



FUTURE GENERATIONS ADVISORY PANEL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN,
ON THURSDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 5:00 PM**

PRESENT:

Councillors:

D. Havard, M. Adams, A. Blackman, C. Elsbury, C.P. Mann, and J.A. Pritchard.

Together with:

Rob Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), Kath Peters (Corporate Policy Manager), Paul Cooke (Senior Policy Officer) and Vicki Doyle (Policy Officer)

Apologies for absence were received for Councillors K. James, L. Jones, P. Leonard, K. Dawson and S. Kent.

1. WELCOME AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Havard welcomed attendees to the meeting. There were no declarations of interest made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING 27TH JULY 2016

The minutes of the meeting of the 27th July 2016 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. CORPORATE REQUIREMENTS UPDATE

Rob Hartshorn updated the Panel on the Council's progress in relation to its own duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act. He explained that he had recently attended a number of meetings internally to share where we are.

He noted that at the moment our corporate priorities are not yet fully aligned with the Act as the Public Services Board's Wellbeing Plan is not yet in place, however we are moving in this direction. He made reference to ICLIP, the 5-ways of working (Involvement, Collaborative, Long-Term, Integrated, Preventative) around the Sustainable Development principle.

He noted that as officers we have begun the process of changing the language around the corporate objectives and are now referring to them as well-being objectives.

There are seven core activities that are common to the corporate governance of public bodies as identified in the statutory guidance:

- Corporate planning
- Financial planning
- Workforce planning
- Procurement
- Assets
- Risk Management
- Performance Management

He discussed the work that is being done around each of the key activities in order for the Council to update the way it works to start to reflect the requirements of the Act. He gave an example in relation to Finance where the Council needs to be thinking 25 years into the future, even though we do not know what the likely budget will be from year to year.

In relation to the Council's decision making processes, he noted that the Corporate Management Team has agreed to amend the corporate reports template on a trial basis. From the 1st October 2016 there will be an extra section for officers to complete in relation to the WFG Act and how they have considered ICLIP in relation to what they are doing. A guidance note has also been developed to support this.

Rob stated that this approach would offer useful evidence for the Council to be able to satisfy the Future Generations Commissioner and the Wales Audit Office that it is embedding the WFG Act within the organisation, and it is also important that officers consider the Act and possible impacts on future generations in what they are doing.

He noted that the Future Generations Advisory Panel was a very important part of this process, and that the existence of this Panel was not evident in all Welsh local authorities.

Cllr Pritchard stated that there will be a big job to do in terms of educating the public about the implications of the WFG Act, and that it needed to be included in the National Curriculum so that children can take control over their own futures. She also made reference to the issue of electoral cycles and associated five year focus.

Paul Cooke noted that a member of his team had already done an exercise to map the WFG Act against different aspects of the curriculum, and it was agreed that this information would be shared with the Panel.

Cllr Mann noted that it was less about words on paper and more about what we actually do. He suggested the need for Directors to come to the Panel and explain how the WFG Act is being integrated into what each department is doing. Rob suggested that the Panel could have a programme to look at key areas in more depth and having more of a debate around the various issues – this suggestion was agreed by the Panel.

4. LOCAL WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT UPDATE – ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND EMERGING PRIORITIES

Paul Cooke described the detailed work that has been undertaken over the summer months to engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including professionals, the Third Sector and the general public, which are summarised below:

- Members of the Corporate Policy Team have organised or attended events such as a Viewpoint Panel meeting, the Armed Forces Day, the Big Cheese and GAVO Play Day.
- A series of five geographically based meetings were held, one in each of the five 'community areas' with a mixture of morning, afternoon and evening sessions.

- A 'Future Scenarios' meeting was held with a wide range of professionals from within the Council and partner organisations.
- Specific groups were targeted including the 50+ Forum, the Parent Network, Looked After Children, job seekers, LGBTQ community, and the Caerphilly Business Forum to name a few.
- A series of workshops packs were produced aimed at children and adults and were distributed to all schools within the county borough and other groups, to enable them to undertake their own workshops sessions and feed the results back
- Finally an on-line survey (with a hard copy version) was produced and publicised via social media.

Paul noted that all the information gathered from this engagement activity is being used to develop the Well-being Assessment, alongside other sources such as the catalogue of data developed by the Data Unit Wales, data held within the Council, and data contributed by partner organisations. He stated that a number of key themes are starting to emerge under the wellbeing goals:

A Prosperous Caerphilly

- Skills and education – low educational attainment
- High levels of long term illness
- Lack of entrepreneurship
- Integrated transport – opportunities offered by the Metro and City Deal

A Resilient Caerphilly

- Balancing protection of greenspace with development needs
- Fly tipping/dog fouling/litter – individual responsibility and respect for the environment
- Climate change – resilience to effects such as flooding; threats to biodiversity
- Longer term global pressures – food, water and energy security

A Healthier Caerphilly

- Inequalities across the county borough
- Wider determinants – Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Lifestyle behaviours – exercise, diet, smoking etc.
- Access to services – GP appointments, local A&E, dentists etc.

A More Equal Caerphilly

- Inequalities e.g. areas of multiple deprivation
- Equal access for all – education, transport, housing, employment etc.

A Caerphilly of Cohesive Communities

- Hate crime and intolerance
- Community responsibility – anti-social behaviour
- Older adult loneliness
- Immigration

A Caerphilly of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

- Cuts to cultural and arts funding
- Unable to access services in Welsh
- Gaps in data

A Globally Responsible Caerphilly

- Renewable energy/energy efficiency in buildings
- Education for Sustainable Development & Global Citizenship (ESDGC)
- Resource consumption

Common/cross-cutting themes

- Recognition that many issues/themes are interrelated – need to move away from silos
- Individuals need to take more responsibility
- Education and raising awareness of issues
- Need for a partnership approach

Paul explained that a mature draft of the Well-Being Assessment would be taken to the Public Services Board for approval at its meeting on 6th December. The document would then be sent out for final consultation. The aim is to publish the Assessment in early March to avoid the purdah period linked to the Local Government Elections in May 2017. The Assessment will be used by the PSB to start the process of developing its Well-being Objective and Plan, which have to be in place by May 2018.

It was agreed that a copy of the presentation be sent to Panel members for information.

Cllr Elsbury asked what age groups have been involved in the engagement activity around the Assessment. Paul explained that every attempt has been made to involve as many different age groups as possible, from children in primary/secondary schools, to the Youth Forum, to parents of young children, to the 50+ Forum and representatives of local community organisations.

Cllr Blackman noted that individuals taking responsibility for themselves and their local community is very important, as many people are always ready to blame someone else for their problems.

Cllr Pritchard noted that health inequalities are a big issue. She asked whether the public have identified this as a particular issue. Paul responded that this issue had come out more from the data analysis than the engagement activity, as often people don't regard their health as an issue as it was part of their daily lives.

Rob Hartshorn explained that the purpose was to deliver a balanced picture from the data and the engagement activity, and 'sense checking' whether the emerging findings are correct. He noted that health inequalities, particularly around life expectancy and healthy life expectancy, are an issue within the county borough, and even more so when considered against Wales and the UK as a whole.

5. LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN - TIMELINE

Vicki Doyle noted that following on from the timeline that was produced for undertaking the Well-being Assessment she had started to develop a draft timeline for the production of the Well-being Plan. She circulated a document which highlighted the work that needs to take place in order for the Plan to be published by May 2018.

She noted that there were a number of areas of work where there are statutory timescales that have to be met e.g. 14 weeks to gather information from partners and seek the advice of the Future Generations Commissioner; and 12 weeks formal consultation. This means that work will need to start on the preparatory work for the Plan (i.e. undertaking response analysis and agreeing well-being objectives) before the Assessment is finalised.

It was agreed that the draft timeline be circulated to the Panel for information.

6. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

Kath Peters circulated the draft forward work programme and noted that it would in future consider both corporate and collaborative responsibilities.

Cllr Mann requested that relevant officers be asked to attend future meetings to discuss what actions are taking place within their departments in order to meeting the requirements of the WFG Act.

The Panel requested more information on the Globally Responsible goal and what impact we can have within the county borough. It was agreed that this be put on the agenda for the November meeting.

Kath suggested that for each future meeting there should be one item relating to the process and another on an issue to be discussed in greater detail, and this was agreed.

The meeting closed at 6:20 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any amendments being recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2016.

CHAIRMAN