



## COUNCIL – 7TH MARCH 2017

**SUBJECT: SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING ACT 2014 –  
REGIONAL POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151  
OFFICER**

---

- 1.1 The attached report was considered by the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 7th February 2017. The report sets out the Draft Regional Population Needs Assessment (PNA). It was explained that the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities and Health Boards to prepare a regional population needs assessment (PNA) in relation to people requiring care and support. A draft PNA has been jointly developed across the region (Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen) by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) and the Gwent Transformation Team. The PNA comprises of the assessment of need and the range and level of services required and sets out the common priorities across the region with suggested actions. The document is based on the views of citizens.
- 1.2 The PNA must be signed off and agreed by individual Local Authorities and ABUHB by 31st March 2017 and subsequently published on individual websites. The first area plans must be published by 1st April 2018.
- 1.3 Members discussed the challenges that face an 'ageing population' and how the region will need to look at new ways of working. Concerns were expressed with regard to the availability of long term funding to provide good quality care later in life, in the future. The Scrutiny Committee felt that a better and quicker diagnosis in relation to Alzheimers and Dementia was key. A Member suggested that a volunteer service could be arranged to help people who have been diagnosed as a way of giving people confidence and not feeling alone, for instance attending a gym. It was also raised that a social network is needed for carers, a resource that could be utilised by carers when the care is no longer required.
- 1.4 It was noted that the eligibility criteria in relation to Carers has changed and the areas of interest as set out in the report were supported. In terms of mental health, concerns were expressed in relation to the support available to younger people and Members felt that earlier intervention is required and that more money should be invested. Reference was made to violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence and a member queried why this does not relate to men. The Committee were advised that some seldom heard groups had been omitted from the assessment however, the document will be amended to include these.
- 1.5 Having considered the content of the Officer's report, the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee recommended that the priorities and suggested actions contained therein be submitted to full Council.
- 1.6 Members are invited to consider the report and the recommendation.

Author: Amy Dredge, Committee Services Officer - Ext 3100.

Appendix 1 Report to Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on the 7th February 2017.