



PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH
ON WEDNESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY 2017 AT 5.00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Councillor S. Morgan – Chair
Councillor G. Kirby – Vice Chair

Councillors:

L. Binding, Mrs P. Cook, C. Cuss, Ms E. Forehead, C. Hawker, C.P. Mann, Mrs G. Oliver and J. Simmonds

Together with:

R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), J. Williams (Solicitor), C. Forbes-Thompson (Interim Head of Democratic Services), K. Peters (Corporate Policy Manager) and C. Evans (Committee Services Officer)

Outside Bodies: S. Curley (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent), Ms L.C. Jones (Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili) and M. Diggle (Caerphilly Youth Forum)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J.E. Fussell, D. Rees, R. Saralis and J. Taylor.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES – 15TH SEPTEMBER 2016

RESOLVED that, subject to it being noted that Minute 6 (Undertaking the Caerphilly County Borough Assessment of Local Well-being) refers to the Caerphilly Public Services Board Standing Conference, which took place on 14th October 2016, the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 15th September 2016 (minute nos. 1 - 7) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

4. PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The report provided Members with details of the upcoming reports to the Committee. Members were asked to consider and agree that, following the Local Government Elections, a workshop be scheduled to consider the forward work programme going forward.

Members were also reminded to make any report requests to Democratic Services, so they can be scheduled accordingly.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the Officers recommendation to schedule a workshop following the Local Government Election be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK- CAERPHILLY PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD

The report outlined to the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee that its role, under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 would be to review, or scrutinise, the governance arrangements of the Caerphilly Public Services Board.

It was noted that the Caerphilly Public Services Board (PSB) operates under a Performance Management Framework, which sets out and monitors the performance of partners against the current partnership plan. The framework has been updated in line with new legislation and statutory guidance, and the report detailed that the operation and performance of the Public Services Board, to allow members to discharge their statutory power, and further their understanding of the role of the partners that comprise the Public Services Board.

The Committee noted that the Caerphilly PSB meets on a quarterly basis to consider its duties and responsibilities and receive performance reports from delivery groups that are currently delivering the five priority areas in 'Caerphilly Delivers'; Prosperous Caerphilly, Safer Caerphilly, Learning Caerphilly, Healthier Caerphilly and Greener Caerphilly.

Each delivery group takes responsibility for its theme area and delivers against action plans that set out its programmes and projects. The action plans are measured by scorecards that track actions and relevant performance indicators which contribute to the priority area. Any exceptions to progress, either positive or negative, are highlighted in an exception report produced on a quarterly basis.

The Committee thanked the Officer for the detailed report and discussion ensued. A member sought further information on the involvement of Probation services, raising particular concerns for ex-offenders later becoming homeless. It was noted that the Gwent Director for the Probation Service is a Member of the PSB, thus contributing towards the Safer Caerphilly Scorecard and working in partnership with the Local Authority to tackle homelessness. A further report was requested on the work to tackle homelessness and ex-offenders.

Discussion ensued around involvement of Young People within the PSB. It was noted that young people were involved, through the Youth Forum, in the well-being assessment, with workshops being arranged to encourage feedback from the young people of the borough on the assessment and what Well-being should look like. In addition, The Parent Network has fed well into the assessment and planning stage.

Finally, Members were asked to consider that, whilst the PSB was set up in April 2016, there is still a considerable amount of work to be done and the PSB is in a transition period. This is the second meeting of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, and focus will be centred around the well-being assessment going forward. In addition, Members were reminded that any aspects of the work of the PSB they wish to consider can be requested for further reports.

Members thanked the Officers for the detailed report and requested a summary of exception reporting at future meetings.

The Scrutiny Committee noted the report.

6. LOCAL WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH AREA

The report provided the Committee with an overview of the Local Well-Being Assessment (Well-being Assessment) for the County Borough and sought any comments.

The draft Well-being Assessment was approved by the Public Services Board (PSB) on the 6th December 2016. The Well-being Assessment, which was prepared by the Corporate Policy Unit on behalf of the PSB, is part of the requirements set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Assessment has been developed by considering the known data for the area and consulting extensively on residents perceptions of well-being, now and in the future. It highlighted a number of emerging trends that will be the focus of objective setting and planning across public services. The subsequent Well-being Plan will be developed over the 16 month period leading up to May 2018.

It was noted that the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales is a statutory consultee and has provided comments on the draft Assessment, with a request that Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are provided with the comments.

The Committee thanked the Officers for the report and discussion ensued. In discussing the Well-being assessment, a representative from the Youth Forum sought further information on priorities within the plan and its consideration for Mental Health Awareness, which is a key priority for the Caerphilly Youth Forum. Officers explained that, whilst this has not been listed as a key issue, it has been included within the assessment; however, more explicit wording would be included for clarity.

A Member sought further information on the plan for continued involvement and engagement. It was noted that currently there are communication events underway, the draft Well-being assessment is available on social media, amendments will continue to be made until the document is final. In addition, it was noted that, when the planning process commences, further consultation would be sought in order to develop action plans and delivery of objectives.

Further information was sought on the availability of the consultation in Welsh. Officers outlined that, unlike other public bodies, the PSB is not currently subject to the Welsh Language Standards, and, as the Well-being assessment is a "technical" document, translation was not required. The PSB had, however, taken the decisions to provide a Welsh language version as soon as translation can be completed. Members were asked to note that Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili has been involved in the process, offering translation provision and has encouraged Welsh speakers to engage.

In considering the appended feedback from the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and improvement recommendations therein, further details were sought on the PSB. Caerphilly CBC response. Officers explained that a response had been provided to the Commissioner and where possible, the recommendations would be incorporated into the plan. In addition, it was noted that feedback has been provided from Welsh Government (WG) and Members were pleased to note that the WG were satisfied with the document.

Officers agreed that the WG response, as well as the PSB response to the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales would be circulated to the Committee.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officers report the content of the Caerphilly Public Services Board's draft Assessment of Local Well-Being be noted and the committee offer their comments.

The meeting closed at 6.10 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2017, they were signed by the Chair.

CHAIR