range of training opportunities</p>		
D) Health	<p>Neighbourhood Care Networks in the Caerphilly county borough will continue to work closely with Voluntary Sector</p>	<p>Updates to be made to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee</p>	ABUHB	



**VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE -
21ST SEPTEMBER 2016**

SUBJECT: ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

**REPORT BY: UPDATE FROM GWENT ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY
ORGANISATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Member with an items of interest report to the Voluntary Sector from Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO). Appendix 1 contains a report made by GAVO to the Caerphilly Public Services Board at their meeting held on 6th September 2016.

Appendices:

Appendix - GAVO Quarter 1 Report

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GAVO Quarter 1 Report

CAERPHILLY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD 6/9/16

EMILY FORBES, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Registered Charity No.1113558
Company Limited by Guarantee 5590517

SUBJECT: GAVO Quarter 1 Report

1. Key data for first quarter delivery April – June 2016

Caerphilly	Yearly Target	Qtr 1
Volunteers Placed	200	161
Enquiries good practice in managing volunteers	80	94
Website visitors	62000	16019
Enquiries	2500	3067
Trustee Enquiries	150	71
Trustee Events	2	0*
Event participants	30	0*
Funding advice enquiries	150	82
Funding events	2	0*
Event participants	30	0*
Funding obtained by groups	£100,000	£33,831
New orgs/social enterprise developed	10	18
Strategic planning groups	20	28
Third Sector Networks / forums	4	5
Membership	100	74

*Trustee and funding events will be held in future Quarters including a programme for Trustees week in November.

2. Highlights

GAVO Strategic Plan

Trustees published GAVO's Strategic Plan which sets out five key strategic aims for the organisation as:

1. GAVO will provide strong leadership to voluntary and community organisations and communities to increase their resilience and develop a thriving third sector
2. GAVO will use the principles of co-production to build connectivity, engagement and participation, empowering people and communities
3. GAVO will strengthen third sector voice and influence at a national, regional and local level
4. GAVO will champion volunteering and increase quality opportunities for volunteers.
5. GAVO will continue to operate in a culture of collaboration as a pathway to sustainability
The Plan will be officially launched at the Eisteddfod on 1 August 2016 and partners can request copies in English and Welsh.

GAVO Website

Work has been underway on development of a new website which is accessible and easy to navigate. The website has been designed in house and staff and trustees have fed their ideas to its development at GAVO's Training Day held in June. The new website will be launched in line with the Eisteddfod being held in Abergavenny from 29 July to 6 Aug - see www.gavowales.org.uk

GAVO Membership

Since October 2015 when GAVO introduced a new membership offer, 83 third sector organisations from the Caerphilly area have now become GAVO members. In the autumn, GAVO will be undertaking a Membership survey to ascertain the quality of its services delivered and to keep abreast of third sector members' issues across Gwent.

Caerphilly Forum

The inaugural meeting of the refreshed single Borough wide Forum was held on 13 May 2016. The focus of the meeting was the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and its implications and opportunities for the third sector. A workshop session was held on collating the rich qualitative data held by the third sector and exploring how this can best support the development of the Wellbeing Assessment and Wellbeing Plan for the county borough. CCBC's Policy Unit attended to set the scene. The next meeting has been arranged for 6 October 2016.

Asset Transfer Workshop

GAVO organised a workshop for Public Bodies in Gwent, held at Ty Penallta on 23 June 2016. This was an opportunity for a range of public service partners to receive an update on GAVO's successful pilot project and feed in their views as to what further support was needed in Gwent to take Community Asset Transfer forward. A report has been submitted to Welsh Government and future strategic direction is now awaited from Ministers. The pilot is currently funded until 30 September 2016.

Steps 2 Care Project

GAVO is delivering a new Steps 2 Care Project in Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly through an ESF funded Active Inclusion Project. The Active Inclusion Fund is operated by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) as an intermediate body for the Wales European Funding Office (WEFO) under Priority 1, Specific Objective 2 of the European Social Fund (ESF): 'to increase the employability of economically inactive and long-term unemployed people, who have complex barriers to employment'. Over 12 months, this project seeks to engage with 90 people in Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly from non-Communities First areas to develop their confidence, skills and abilities to move closer to or into employment. GAVO will provide accredited training, work relevant certificates and volunteering opportunities to support those engaged on the project. The project manager is Huw Lewis huw.lewis@gavowales.org.uk who will manage two dedicated Steps 2 Care staff taking up posts on 1 September 2016. Staff will be based at Newtown Community Centre (BG) and Douglas House (Caer).

3. Strategic working and engagement in policy

Representation of third sector interests at strategic partnerships include Caerphilly PSB, Leads Group and Delivery Group, RDP LAG, Armed Forces Forum, Caerphilly Access Forum, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Partnership, and Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership. The third sector is also represented through membership of the

Wellbeing Integration Network, the three Neighbourhood Care Networks and the Social Care Workforce Joint CCB and BG Partnership Board (where third sector providers are well represented through the open forum).

Third Sector Shape Your Future events

Third Sector Support Wales is a network made up of WCVA and the 19 County Voluntary Councils (including GAVO) across Wales. Third Sector Support Wales' joint strategic review is underway to help create a new common vision and set of priorities for our work over the coming 5 years.

A key challenge facing third sector groups is to build our resilience and to make ourselves fit for the future. WCVA hosted a futures exercise that's designed to help address questions including:

- What will drive the changes that matter most to the third sector in Wales?
- What future do we want, or want to avoid and why is this important to our work today?

The futures exercise was designed to help organisations:

- Prepare for the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act
- Learn more about tools and techniques to support long term thinking
- Plan ahead in the face of greater uncertainty and complexity
- Understand the drivers of change that are likely to impact on their work
- Actively shape a positive future for individual groups and the third sector overall
- Rethink current activity, based on a better understanding of the future

WCVA organised two workshop session which sought to:

- Identify the key drivers for change for the third sector in Wales over the coming 10 years
- Explore potential futures and what we can all do to shape a positive future

WCVA also ran a series of online polls through mid-June to mid-July which will support and feed into the two futures events.

Outcomes of these exercises and the Third Sector Support Wales Strategic Review will be fed back to PSB members.

Public Services Board Support

GAVO's Community Planning Co-ordinator provides support to CCBC's Policy Unit and the PSB. During Quarter 1 reporting period, there has been a lot of activity surrounding the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

The officer provides administrative support to the PSB which held its first meeting in June, and supports the delivery mechanisms through the leads and delivery group. Much of the focus this quarter has been on the wellbeing assessment for the FG Act and the development of and support for citizen and community engagement opportunities throughout the Summer.

5. Contribution to SIP

GAVO undertakes a range of core and project work which contributes to the outcomes of Caerphilly's Single Integrated Plan as reported below under each theme:

Prosperous

GAVO's core Third Sector Support service continues to offer governance and funding advice and one to one support to third sector organisations. The level of general enquiries remains high and continue to be varied and complex. 207 enquiries were dealt with this quarter from 35 groups and organisations including 9 new projects/groups. Funding applications were submitted amounting to £563,874 and groups were successful in obtaining a total of £27,400.

The final One Beat Roadshow took place on 27th April at the Moriah Baptist Church, Risca. The weather was very mixed but the event was well attended by organisations and members of the community. We are in the process of evaluating all four events from the new Roadshow approach this year in order to plan the way forward.

GAVO's Third Sector Development Manager visited CAB in Bargoed with the Investors in Volunteers Assessor to discuss the renewal of their IIV award.

New Life Christian Church, Abercarn continue to serve the local community and provide many services otherwise not available. They are refurbishing the building and submitted a stage two application to Communities Facilities Programme. They have now received notification that the Welsh Government team would like to have a meeting with them and visit the project. This is hopefully a positive step in the right direction.

The Preloved Furniture project has now registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and were awarded £13,400 from Community Regeneration Grant towards the running of their project and premises in Blackwood High Street.

The Crumlin Navigation Project has been developed to restore and regenerate the grade two listed buildings and surrounds of the historic Welsh colliery site. They have several structures within the project including a constituted Friends of The Navigation group, a registered charity Glofa Navigation Cyf, Crumlin Community Enterprises CIC and Crumlin Hydro CBC all working in partnership with the site owners, South Wales Building Preservation Trust which is also a registered charity. They have worked hard to clean up the site and rectify some of the water and gas issues left by the coal board. They will be fundraising and applying for grants to restore the buildings for commercial and community use, create a community space and install green energy generation.

Side by Side is a new group set up in Caerphilly to help all those who have been touched by Autism to come together and enjoy life through the medium of music.

Active and Involved Citizens

In the first quarter of 2016 Caerphilly Volunteer Centre registered 185 individuals who wished to engage in volunteering. To date 62 of these individuals have been placed into volunteering. In addition 45 individuals from Q4 2015-16 have now also engaged in volunteering. This is a marked increase in 2015-16. This increase is the second year in a row that the number of individuals placed into volunteering has increased across the Borough.

The Volunteer Recognition scheme continues to be a success. In line with the under 25's age group, volunteers register for recognition of their hours, with certificates being awarded for 50,

100, 200 and 1000 hours. In this reporting year to date, eighteen 50 hour certificates, twelve 100 hour certificates and three 200 hour certificates have been awarded. A number of volunteers are well on their way to 1000 hour certificates.

The policy of engagement and working with Organisations providing opportunities across the Caerphilly Borough continues to be supported and implemented. It was agreed within the team that those organisations actually based within the Borough would be visited first, rolling the programme out to those outside at a later date. Of the 107 organisations based within the Borough 95 of them have been visited in the last four months.

This engagement programme has further enhanced the working relationships between GAVO and the organisations and also raised the visibility across the Borough of the Volunteering Centre and GAVO as a whole.

The third Gwent Wide Third Sector Volunteer Managers Network was held on 8 June 2016. Again this meeting was very well attended with in the region on 80-90 separate organisations being represented from across the whole of Gwent. This forum is increasing in reputation and it is envisaged that it will continue to grow. The forum enables organisations of all sizes to come together and share information on improving the volunteering experience for all involved.

The use of technology continues to increase. Electronic systems are utilised to capture data from all aspects of the Caerphilly Volunteering Centre and the use of paper has been reduced by approximately 95%, being virtually paper free. Included in this is the use of Social Media to promote not only GAVO but also assisting our partner organisations in promoting events and recruiting volunteers for specific projects.

The number of referrals made from the JCP's has continued to decline. However, those that are referred tend to be more likely to engage in volunteering. This reduction in referrals is possibly linked to the drop in unemployed people and also the changes in reporting structures within DWP.

In June 2016 Keri Williams retired from her Volunteering Officer role at GAVO after over 10 years with the organisation. We wish Keri well for the future. Her role has been absorbed by Andrew Cullen via increased hours. Close monitoring will be made to ensure that the role can be fully maintained. It is anticipated that there will be no noticeable impact in the change of staff.

Closer working has been made with the DWP 10000 project. This project offers the services of DWP staff to assist in group activities. Several projects have been supported or are due to be supported in the coming months. An example of the impact that this liaison has had is in respect of the Taraggan Project, a community allotment scheme in Bargoed. The project secured funding to expand the site by 100%. With the assistance of DWP staff the deadline for the official opening of the developed site has been achieved.

In respect of Best Practice, a meeting was recently held at Hafod Deg, Rhymney involving representatives from Caerphilly CBC, DWP, Communities First Upper Rhymney Valley, Growing Spaces and the Volunteering Centre. The discussions were in respect of the Growing Spaces Project. The Project supports individuals with mild or moderate mental health issues with a view to the individual regaining their confidence and ultimately gaining employment. At present the participants have no structures in place for them to move on once they are ready. This discussion group developed a simple plan that will result in referral to the likes of DWP for work experience or Volunteering for new challenges at the appropriate stage of the individual's development. Growing Spaces are also developing new projects in other areas in the borough,

where these new principles will be adopted. Ultimately the objective is to improve employability and reduce the impact of mental health issues across the communities.

Youth Volunteering

During the reporting period Caerphilly Youth Volunteering registered 94 individuals making enquiries into volunteering and interviewed 60 young people. In 2016-17 a total of 35 individuals were placed, together with 27 of those registering on the Millennium Volunteering Programme.

GAVO's officer continues to work closely with local schools and colleges in promoting youth volunteering and the Millennium Volunteering Programme and partnership working with schools is starting to grow.

Drop in days at Careers Wales (Caerphilly Office) continues. Regular visits to Crosskeys College will commence again from September.

The "Rail Life Ambassadors" volunteering programme was launched in April 2016. Four volunteers joined the programme and all have been signed up to the Millennium Volunteering Programme. This is a rail safety awareness project, recruiting up to 5 volunteers at a time and training them on all aspects of rail safety and the dangers of trespassing and vandalism on the rail network. The volunteers will be recruited as Rail Ambassadors and provide information and advice to the young people within the Caerphilly Borough at events, through youth clubs and schools.

GAVO's officer regularly attends the Youth Progression and Engagement Panel meetings, hosted by the CCBC. This has proven to be a fruitful partnership with the local authority, training and employment support organisations, Careers Wales, local youth workers in schools and colleges and other voluntary organisations providing youth support.

Student presentations have been delivered to St Martin's Comprehensive Year 10 group, Rhymney Comprehensive Year 10 (Potential NEET) students. Presentations are also planned in September for Blackwood Comprehensive School and Cwm Rhymni School.

The Millennium Volunteering Programme is continuing to be a successful tool in recruiting young volunteers and providing them with meaningful volunteering activities to become involved within.

Relationships are being forged with local schools and regular meetings are taking place with the Youth Engagement and Progression group. This is providing a great opportunity to showcase our services and provide good practice advice to other organisations.

GAVO Communities First Activity

1. Communities First – Mid Valleys West

CF and CAB team-building session: we led a very positive session with our delivery partners in the Citizens' Advice Bureau alongside Mid Valleys East officers. The afternoon comprised of a number of presentations of each of the projects we offer followed by an overview of CAB services and support. There was widespread agreement that we are largely working with the same client base under the same principles and so our cross-referral rate has the potential to be high. The afternoon was considered a great success by all that attended and we will look to hold similar such sessions with other delivery partners e.g. Flying Start.

St Gwladys' Church Hall Volunteer Evening: we were delighted to be invited to represent GAVO and Communities First at the Volunteer Evening held on 6 June. This was a fantastic opportunity to engage with local residents as well as showcasing GAVO's Volunteer Recognition scheme. Ross was compere for the evening.

Men's Sheds: this is a project that we hope will be a great success in the coming months. An initial opening event was held at Aberbargoed Grasslands Centre to gauge interest in officially setting up a Men's Shed group (the first in Caerphilly County). We will look to work closely with those who have expressed an interest in a variety of activities with a view to providing them with a governance framework and on-going support.

CATWG: we have begun delivering our first CATWG project of the new financial year at Tir y Berth Village Hall with the eager participation of the local Parent Network group. This particular project will focus on horticulture and will provide the Hall with a number of external hanging baskets. There are small areas of the car park that will also be improved with children's play equipment made from recycled tyres.

Parent Network (PETRA) book-writing: we continue with our strong relationship with PETRA, and are currently working on two books. At TARAGGAN, families have linked closely with the Committee to base a book on a hedgehog with the subliminal message focusing on environmental sustainability and encouraging an interesting in the allotments. We secured £2K from internal regeneration budgets to fund the publishing and printing costs. At Tir y Berth Primary School, members of staff and stakeholders undertook training in gender identity to help underpin the ethos of their book – equality. The first couple of sessions with families were well attended and well-received.

Gilfach Fargoed Community Centre: the Technical Assistance grant that was awarded has been carried through by external contractors, with a specification for the kitchen now drawn up, ready to go out to tender. We are hopeful of a refit in the coming quarter and are in the process of building a relationship with the Authority's WHQS contractor, with a view to enlisting their support via their 'community benefit' packages and possibly providing significant assistance in the refit as a good will gesture.

2. Communities First Caerphilly Basin

Lansbury Matters: we have continued in supporting Lansbury Matters in delivering their projects and helping them to identify funding and training.

Parent Network: We are working in partnership with the Parent Network we supported St James Parent Network with the book launch (Dream Upon A Rainbow) which took place on Saturday 11th June at Caerphilly Library, this was very well attended. We have also supported the groups in credited training.

GDAS: Drug and Alcohol Support are now doing a drop in session on a weekly basis in the Communities First office.

Gwent Police: Gwent Police have continued to carry out their monthly surgery within the Communities First Office. We have been working in partnership with the PCSO's to promote their surgeries.

Families and School Together (FAST) Cwm Ifor Primary School FASTWORKS is still continuing to meet up on a monthly basis to carry out activities with families within their local

school. In May the group organised the Dinosaur Educational workshop, this gave the children the opportunity to meet Ronnie the Dinosaur and learn all about his background. In 2015 they did a taster session in Roller Skating, Two members of the group are keen to set this up as a social enterprise project, to run regular roller skating sessions across the borough, discussions are currently taking place on how to move this project forward.

Cwm Ifor Primary School PTA: We have continued to support the PTA in helping out with their events and helping them to identify training.

Us Girls Project: This project is a sports charity offering sports and volunteering opportunities to young people in disadvantaged communities, with the support from Communities First the Us Girls will be running weekly session in Plas Y Felin Primary School. We have identified two volunteers from Lansbury Park who will help out with these sessions. The Van Centre in Lansbury Park also hold a weekly session that is well attended

Little Stars: Little Stars is a physical activity group that takes place in St James School on a weekly basis, aged 5-10yrs. Up to 20 to 30 children attend on a regular basis. Two volunteers from Lansbury Park deliver these sessions, we are working closely with the volunteers ensuring that they receive training and have the relevant paper work in place such as policies and procedures,

St James Primary School / St Martins School: A successful planning day took place in St Martins School. The planning day was all about family learning we are going to be providing family learning opportunities to year 6 and year 7s.

3. Communities First – Mid Valleys East

Together project: This project is based loosely around a FAST model but will take place in our horticultural site in Pontllanfraith and will address family skills and confidence.

Family history project: This project at Markham primary school linking with the centenary project in a build up to the launch of their website as a route into engagement with local families.

Waunfawr park mini play day: Plans are underway for the mini play day at Waunfawr park in partnership with a number of organisations, at this point we are looking at providing a range of activities at the event such as den building, giant jenga, water tubes and health based activities.

Adult Education project: Adult education project is progressing well with Q1 targets being met, accreditation ranges from OCN in horticulture through to food hygiene and first aid. As well as the accredited courses we are currently offering child protection and POVA as a recommended course that participants attend.

Argoed Baptist Church: Official acceptance letter from CFAP has now been signed with in excess of £500,000 of grant funding being awarded for Phase 3 of the building project and also the night shelter project. The works should start in August and last for 8 months.

Group support: Support continues for a number of community groups in the cluster with support ranging from governance advice through to funding and development of larger projects. We have been involved with Panside PART and the P.T.A. to support the delivery of their activities and allow us further engagement opportunities.

4. Communities First Upper Rhymney Valley

Broadening Horizons: For our third Broadening Horizons project we had 4 participants from Phillipstown and one volunteer (who had previously been a participant). The project had good outcomes- all participants noticed an improvement in their positivity and mental wellbeing, all commented on how the experience had improved their confidence, and 2 participants have now taken regular local volunteering opportunities. We also carried out our first community asset mapping exercise with the group (see attached case study). The Fourth Broadening Horizons project commenced in June with 4 participants from Rhymney and Pontlottyn. 2 of the participants are male. Discussions have taken place with Abertyswg Flying Start to possibly roll out Broadening Horizons within their setting in September.

New Streetgames in Phillipstown: After a group of community members approached us about setting up a new activity for children we were able to connect them with the Streetgames team. We had several positive discussions and were able to arrange Safeguarding Training for 10 volunteers. 2 very successful taster sessions were advertised and run with over 40 local children attending. Streetgames now runs every Friday from the community centre with a pool of volunteers. We are working with the Community Centre Committee to put in for a Community Chest grant for some new sports equipment.

Walking Group: We now have 2 successful walking groups running from Rhymney and New Tredegar once a week. The walks are used as a way of engaging with community members and helping signpost/refer them onto new services or organisations as a result of relationship and conversation. Positive outcomes include: a new foodbank volunteer, a new Broadening Horizons participant, a referral onto the physical activity officer, and a meeting with a walking group member and RDP to discuss a potential new business idea.

Fochriw Allotment Project: After an initial setback on this project because of the site being vandalised, we are now working in partnership with Groundwork for a 6 week family gardening project. One of the parents has taken the initiative to organise a community collection for plants for the school playground, and after discussion with her and the headteacher, she has taken on the role of volunteer project assistant. After the initial 6 week planting project we will work with her to gather a local group of parents to keep the maintenance of the garden going and continue the project.

The 'Making Space' Project: We are giving heavy support to St Dingats 'Making Space' Project in way of Community Engagement advice and Grant Support. The project has raised funds already of over £500,000. Continuing support given in way of grants research and supporting the team

To note: Although now improving, there has been a significant barrier recently in Welsh language translation as each piece of marketing for Communities First requires full translation. There has been a back-log internally in the local authority which is now beginning to clear.

Healthier

GAVO's Health and Social Care Co-ordinator supported a coproduction event in partnership with Aneurin Bevan Health Board at Derwendeg Primary School, Hengoed, engaging third sector organisations and GAVO Volunteer Bureau. This was an event to engage parents with the wider community. Feedback from the HB suggests it was a successful event

A workshop hosted by the Bevan Commission was attended with regard to developing a new patient engagement model across Wales-Bevan Advocates. Shared current activity in the Gwent areas including ongoing work with the Gwent Public Health Team to inform the way forward.

Promoted and contributed to a number of user focus groups and consultations including;

- Social Care and Cancer
- Tier 1 Foundation Mental Health Services
- Care to Cooperate Workshops with a focus on self-directed care/direct payments and user led support services.

GAVO's Co-ordinator organised Caerphilly Health and Social Care Quarterly meeting in May. Topics included the Dewis Cymru portal (presentation), briefings on SSWB Act developments and training and resources available through Caerphilly Workforce Development and the Care Council for Wales Hub, consultation focus group to support the development of Tier 1 Foundation Mental Health Services and the HB's CAre Closer to Home initiative. Providers contributed case studies to contribute to the report from the Healthier theme e.g. Care and Repair, Tyfu Café and Alzheimer's Dementia Friendly Communities Initiative.

Effecting engagement with the Gwent Provider Forum as a member of the Provider Forum Steering Group, providers recently attending a Gwent Commissioning event 8th July. Currently organising 2 workshops on behalf of the Provider Forum with one scheduled for CCBC at the New Cottage dance Centre in September.

Sharing best practice with regards to citizen centred care, meetings held with CCB to scope out the potential for adapting the Cardiff and Vale Shared Well initiative. Conference call held with the PHW lead in Cardiff to arrange a visit to explore further. It is likely third sector providers will be invited to look at the feasibility of delivery in the Borough probably for older people.

Third sector is engaged and contributing to populating the Dewis Cymru online Directory. HSC Coordinator is the third sector representative on the Gwent Dewis regional group, the National User Group and the third sector editor for Caerphilly Borough. The HSC Coordinator has established a CVC editors group developed an action plan and invited TVA editors to join the group to coordinate and oversee the third sector element of Dewis resources. This will support feedback on progress to the National User Group.

Third sector contributes service information to support the 3 NCNs in Caerphilly borough via the HSC Coordinator and also presenting service information to NCN meetings. The HSC Coordinator is also coordinating information to be displayed in different media for GP practices in the 3 NCN clusters. A meeting is scheduled in August with the Clinical lead for the South to discuss further engagement with the third sector in relation to the NCN priorities. The third sector is contributing to influencing the priorities for Social Care Wales (new body replacing the Care Council and CSSIW via a focus group).

Sunflower project

The Sunflower team attended the ABuHB Volunteer Recognition Event on 9th June and the project was runner up in one of the categories. Sunflower staff attended a course and are now Dementia Champions.

The Sunflower Project is in its final year and meetings are being held to discuss the final evaluation to be carried out. In the last year, we have appointed a succession planning and expansion officer to scope possibilities of project sustainability and expansion due to the success of the project. The Big Lottery invited us to apply for further funding, accepting a stage one proposal and then inviting a full detailed stage two project plan which has been developed.

The aim of this project proposal is to further develop Sunflower volunteer befriending services within Gwent. Offering specialist services and realising geographic expansion the project will offer a parity of opportunity across health care facilities in Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly and Monmouthshire, namely:

- Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan
- Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr
- Redwood Memorial Hospital
- Chepstow Community Hospital
- Monnow Vale Health & Social Care Centre.

This extension will be delivered in partnership with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB), Local Authority Social Services Workers and other third sector providers.

Consultation has taken place with a number of stakeholders in preparing the project plan which sustains the existing teams in Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly and as set out above expands delivery into Chepstow and Monnow Vale.

This has been circulated to all PSB members for consultation and comment and the stage two bid has now been submitted to the Big Lottery.

Learning

GAVO's training programme for the Spring/Summer period was produced and distributed for circulation in February.

This period, GAVO delivered 10 courses to 93 learners. The target for the 2016/17 period is 20 courses and 200 learners. Forecast for the delivery to meet targets is likely to be more for the year end. Planned training across the county has received interest from community groups and organisations within the area. The relationship with the CF teams in Caerphilly is really good with much interest in the delivery of training for the July to August period. We were targeted with delivering a mixture of accredited and non-accredited training. Of the training mentioned above, there were 3 x accredited courses with 34 participants attending.

These courses have included CIEH paediatric first aid Level 3 and 2 EPP Agored registered courses. Other courses delivered in Caerphilly have included committee skills, several Child Protection Awareness courses, basic first aid and POVA Awareness. This success is due to the close working arrangements with the development team in GAVO and that the training officers attend network events and forums within the Caerphilly County area. The team also attend on a regular basis the Education & Training Forum which involves other agencies and organisations across the training sector and are now involved in the ESF Strategic Steering Group.

GAVO's Training Team attend the POVA Trainers Network event that has been developed by the Caerphilly Workforce Development Officers. Both members of the Training Team are PQASSO Mentors and have attended a follow up trainers meeting in North Wales to work through some of the issues faced with the allocated groups during the training days with these groups.

The training team represent GAVO at the Social Services Training network events and are members of the SEWCSB and GWASB training sub-groups. All training content for delivery has recently been reviewed and both DH and JB are had input to ensure that the training content is also relevant to Third Sector organisations. Recently, the team have met with other training providers with the purpose of joint and collaborative work in readiness for future tenders. It is hoped that the team will be successful in bids for work and that they will then take the lead and sub-contract work out as and when the need arises.

Play Team 0-3's

Play Delivery Officer posts are undertaking an ILM level 5 in leadership and management which is enhancing their practices within the Creative Play team and throughout the GAVO organisation offering standardised middle management.

Within this first quarter three volunteers have been through the induction process to volunteer within the Pop in and Play groups and are due to start once their references and DBS checks are in place.

Staff within Creative Play completed a speech and language course over an 8 week period which has had a huge impact on their work practices. They have applied their learning into their communication with children in their settings and have advised parents and even used their new skills and confidence to make referrals where needed for additional support.

Some of the Pop in and Play group numbers have decreased over the past few months for a number of reasons. Some of the communities who are hard to engage have been a challenge and at one point no one was attending. Staff have been given mini projects within their role to increase the capacity and participation in particular community areas. Their roles will be to ensure we are offering our services in the right place and time, what other services are available in the area and to contact parents directly to break down barriers and build up trust. We have already seen a rise in numbers at some of the setting and will be acting on the research results from staff by Oct 2016.

In all of the groups we have noticed that the children's speech and language has developed since the introduction of a Tap Tap box while singing. A lot of the parents have also commented that they have made a Tap Tap box at home for their child because they love it so much. This shows the impact of the group for children at home.

6. Contacts

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Third Sector Development Manager Caerphilly
Community Planning Co-ordinator Caerphilly
Health & Social Care Coordinator Caerphilly
Caerphilly Volunteering Team
Training Team

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

REPORT BY: OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Members with an items of interest report to the Voluntary Sector from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.

2. REPORT

2.1 Strategic Direction for Gwent Police Force

Mr Cuthbert, the Commissioner, has said that his thoughts on the current direction of travel make it implicit that the following are key considerations:

- Improving further partnership working with other public services and the voluntary sector to support joint working with the work of Gwent Police in preventing crime;
- Building and maintaining cohesion and communication with all communities within Gwent so that people feel confident that the Police understand their varied needs;
- Examine police visibility and accessibility with the Chief Constable to ensure that uniformed presence is organised and deployed as effectively as possible;
- Getting the balance right between provision and reassurance, which includes having well located Police Stations and the utilisation of all modern forms of communication and transport to ensure officers can provide an efficient and effective service; and Building a strong and positive relationship with the Welsh Government to ensure that effective schemes which support policing, such as the numbers of PCSOs in Gwent, are maintained.

2.2 Police and Crime Priorities Consultation 2016

Gwent Police Crime Commissioner Jeff Cuthbert is required to ensure that all the people who live in Gwent have an efficient and effective police service and he has a legal duty to set the police and crime priorities which will help shape and develop his Police and Crime Plan for Gwent 2017/21. With this in mind, Mr Cuthbert has officially launched his two month long 'Talk to Me about Your Policing Service' consultation and wants the views of residents, community groups, businesses and partners to inform his strategic policing priorities.

2.3 The Proposed priorities are:

Priority 1 Crime Prevention - working with partner organisations and the communities to prevent people becoming victims of crime;

Priority 2 Provide Support for Victims of Crime - with a focus on preventing serious harm and providing excellent support to the victims of serious harm;

Priority 3 Community Cohesion - For the Police to continue to work closely with communities to tackle hate crime and to encourage more effective action and support from

local and national organisations to help communities work together better;

Priority 4 Dealing with Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) - ensuring the Police works closely with organisations to deal with ASB effectively;

Priority 5 Effective Service Delivery - ensuring the delivery of a good policing service that is easily accessible and meets victim's needs.

- 2.4 The police and crime priorities will help shape and develop the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan for Gwent. The PCC has a statutory duty to draw up a new Police and Crime Plan for the period 2017-20 by the end of March next year.

The consultation will only take a few minutes to complete on the following link:

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=147023653030>

2.5 **Safer Gwent**

Established by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Gwent last year, the Safer Gwent group works with key community safety partners across the five local authority areas and provides an organised and joined-up approach to achieve better outcomes in tackling issues such as anti-social behaviour (ASB), preventing reoffending and supporting victims.

- 2.6 Kate Williams, the Equalities, Cohesion and Community Safety Manager for Torfaen Council has been appointed as the new Chair of Safer Gwent and Chief Superintendent Emma Ackland, the Head of Neighbourhood Policing and Partnerships for Gwent Police, has been appointed as the Vice Chair for the next two years.
- 2.7 Safer Gwent meets bi-monthly and aims to work with member partners to collectively address regional safety issues that impact on local communities. Recent work has addressed our approach across the region for dealing with ASB. The review concentrated on being able to assist, support and resolve the issue for the victim whether that be through support, intervention, problem solving or investigation. Safer Gwent has developed a consistent approach to dealing with ASB across the region.
- 2.8 Through its agreed strategic priorities and by using existing funding opportunities, Safer Gwent also supports the commissioning of community safety services and to date has awarded over half a million pounds (£560,981) towards a range of projects including funding for Substance Misuse and Victim Worker posts for the three Youth Offending Services in Gwent; the provision of a regional Independent Domestic Violence Advisor for Gwent and money to continue the work of the Positive Futures sports inclusion programme throughout the region - part of which aims to prevent and divert young people away from crime and anti-social behaviour.
- ## 2.9 **Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service (GDAS)**
- Launched over a year ago, GDAS works with substance misusers who refer into treatment voluntarily or come into contact with the criminal justice system. The service is funded by the Gwent Substance Misuse Area Planning Board with pooled funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Gwent, the Welsh Government, all of the Local Authorities in Gwent, the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and the National Offender Management Service.
- 2.10 The criminal justice element of GDAS is called Gwent IRIS and was established to specifically engage with, support and manage individuals with substance misuse problems involved in the criminal justice system. This element of GDAS is provided by the security company G4S within a consortium led by the drug and alcohol prevention, support and recovery providers, Kaleidoscope. Over 400 offenders were referred to the programme for clinical treatment between May last year and March this year with 125 completing their treatment successfully whilst others were referred for additional support.

2.11 **Partnership Fund**

Gwent PCC Jeff Cuthbert's Partnership Fund was open for bids from charities, voluntary organisations and community groups involved in activities that have a positive impact on their communities in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. The closing date for applications was Friday 22nd July 2016. The applications received are currently being assessed.

2.12 Since the Partnership Fund was launched by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner three and a half years ago, nearly £500,000 has been awarded to 150 community projects across Gwent. The money retrieved has usually been stolen or obtained through illegal means such as drug dealing.

Author: Maria Chapman, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Gwent

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VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

REPORT BY: NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Members with an items of interest report to the Voluntary Sector from Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

2. REPORT

2.1 **NRW Activities and delivery in the Caerphilly county borough involving the voluntary sector**

Healthy Rivers Project

NRW grant fund Groundwork Wales 45% of the cost of their Healthy Rivers project. Groundwork Wales work in partnership with South East Wales Rivers Trust and NRW to co-ordinate the removal or modification of barriers to fish migration, gravel augmentation, habitat improvements. A significant amount of this works takes place in the rivers within Caerphilly county borough. Healthy Rivers aims to: protect and enhance the quality of rivers, waterways, riparian habitats and engage with communities through environmental volunteer activities.

Twmbarlwm project

NRW grant fund Caerphilly County Borough Council 45% of their Twmbarlwm project. The project is geared up to create opportunities for volunteers to lead on many projects, and in particular the long-term management of the area.

Sirhowy Valley project

NRW grant fund Caerphilly County Borough Council 47% of the cost of their Sirhowy Valley project. The project is geared up to create opportunities for volunteers to lead on many projects, and in particular the long-term management of the area.

Aberbargoed project

NRW grant fund Caerphilly County Borough Council 50% of their Aberbargoed grasslands project. The project aims to deliver holistic and integrated restoration of the Natura 2000 site and will provide a number of volunteering opportunities.

Community Flood Plans

NRW are working to build community flood plans with several communities across the Caerphilly county borough that are identified be in 'high' flood risk areas. The community flood plan looks at what the community can do before, during and after a flood. The community develop their own actions with our assistance.

NRW have one community active flood plan in Ynysddu in place, and one ongoing in Machen. In the Caerphilly county borough this work is currently mainly done in conjunction with the Local Authority and local Councillors, but in other areas NRW's have in the past worked with voluntary sector organisations. This year NRW will be starting to work in the Ystrad Mynach and Llanbradach areas, and will be soon seeking to identify voluntary sector groups to work with.

3. SPECIFIC VOLUNTARY SECTOR ORGANISATIONS NRW WORK WITH

Keep Wales Tidy

NRW regularly interact with Keep Wales Tidy within the Caerphilly county borough; with Keep Wales Tidy providing assistance on small scale fly tipping and retrieving litter from water courses.

SE Wales Rivers Trust

NRW work with the SE Rivers trust on a number of projects, such as; Healthy Rivers.

Fly life, river groups and other 'friends of' groups

Fly life do regular monitoring water courses in the area and provide NRW with information with regards to water quality. This assists NRW in identifying potential problems early. River groups, such as Cardiff River Group and Friends of Nant Cylla assist with river clean ups and blockage removals on water courses, normally via Keep Wales Tidy. NRW work with other community groups, such as; Friends of Cwmcarn Forest.

Angling Clubs

NRW provide support to a number of angling clubs from the Sustainable Fisheries Fund to provide improvements such as the construction of accessible fishing platforms, stocking of fish and habitat improvement. These often run angling participation programs within their local communities. Within the Caerphilly county borough NRW has recently provided advice and support to the following clubs:

- Cwmcarn Angling Association
- Rhymney and District Angling Association
- Islwyn and District Anglers
- Caerphilly and District Anglers.

4. OTHER GROUPS NRW WORK WITH

- 4.1 NRW also sit on wider partnership working groups for example with the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Caerphilly County Borough Council and a variety of local voluntary sector stakeholders around the "large scale change" and "living well living longer" projects, and also sit on the Greener Caerphilly Leadership Group of the Single Integrated Plan 'Caerphilly Delivers'.

Author: Jacob Birch - Rhymney & Ebbw Natural Resource Management Team Leader, Natural Resources Wales



VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE - 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING JULY TO
SEPTEMBER 2016**

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee Member with the Community Strategy Quarterly Briefing July to September 2016 for information.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The briefing reports the activities of delivering the outcome areas for *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* for community planning between July to September 2016.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* is the pre-eminent partnership document for the Caerphilly county borough, which sets out a plan for improving quality of life for local people and communities. The Single Integrated Plan focuses on five outcome areas: Prosperous Caerphilly, Safer Caerphilly, Healthier Caerphilly, Learning Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly. A wide range of public, private, voluntary and community organisations are engaged in the community planning process.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Appendix 1 contains the Community Planning Briefing for July to September 2016. This is a quarterly briefing designed to give everyone involved in the community planning process across the Caerphilly county borough, as well as wider audiences, an overview of progress with implementing *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of community planning, and is an integral part of *Caerphilly Delivers the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017*.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council is a major contributor in both financial and human resources to the community planning process.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The report is for information and not consultation.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The report is for information only.

10. STATUTORY POWER

10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix - Policy Officer, CCBC

Consultees: The information provided in the briefing is supplied by officers for the **Caerphilly Delivers** outcome areas.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Community Strategy Quarterly Briefing July to September 2016



Appendix 1 Community Planning Quarterly Briefing July to September 2016

Welcome to this quarterly community planning briefing designed to give everyone involved with *Caerphilly Delivers - The Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017* an overview of progress on delivering the priorities of the five outcomes: Prosperous Caerphilly; Safer Caerphilly; Learning Caerphilly; Healthier Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly. Information has been supplied by the officers coordinating delivery on the outcomes, so please feel free to get in touch directly with the named officers for further information.

Community Planning (Jackie Dix, Alison Palmer & Paul Cooke)
communityplanning@caerphilly.gov.uk

CAERPHELLY COUNTY BOROUGH ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL WELL-BEING

Central to the Caerphilly county borough approach in undertaking the Future Generations assessment of local well-being has been engaging with our Caerphilly Public Services Board partner organisations, Compact Partners through our Compact Agreement with the third sector, local people and communities. The *Caerphilly We Want* conversation kicked off at the Caerphilly Local Service Board Standing Conference on 22nd March 2016. This has been followed by various events including: View Point Panel Session with local residents on 11th July 2016; and community engagements events in the Upper Rhymney Valley held 28th July 2016; Mid Valleys East held 11th August 2016 and Mid Valleys West held 25th August 2016.

Forth coming events are:

- **Caerphilly Basin and Aber Valley** at the Vanguard Centre on 7th September from 10am to 1pm
- **Lower Sirhowy Valley/Lower Islwyn** at Cross Keys College on 20th September at 6pm to 8pm
- **Future Scenarios Planning Event** at Penallta House on 20th September from 9:45am to 1pm

Places are allocated on a first come, first serve basis. For more information or to book a place please call 01443 866391 or e-mail doylevm@caerphilly.gov.uk

The conversation will be concluded at an event of the Caerphilly Public Services Board Standing Conference on 14th October 2016. Thereafter the Caerphilly County Borough Assessment of Local Well-being will be drafted for publication by March 2017.

Please contact the relevant co-ordinator if you require further information on any of the above or Community Planning, Penallta House Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach CF82 7PG Page 45



Local residents are also being encouraged to submit their views through a Future Generations Questionnaire Survey to inform the assessment of local well-being and help the Caerphilly Public Services Board plan for the needs of the Caerphilly county borough up to 2040. Below are links to both an English and Welsh online consultation, with hard copies available on request (please call 01443 864447)

Please note the survey closes on 30 September 2016.

English questionnaire survey link:

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=147091329202>

Welsh questionnaire survey link:

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=147142984507>

Healthier Caerphilly (Tracey Deacon, Public Health Wales)
HSCWB@caerphilly.gov.uk

PUBLIC HEALTH WALES have recently published two reports that provide evidence based research to inform the prevention of ill-health and reduction of inequalities. These reports support the development of the Future Generations assessment of local well-being.

1. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study

This report is one in a series identifying the substantial negative impacts that adverse experiences during childhood have on an individual's physical and mental health. Childhood stressors, collectively called ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) arise not only from the abuse and neglect of children, but also where children grow up in households where they are routinely exposed to issues such as domestic violence, alcohol and other substance misuse.

Exposure to ACEs can alter how children's brains develop as well as changing the development of their immunological and hormonal systems. Subsequently those with greater exposure to ACEs are more likely to go on to develop health-harming and anti-social behaviours, often during adolescents, such as binge drinking, smoking and drug use. Ultimately such poor health and social behaviours means individuals progress more rapidly to develop diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and mental ill health. ACEs are not just a concern for health, as experiencing ACEs means individuals are more likely to perform poorly in school, more likely to be involved in crime and ultimately less likely to be a productive member of society.

People who experience ACEs as children often end up trying to raise children in households where ACEs are more common. Such a cycle of childhood adversity can lock successive generations of families into poor health and anti-social behaviour for generations; addressing ACEs can therefore benefit future generations. The study showed:

- Experiencing **four** or more harmful experiences in childhood increases the chances of high-risk drinking in adulthood by **four** times, being a smoker by **six** times and being involved in violence in the last year by around **14** times.
- Around one in every seven adults aged 18-69 years in Wales had experienced **four** or more Adverse Childhood Experiences during their childhood and just under half had experienced at least one.
- Those living in areas of deprivation are at greater risk of experiencing multiple ACEs.

2. Making a Difference: Investing in Sustainable Health and Well Being for the People of Wales

This report highlights 10 key areas for action that Wales should prioritise to enable significant improvements in health and well-being, a reduction in inequalities, and a maximum return on investment for the economy. The report makes the case that investing in the prevention of poor health would result in healthy population, outcomes and far-reaching benefits across all aspects of society and lives.

These benefits include improving educational attainment for young people, increasing employability, and reducing the risk of criminal activity and ill-health in later life. Such an approach would also result in real cost savings, and deliver short and long-term benefits to society, communities and the economy.

Some examples of key savings outlined in the report include:

- Anti-bullying interventions in schools could return £15 to taxpayers for every £1 spent
- Improving mental health in the workplace could produce annual savings of £250,607 for an organisation with 1000 employees
- £1.35 would be returned for every £1 spent on targeted flu vaccination
- Increasing cycling and walking in urban areas could save £0.9 billion for the NHS in Wales over 20 years.

Learning Caerphilly (Sarah Mutch)

familiesfirst@caerphilly.gov.uk

PLAY DAYS

Families First, Communities First, Supporting People and Flying Start in partnership with the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations play team, have delivered four Play in the Park events at Waunfawr, Ystrad Mynach, Rhymney Parks and The Hanger at Aberbargoed, which were well attended by families, children and young people. The big Play Day event hosted in Morgan Jones Park reached nearly 3000 people, despite the poor weather.

ANTI POVERTY PROGRAMMES COMMISSIONING OPPORTUNITIES

Families First, Communities First, Supporting People and Flying Start commissioning opportunities are now being looked at across the four anti-poverty programmes for services to be delivered from April 2017. The **Joint Assessment Family Framework** (JAFF) has been developed and is in draft format, along with guidance notes for completion of the JAFF. The JAFF will be used for all referrals for families into the anti-poverty programmes for preventative work, i.e. Families First, Supporting People and Flying Start. The Communities First Pupils Deprivation Grant funding is no longer funded through Welsh Government some interventions have unfortunately been discontinued.

CASE STUDY FROM BRIDGES INTO WORK 2 (BIW2)

Participant V H expressed an interest in the BIW2 project during a promotional session at a basic skills class in the Caerphilly county borough. VH had been unemployed for over 4 years

and economically inactive. During the sessions VH was helped to set up a Universal Job Match Account and develop his CV and uploaded on to relevant job search sites.

VH was concerned about his financial situation so was referred to the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) for support. During the CAB session an appointment with the job centre was arranged to see an advisor about VH signing up to claim Job Seekers Allowance. This was successful, and VH was able to claim almost straight away.

Since VH has been working with the BIW2 he has attended First Aid and Manual Handling courses. VH also showed an interest in becoming a local befriender with the Dementia Awareness Society and has carried out the taster course to raise awareness and refresh his current skills.

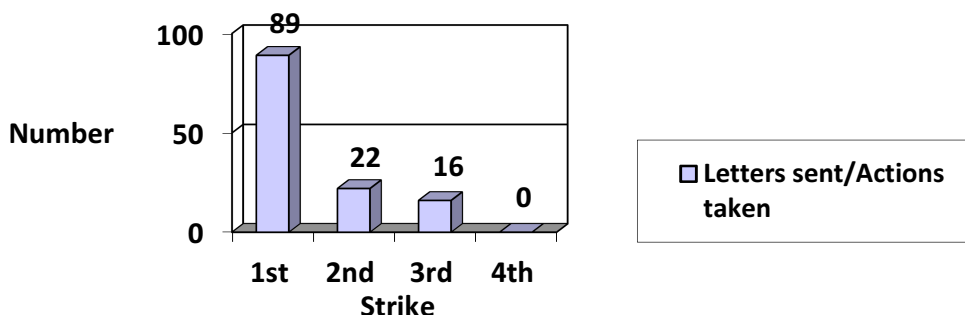
During the sessions VH has been supported when applying for jobs and encouraged to apply for appropriate ones linked to his skills and experience. VH was successful with one particular application form where he had an interview and consequently got the job as a Care Support Worker for New Bridges Care Home. VH is currently being supported during his journey into employment.

Safer Caerphilly (Natalie Kenny)

safercbc@caerphilly.gov.uk

SAFER CAERPHILLY ANTI-SOCIAL 4 STRIKE PROCESS

4 Strike Figures April 2016 - June 2016



The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 commenced on 20th October 2014. This legislation introduced a range of new tools and powers to address anti-social behaviour. The well-established Safer Caerphilly Anti-Social Behaviour 4 Strike Process used in the Caerphilly county borough remains relatively unchanged, but has incorporated the changes brought about by the 2014 Act. This is a multi-agency process which seeks to address perpetrators of anti-social behaviour (ASB) whilst also providing support to victims and witnesses. Throughout April 2016 to June 2016 the following number of interventions to address ASB took place:

These figures illustrate the success of the first 3 strikes of the process (which include letters to the perpetrator, acceptable behavior contracts, mentoring programmes and support from various agencies including Housing, Social Services, Education, Youth Services and Positive Futures) in deterring future ASB. Under the previous legislation the Anti-Social Behaviour Order was utilised at the Strike 4 stage. However, under the new legislation the Civil Injunction is now used by Safer Caerphilly for individuals who fail to engage with the process or to moderate their behaviour. During April 2016 to June 2016 no injunctions were sought through the courts.

SAFER CAERPHILLY TWITTER

The Safer Caerphilly Partnership Twitter account @SaferCaerphilly continues to gain followers and provide community safety messages and updates whilst also promoting the Safer Caerphilly brand. From April 2016 to June 2016 the @SaferCaerphilly Twitter page was visited a total of 4,883 times, and Tweets earned a total of 43.5k impressions, equating to Safer Caerphilly tweets being seen by 478 individuals per day.

DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW (DHR)

DHRs were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. The Act creates an expectation for local areas to undertake a multi-agency review following a domestic violence homicide. This provision came into force on 13th April 2011. On the 3rd May 2016, there was a domestic violence homicide incident within Caerphilly county borough area. It is the responsibility of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to determine if the case should be subject to a Domestic Homicide Review, to inform the family and the Home Office of this decision and to set up a review panel to include the statutory members of the CSP and other relevant agencies.

The Community Safety partners met, and agreed that the case met the threshold to proceed. The CSP are now in the process of appointing an independent Chair to undertake the review. A tendering process to appoint the independent Chair through the Council's Procurement Process is currently being carried out. The review will commence in September 2016 and will be completed within a 6 month timescale subject to the ongoing investigation into the incident.

DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

In 2007 the Community Safety Partnership opened a *one-stop-shop* for domestic abuse for victims of domestic abuse and their families to seek appropriate help and advice that they may need at the multi-agency center (MAC) based at Cameron House in Ystrad Mynach. Unfortunately funding for the lease for the building could not be secured past August 2016. Therefore the domestic abuse agencies based at the MAC will need to find alternative accommodation. Llamau are in the process of moving to a building in Caerphilly town and have offered space for the Caerphilly Independent Domestic Violence Advocate to move her local service there. This will ensure that domestic abuse victims will continue to have a local service from agencies.

If you would like any information on the work of Safer Caerphilly please contact Natalie Kenny on: 01495 235442 or e-mail: Safercaerphilly@caerphilly.gov.uk

Greener Caerphilly (Paul Cooke)

sustainabledevelopment@caerphilly.org.uk

Outcome G1 – Improving local environmental quality

Healthy Rivers programme

The Healthy Rivers programme has been continued into 2016-17, with partners actively working on projects across the Caerphilly county borough. In partnership with Groundwork Healthy Rivers Project and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Trelyn Primary School in Pengwm

successfully raised their Salmon eggs (from NRW hatchery at Cynrig) in their classroom. On 6th July 2016 the children released their Salmon Fry into the Rhymney by their school. They also got the opportunity to try kick sampling and were involved in an electrofishing demonstration on the river to show them what else lives in their river. Brown trout, Salmon and Bullhead were caught.

Outcome G2 – Reducing the causes of, and adapting to the effects of Climate Change

Sirhowy Valley Honey BEES (Bees Educating Eco Schools)

The SVH BEES project is a partnership project between Ynysddu Primary School, the Sirhowy Valley Honeybee Company and the Caerphilly County Borough Council Sustainable Development Team, to install an interactive viewable bee hive house in the school grounds of Ynysddu Primary School. The beehive house is split into two sections, one section is the interactive part, where there are three bee hives and space for the children, who will be wearing bee suits, to work with the bees and learn about bee keeping and the importance of pollinators. The other section is the viewing area, where pupils can watch the bees and the pupils working with the bees without having to be in the same area as the bees. There is also a sealed observation hive in the viewing area so the pupils can see inside a hive without having to be in the bee area.

The project will help to improve the local environment and help save the local bee population and support pollination, whilst educating the local community and schools. It will encourage schools to incorporate learning about pollinators/ honeybees in the curriculum, to support the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework.

Schools have the opportunity to visit the interactive bee hive house to take part in an interactive workshop, where the pupils learn how to manage and maintain the beehives. The workshops will include learning about:

Why bees are important Pollinators
How to approach a bee hive
Honey and how it is made
How to behave around bees
Life in a hive –how the bees work/ live
Prevent swarming
Protective bee suits

The workshops commenced in April 2016 to allow school groups to learn about the importance of pollinators, honeybees and bee keeping. Groups of up to 15 pupils plus staff can participate in each workshop.

G3. Maximising the use of the environment for health benefits

Support and promote water related activities

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) have stocked the pond at Cwmcarn Forest Drive with coarse fish, including Carp, Rudd and Roach. This has enabled the local fishing club to hold regular Saturday morning drop in sessions for taster angling sessions to increase the number of people participating in the sport. NRW have also stocked Pen y Fan Pond with brown trout from their hatchery.



PRIDE Cymru

Caerphilly County Borough Council shared a stand at Pride Cymru on 13th August in Cardiff as part of a consortium of equalities officers from Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, Torfaen County Borough Council, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, Swansea City Council, Carmarthenshire County Borough Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council and South Wales Fire and Rescue Service. The organisations used the opportunity to survey attendees at the event to ask them **How can we provide better services?** The event was an opportunity to show the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) community that we fully support and promote mutual respect and equal access to services regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Caerphilly County Borough Council Commendation from Stonewall

Stonewall, Britain's lesbian, gay, bi and trans equality charity has named Caerphilly County Borough Council as the *most improved local authority* in Britain for tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying and celebrating difference in its schools. This comes as the Charity published the *Stonewall Education Equality Index 2016*, listing the top 10 local authorities in Britain. The Index measures practice and policy at all of the participating local authorities. 50 local authorities submitted entries to the 2016 Index, which is the most competitive to date.

Caerphilly County Borough Council impressed with its dedication to promoting mutual respect and equal access to services for all young people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. All schools in the local authority have been provided with written guidance in accordance with their duties and responsibilities in relation to prejudice-based bullying. The Council explicitly states in written documents that schools must address and monitor all forms of bullying including homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying, and joint work is currently underway to produce guidance for schools in relation to management of trans issues. This includes a range of lessons developed to address bullying and including LGBT issues across the curriculum.

Caerphilly County Borough Council has also developed a panel with a primary function to ensure that key specified agencies work together in partnership to ensure that Caerphilly County Borough Council is a safe, happy environment for all young people.

Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer, Caerphilly County Borough Council said:

We have taken part in the Stonewall Education Equality Index for two years and we value the opportunity to audit our work annually and work against an action plan to continually improve our practices. The Index challenges us to ensure that we are moving forward with this work and making a difference to LGBT young people on a county wide level.

Cllr Derek Havard, Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning added:

Caerphilly Council is delighted that the valuable work being undertaken has been recognised by Stonewall

Andrew White, Director, Stonewall Cymru said:

Caerphilly have put an outstanding effort into their Education Equality Index submission this year, and we're thrilled that they have been awarded Stonewall's Most Improved Local

Authority. We have a fantastic network of Education Champion local authorities who have all achieved some excellent work and we are very proud that one of them has received recognition across Britain.

Link to: Stonewall Education Equality Index 2016 -

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/sites/default/files/education_equality_index_2016.pdf

50+ Positive Action (Mandy Keenan)

50plus@caerphilly.gov.uk

Dignity, Respect and Age Equality

A number of useful resources have been made available to the public, residents groups and forums across Wales via the new [50+ Positive Action](#) page on the Caerphilly County Borough Council's website. For example there are is a *Tidy Gin* games pack with quizzes, word search and Dignity Scrabble and the *Dignity Do's & don'ts Snakes & Ladders Game*.

Caerphilly County Borough 50+ forum

- The Forum are working with Rhondda Cynon Taf 50+ Forum to make a Digital Story about their 50+ Discount scheme to help them evaluate and promote the scheme
- The Forum are working with Caerphilly County Borough Council's Policy Unit to assist them in the understanding what does *Well-being* mean to our older residents and what would make the biggest difference to their well-being in the future.
- The Forum has drafted responses to a number of consultations including Housing in later life and around regulations on the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- The Forum's next social event and AGM is being held on 3rd November 2016 at Llancaiach Fawr in the afternoon. Further details are available from Mandy Keenan, but it is worth noting Members of the Forum will get a reduced price ticket to the event and also a chance to get a reduction off a tour around the excellent and interesting Llancaiach Fawr Manor.

Living Longer Ageing Well

- The Simon Says cartoons continue to be successful with two different ones now on waste collection lorries traveling the Caerphilly county borough. They can be download from the new [50+ Positive Action](#) page on the Caerphilly County Borough Council's Website.

For more information please contact Mandy Keenan on 01443 864277 or email spragm@caerphilly.gov.uk