

# Public Document Pack



County Hall  
Rhadyr  
Usk  
NP15 1GA

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018

## Notice of meeting

### Severnside Area Committee

Monday, 23rd April, 2018 at 10.00 am,  
The Lab, Innovation House, Magor

## AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
3.	Confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meetings	1 - 6
4.	Public Open Forum	
5.	Area Grants	
6.	Traffic Issues in the Severnside Area	
7.	Town Team Update	
8.	Social Justice Strategy	7 - 36
9.	Confirm the date and time of next meeting 11th July 2018	

**Paul Matthews**

**Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr**

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

D. Evans  
J.Watkins  
J. Higginson  
A. Easson  
P.A. Fox  
L. Guppy  
F. Taylor  
A.Davies  
L.Dymock

## **Public Information**

### **Access to paper copies of agendas and reports**

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### **Welsh Language**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

# Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

## Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

### Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

## Our Values

**Openness.** We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

**Fairness.** We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

**Flexibility.** We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

**Teamwork.** We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.



# Public Document Pack **Agenda Item 3**

## MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held  
at on Wednesday, 24th January, 2018 at 10.00 am**

**PRESENT:** County Councillors: D. Evans (Chair), J. Higginson, A. Easson,  
L. Guppy, J. Watkins and A. Davies

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Nicola Perry Senior Democracy Officer

### **APOLOGIES:**

Councillor F. Taylor

#### **1. Declarations of Interest**

None.

#### **2. Confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th September 2017**

The minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were approved and signed by the Chair.

#### **3. Public Open Forum**

Trevor Harris was in attendance to receive an update on the Highways issue flagged up at a previous meeting. Unfortunately no officers were in attendance to respond. The Committee heard of recent accidents and concerns surrounding HGVs travelling through the village. Mr. Harris added that he had also submitted a complaint regarding road damage but had received no response.

Councillor Easson insisted that officers should re-submit their bid to Welsh Government for funding.

Members agreed that the issue of speeding should be addressed with no delay and recognised the lack of police presence.

Councillor Guppy added that pot holes were an issue on the B4245 and questioned the examinations carried out by Highways department.

Councillor Davies suggested that the Police Crime Commissioner, or a representative be invited to the next area committee meeting, noting the need to develop a uniform approach to speed limits in areas surrounding schools.

There was much frustration and disappointment in the lack of officer attendance.

#### **4. Traffic on the B4245**

Item deferred – no officer in attendance.

## **MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held at on Wednesday, 24th January, 2018 at 10.00 am**

#### **5. Area Grants**

Andy Smith, the officer expected had given apologies.

Concerns were raised regarding the process of dealing with grant applications. The Chair agreed to arrange a meeting as soon as possible with the relevant officers.

#### **6. Town Team Update**

The Committee received an update from Aaron Reeks of Caldicot Town Team.

- 4 new benches had been delivered that morning and a final schedule was to be put to MCC. It was hoped to start by the end of February, increasing seats from 11 to 17.
- Looking to replace bins with improved recycling facilities.
- Installed gum drop bins were working well with a reduction of litter and gum in the town.
- Update on retail units
- Addressing issues regarding advertising of retail spaces.
- Application to turn offices into residential units, creating 4 flats. Parking for this would be allocated behind the property

Specialist market dates set for 2018, list to be emailed.

Events calendar for 2018 created, to include family fun day, 999 emergency services day, street food festivals and Hog on the Bridge.

The Chair congratulated the Town Team on the Christmas lighting and it was agreed this should line up with Caldicot Town Council, being financially beneficial.

#### **7. Date and time of next meeting - 18th April 2018, Venue TBC**

We noted the time and date of the next meeting, agreeing that should this need to be earlier due to grant applications 28<sup>th</sup> March would be a suitable date.

**The meeting ended at 11.00 am**

**Public Document Pack**  
**MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held  
at The Talent Lab, Innovation House, Magor on Monday, 26th March, 2018 at 10.00 am**

**PRESENT:** County Councillors: J. Higginson, A. Easson, F. Taylor, A.Davies and L.Dymock

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Paula Harris	Democratic Services Officer
Roger Hoggins	Head of Operations
Paul Keeble	Traffic and Network Manager
Graham Kinsella	Traffic and Road Safety Manager

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors J.Watkins and P.A. Fox

**1. Apologies for Absence**

County Councillor P. Fox and J. Watkins.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

**3. Traffic and Road Safety Issues in the Severnside Area**

The Head of Operations Roger Hoggins thanked members of the public for attending and invited comments and issues experienced in respect to road safety in the Severnside Area.

Several representation were made including;

Mr Williams

- Has made representations over ten years on issues including heavy goods vehicles, speeding and lack of footpaths & cycle ways.
- Felt that issues are progressively getting worse despite police reassuring him that action was being taken.
- On the road where he lives there have been issues with vegetation blocking the pathway, this has been cleared when requested, however this should be cleared as the norm.

Mr Harris

Requesting speed and weight limits – 20mph and 7.5T for vehicles.

## MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held at The Talent Lab, Innovation House, Magor on Monday, 26th March, 2018 at 10.00 am

Raised concerns about the damage done to the roads by the larger lorries and levels of pollution, especially in areas with schools.

Appreciate that there is an industrial estate on the outskirts of Caldicot but access is possible without taking short cuts through villages.

Mr Vincent

- Has developed a keen interest in Monmouthshire County Council's interaction with communities after tackling a traffic issue in his village.
- Approached Monmouthshire County Council for guidance but found that there was no policy in place which addressed speeding traffic issues.
- After 15 years of fighting for the traffic issues to be addressed there are now traffic calming measures and a speed limit in place in his village.
- Attended Strong Communities Select Committee July 2017 where there was a promise of a public consultation, no sign of this yet!
- The Council needs a clear, transparent policy and soon – minutes of council meetings are littered with comments from people trying to get improvements.

Angela – Magor Crime Prevention Group

- After speaking to local residents speeding is a concern for the majority of people living in the Severnside area.
- In places where there is a speed limit it is felt that vehicles are not being monitored.
- Have spoken to Gwent Police and hope to set up a speed watch group.

Elected Member County Councillor A. Davies raised the following points;

- During canvassing for the election in May 2017, speeding was a particular issue for residents.
- He had spoken to police who advised that traffic warden patrols had been suspended in areas of particular concern.
- There have been many issues with signage.
- We must standardise how we evaluate priorities, there needs to be a system in place where all issues raised can be evaluated.
- Communication with the public needs to be improved.



## MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held at The Talent Lab, Innovation House, Magor on Monday, 26th March, 2018 at 10.00 am**

The Head of Operations Roger Hoggins advised those present that he had met with Go Safe and the Police last week to discuss how we prioritise issues and the need for a different working relationship with the partner agencies.

In response Mr Vincent replied that it was currently perceived that the Council are making decisions without engaging the public or making the public aware how decisions were being reached.

He also raised his frustration with the reference to average speed, since average speed was not the issue and detracted from the road users who were regularly breaking the speed limits.

Elected Member County Councillor F. Taylor spoke of the twelve thousand road movements on the B4245 each day and stressed the need of a criteria to allow us to prioritise issues.

Town Councillor P. Stevens expressed concerns of the lack of policing in the area. In particular there were issues in Caldicot with cyclists riding on the roads rather than cycle paths, but nothing can be done without police intervention.

In response the Head of Operations Roger Hoggins expressed his gratitude for the points raised in the discussion, the comments made will help inform the Council's road safety strategy which is currently being worked on. The Head of Operation also highlighted the following points;

- MCC are looking to refresh route review with CAPITA.
- In regard to HGVS, more work will need to be done, especially in respect of understanding pollution issues.
- Where do we send HGVs? We need to resolve the problem, rather than moving the problem.
- The work on the policy will continue via the Elected Member Task and Finish Group and Strong Communities Select Committee. We will also look to arrange a public meeting to allow residents to present their views.

Group Engineer Paul Keeble followed this by stating that a previous report in 2007 raised the same issues. The percentage of HGVs was not a concern and he questioned why HGV would want to short cut the B4245. This shows that there is a much wider issue and that we need to look at MCC's HGV strategy.

The Head of Operations Roger Hoggins advised the committee that a petition had been submitted by County Councillor L. Dymock, subject being the Footpath along the B4245 - Creation of a safe walk way between Magor and Undy. This was acknowledged and duly received by the committee.

**MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of Severnside Area Committee held  
at The Talent Lab, Innovation House, Magor on Monday, 26th March, 2018 at 10.00 am**

**The meeting ended at 11.47 am**



# People Place Prosperity

A Strategy for Social Justice

2017 – 2022 (Draft)

## Version Control

<b>Title</b>	People, Place, Prosperity: A Strategy for Social Justice
<b>Purpose</b>	To demonstrate the Council's commitment to address inequalities in the county in order to make our society function better. Providing an approach that will help turn lives around by removing barriers and facilitating practical support and solutions to enable citizens to realise their full potential.
<b>Owner</b>	Chief Officer Social Care, Health and Safeguarding
<b>Approved by</b>	Unapproved draft
<b>Date</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> March 2018
<b>Version Number</b>	0.4
<b>Status</b>	Draft
<b>Review Frequency</b>	Annual
<b>Next review date</b>	May 2019
<b>Consultation</b>	PSB Partnerships; Stronger Communities Select; All Members Seminar; Area Committees; Clusters; Access for All; Community Groups; Website; General Public Consultation

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## Putting Social Justice.....at the heart of what we do in Monmouthshire

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Monmouthshire County Council is committed to building sustainable and resilient communities. Central to this are the principles of social justice. The current Administration have demonstrated their commitment to Social Justice through their appointment of a new Cabinet Member for Social Justice and the development of this Social Justice strategy which demonstrates how the Council will address inequalities in our county in order to make our society function better. It provides an approach that will help turn lives around by removing barriers and facilitating practical support and solutions to enable our citizens to realise their full potential.

This is an evolving strategy and in this first phase we wish to demonstrate our commitment to work as a Council, and in partnership at national, regional and community level, to implement the policy interventions, approaches, support and methods to improve outcomes for people and communities - further phases will include the development of an Anti-poverty Strategy and a Combating Loneliness Strategy in association with the Public Service Board.

This Social Justice Strategy sets out our purpose, our intentions and activities for the next four years and the targets by which we will measure our success to ensure that we achieve our goal – putting social justice at the heart of what we do in Monmouthshire.

## The Case for Change

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Monmouthshire is often perceived to be leafy and affluent and in many aspects it is. However some of the differences within and between communities are stark, especially when they exist side-by-side. There are wide variations in exam results between people from different social backgrounds who attend the same schools. There are many high earners living in our County but wages available locally are lower than other parts of Wales. Many people experience in-work poverty and the wage differential between men and women is currently the highest in Wales. Many of our citizens are getting older, suffering ill health and at risk of becoming lonely and isolated. The costs of living in our rural county and accessing very basic services, such as transport and health provision, are greater than the costs for people living in urban conurbations.

### Evidence of Inequality

The Well-being Assessment and the Population Needs Assessment undertaken by the Council in March 2017 both highlighted the strengths and opportunities within our communities and used an extensive evidence base to draw out some of the challenges individuals and communities will face in the future. Some of the issues identified are detailed below:

- **One in five** reception age children in Monmouthshire are **overweight or obese**;
- There is a gap in the educational attainment between children who are in receipt of free school meals and children who are not. Despite rising standards across the board this gap is not narrowing;
- **14.2%** children in Monmouthshire live in low income households;
- There are not enough opportunities for children with disabilities, e.g. sufficiency of play provision, needing to travel to access education and multi-agency support;
- Whilst the average salary for people living in Monmouthshire is above the UK average, wages for jobs in-county are **10% below the UK average** – **34% of the working population commute out of county**;
- For those people who live and work in the County it is even more difficult, as local earnings are much lower than the average for Wales. In 2014, the median earnings for Monmouthshire residents were £623 per week, compared to the Wales median of £498 per week. However, the median earnings by workplace presents a different picture with people working in the County earning only £466 per week, much lower than the £498 per week figure for Wales as a whole (NOMIS 23/01/15);
- There are limited employment opportunities for young people to remain in the county;
- **Significant inequality between female and male wage levels** – women earn on average **£149 less than men**;
- Despite low wages in the county there is a high cost of living – **Average house price for Wales are £183,000 and the house price to earnings ratio is 6.2:1**. For comparison, in Monmouthshire the average house price in October



2017 is £281,800 and the house price to earnings ratio is 8.2:1. (Source: Hometrack 20/10/2017). This illustrates how difficult it is for local people to purchase their first homes or move into larger homes in the County when their family circumstances change;

- Evidence is well developed that the cost of living a good life in rural areas is higher than in areas where there is easy access to low cost food and transport;
- Low levels of access to the labour market for people with disabilities – for example, recent engagement exercise by a user led organisation for people with learning disabilities evidenced that 85% people want to work, but only 4% do work;
- Loneliness and social isolation is a barrier across the age range but can particularly impact on older people who may be experiencing a deterioration in their physical and/or mental well-being alongside a loss of family, friends, connection and occupation;
- By 2039, the population aged 65 is projected to increase by 61% and the number of people aged over 85 will more than double;
- Rural isolation and a paucity of transport and services into rural communities is a critical barrier for some in getting the help they need;
- Significant numbers of older people are digitally excluded; and
- Just one-in-three carers feel they are able to do what matters to them.

We know these issues are symptoms of complex problems and we also know they cannot be solved by one organisation alone. Public services must work collaboratively. Public, third and private sector must work together. And, most importantly, we must support people and communities in developing their own solutions that are sustainable and which can deliver both immediate and long-term benefits.





## Our Purpose – to put Social Justice at the of what we do

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Monmouthshire County Council has a clear purpose. We shape this in line with the goals and ambitions of our partners in other public services that are part of the Monmouthshire Public Service Board (PSB). Monmouthshire County Council's Corporate Business Plan provides direction and sets out the things we will be working on for the next four years, taking us up to the end of the political term in 2022.

### Purpose

Our Purpose is:

***We want to help build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations.***

This purpose is at the heart of everything we do to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Monmouthshire and we share this with our public service partners as part of the Public Service Board. We will consider sustainable development in how we plan and deliver the action set in this plan.

### Our Commitment to Social Justice

Monmouthshire County Council is committed to aligning evidence based policy, programmes of work and resources with the aim of supporting people and communities to fulfil their potential and live the lives they want to live.

We have extensive learning from a two year pilot of community co-ordination and small local enterprise which was successful in reducing the demand for more formal services and also helping us to understand the importance that place and community plays in helping people stay strong and well. At a community level, we are developing integrated place based wellbeing teams to develop creative ways of working, which overcome departmental or agency boundaries in order to make best use of the resources available within the area in question.

We have also created a re-purposed Community and Partnership Development Team who will be the 'engine room' and enablers, effectively linking the work of strategic and community partnerships with communities to help them understand the strengths and capabilities of the people who live there and the groups that exist. Using place and evidence based activity, the team will facilitate the creation of effective and powerful community partnerships to build healthier, safer and more resilient neighbourhoods and communities which in turn will enable our citizens to feel connected, resilient with a sense of 'belonging'.

The Council has a long standing commitment to equality and diversity. Our Second Strategy Equality Plan was published in April 2016 and sets out the Council's objectives to ensure we deliver better

outcomes for people with protected characteristics such as race, gender, disability or age. This is clearly aligned with the well-being goals set by Welsh Government and is a legal responsibility under The Equality Act 2010 – but above all else it is important because it is the right thing to do.

## Values

We can only achieve great things for our place through the people who live and work here, those on our payroll and those in Monmouthshire’s communities including the countless volunteers and groups that give this place a richness and vibrancy. Our values reflect who we are, how we do things and how we are shaping the future. We try our best to apply these in everything we do.

**Openness.** We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we’ll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we’ll explain why; if we can’t answer immediately we’ll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.


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**Flexibility.** We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

**Teamwork.** We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don’t see ourselves as the ‘fixers’ or problem-solvers, but we will leverage all of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

## Applying the Well-being of Future Generations Act

The Well-being of Future Generations Act is the fundamental legislation that requires us to carry out sustainable development, more information on the Act is in the appendix. We have applied the 5 ways of working set out in the act when developing our plan, the extent we have incorporated these is set out below:

Sustainable Development Principle	How have these principles driven the development of the policy
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>This strategy is defined by the outcome of the well-being assessment which identifies the priority areas we need to progress in delivering social justice in Monmouthshire. The exact priorities will differ in different communities, but across the County the county the Council has set five organisational goals which incorporate four Well-being objectives enabling us to identify the future we want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life;</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected community;</li> </ul>

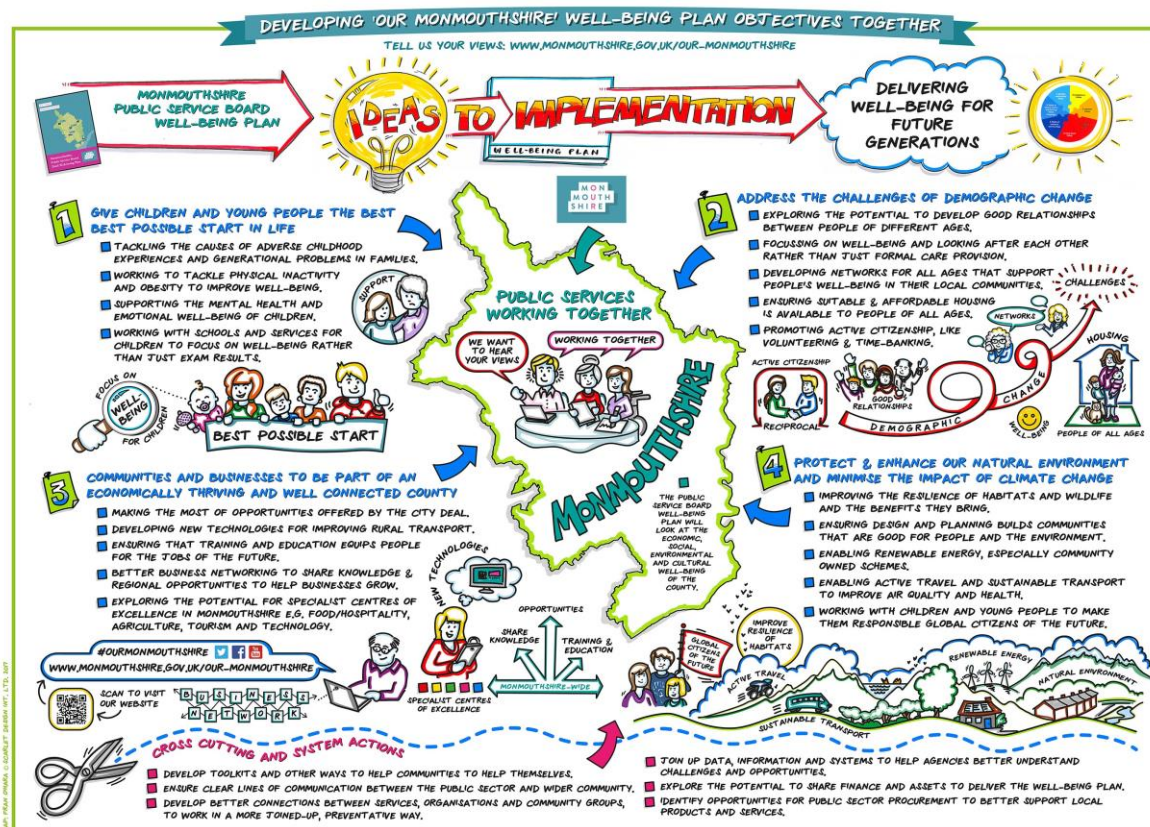
Sustainable Development Principle	How have these principles driven the development of the policy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment;</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being;</li> <li>• Future-focused Council</li> </ul> <p>Activities associated with all of the above will focus on enabling the best future for all.</p>
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>This strategy seeks to address complex problems which cannot be solved by one organisation alone. Public services must work collaboratively. Public, third and private sector must work together. And, most importantly, we must support people and communities in developing their own solutions that are sustainable and which can deliver both immediate and long-term benefits.</p>
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	<p>The provision will be place based and as such will be able to engage with communities at a local level and respond to localised need.</p>
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>This draft strategy advocates working as part of the Cardiff Capital Region to attract high skill, high wage jobs to ensure that people have the opportunity to raise their household income. It also looks to identify options to improve access to job opportunities in the county and other areas to include providing work placements, traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities whilst taking positive action as a Council to encourage other public partners and businesses to do so.</p>
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p> <p>Integration</p>	<p>The opportunity to develop a new way of delivering the place based offer and sustaining long term activity will provide the opportunity to better connect wellbeing outcomes internally and to other partners and bodies.</p>

We have also tried to maximise our contribution to achieving each of the seven national wellbeing goals. The contribution our local objectives make towards the seven national objectives has been assessed and is shown in the table below:

	Contribution to Well-being Goals						
	Prosperous Wales	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Wales of cohesive communities	Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	Globally responsible Wales
Putting social justice for children at the heart of what we do	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Putting social justice and equitable economic prosperity at the heart of what we do	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Putting social justice and social inclusion at the heart of what we do to tackle loneliness and isolation	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

## Our Priorities for Social Justice

In May 2017, the Administration set out in its Political Manifesto, priorities and commitments, one of which was to support **Social Justice** – working towards a fair and equal society, respecting and upholding diversity within our communities, addressing child poverty and worklessness. The strategic priority for social justice is to keep the community at the heart of what we do by taking a 'place based approach', working with communities to identify their own strengths and areas for development and well-being. We will bring together public services, community leaders, business, schools and all residents to address the issues that matter to that community as we evidenced when developing our Well-Being plan objectives as depicted in the graphic below:



By working together around a place, we can achieve so much more than individual partners and community groups working in isolation. Bringing together support networks, aligning resources and assets, funding, development opportunities and people with a common sense of purpose, will really help to build sustainable and resilient communities. By working collaboratively with the people who live and work locally, we will seek to highlight the strengths, capacity and knowledge of those involved for the greater good. Our well-being assessment tells us there are priority areas we need to progress in delivering social justice in Monmouthshire, some of which will differ in different areas.

## Our Corporate Plan

Monmouthshire County Council's Corporate Business Plan sets out the things we will be working on in the medium term. The plan sets out our five Organisational Goals (also our well-being objectives) supported by the 22 commitments to action we will make and the ways in which they will be measured in the run-up to 2022. This plan has been developed aligned to the direction set in the Corporate Plan. The Plan is underpinned by a clear policy framework that sets out in more detail our work to enable the delivery of the plan (see appendix). The aspiration and objectives set for Monmouthshire by the PSB and Council are:

Purpose		Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities	
<b>PSB aspiration is to:</b>	Reduce inequalities between communities and within communities Support and protect vulnerable people Consider our impact on the environment		
<b>PSB Well-being Objectives</b>	<i>People / Citizens</i>	<i>Place / Communities</i>	
	Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life	Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment whilst mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change	
	Respond to the challenges associated with demographic change	Develop opportunities for communities and businesses to be part of an economically thriving and well-connected county.	
<b>MCC well-being Objectives</b>	The best possible start in life	Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment	
	Lifelong well-being	Thriving and well-connected county	
Future-focused Council			

The Council has made some commitments to action in relation to the organisational goals in the Corporate Plan, this strategy will therefore seek to specifically address the following:

Council Commitment	How we're going to do it	Who is accountable
<b>Lifelong Well-being</b>		
15) THE COUNCIL ENABLES CONNECTED AND CARING COMMUNITIES SUPPORTING PEOPLE TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY	Maximise the opportunities for all people to live the lives they want to live and the positive outcomes they identify.  Co-produce our approaches to well-being, care and support.  Develop opportunities for people to be involved in their local communities reducing isolation and loneliness.  Improve opportunities for people with care and support to actively contribute through employment and volunteering.	Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health
16) THE COUNCIL DELIVERS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE,	Reduce child poverty and social isolation and improve economic inclusion.	Cabinet Member for Social Justice



<p>BETTER PROSPERITY AND REDUCING INEQUALITY</p>	<p>Promote equality and diversity and ensure opportunities are genuinely available to all.</p> <p>Advance social justice and well-being through Asset Based Community Development.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health</p>
<p>17) THE COUNCIL ENABLES BETTER LOCAL SERVICES THROUGH SUPPORTING VOLUNTEERS AND SOCIAL ACTION</p>	<p>Ensure meaningful community engagement to understand the assets and priorities in each locality.</p> <p>Approve volunteering policy and support the Community Volunteering Academy</p> <p>Extend the reach of Monmouthshire Made Open as a technology-enabled tool for promoting civic action.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Social Justice</p>

This strategy sets out a broad programme of work we will carry out in partnership to turn our vision into a reality that will make a real difference to the lives of local people. It will be underpinned by clear, specific and measurable actions and outcomes that will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure that it can evolve and respond to new opportunities and ideas. It is important that measurement of impact is undertaken with people and communities alongside consideration of national and local indicators.



**Putting social justice for children at the of what we do...**

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**In Order To Give Children The Best Start In Life, Overcoming Barriers To Attainment And Opportunity We Will:**

- Map the current service offer; identify any gaps and work with partners to develop clear pathways which are based on evidence of impact and ensure resources are targeted in the right place;
- Develop an integrated early intervention and prevention pathway to support children and families at the earliest opportunity and reduce the need for statutory intervention to keep people safe in particular those with Adverse Childhood Experiences;
- Work with all partners to implement an approach to policy and practice which is based on children's rights; explicitly committing as a Council to a rights based approach in all policy commitments;
- Develop an effective 0 - 25 Partnership for Children and Young People;
- Focus in on four key areas to ensure there is demonstrable prioritisation:
  - Emotional wellbeing and mental health for children and young people taking into consideration issues such as gender inequality and gender stereotyping as a form of prevention enabling children and young people to meet their true potential;
  - Child friendly communities;
  - Vulnerable children and families; and
  - Building resilience and promoting wellbeing - with links to education



## Putting social justice and equitable economic prosperity at the



of what we do

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### In Order To Overcome Inequalities In Access To Economic Prosperity We Will:

- Work to increase the availability and take-up of broadband across the county to address digital exclusion;
- Work as part of the Cardiff Capital Region to attract high skill, high wage jobs to ensure that people have the opportunity to raise their household income;
- Work with partners to develop an anti-poverty strategy for the county which will take account of both worklessness and in-work poverty;
- Provide learning, training and employability opportunities for 11 to 24 year olds to reduce the number of young people who are not in employment, education or training;
- Provide access to the labour market for people with disabilities and care leavers;
- Align resources of the specific funding streams available to the Council to make a difference to the anti-poverty agenda to maximise the impact of investments;
- Act upon the findings of a Rural Development Programme Study to take an integrated approach to addressing and improving rural transport options in the county to increase access to job opportunities in other areas;
- Develop, and act upon, options to improve access to job opportunities in the county and other areas to include providing work placements, traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities whilst taking positive action as a Council to encourage other public partners and businesses to do so;
- Address the issue of high house prices through the provision of additional affordable housing in the County in both urban and rural areas. The Council will ensure that developers and local people have clear guidance on how its development plan policies and decisions on planning applications will operate.
- Focus on two key areas to ensure there is demonstrable prioritisation:
  - An integrated approach to addressing barriers to transport in rural areas; and
  - Access to the labour market for people with disabilities



## Putting social justice and social inclusion at the **of what** we do to tackle loneliness and isolation

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### In Order To Tackle The Scourge Of Loneliness And Isolation We Will:

- Develop a collaborative approach to wellbeing to ensure direction setting and oversight of wellbeing in Monmouthshire is informed by those closest to delivery. The Integrated Wellbeing Network (appendix one) provides a basis for this collaboration;
- Work with partners who can provide evaluative support to ensuring that the impact of approaches and interventions can be effectively measured overtime (recognising some change will be generational) as well as understanding short term effectiveness;
- Launch the Community and Partnership Development team with a clear focus, effective methods and measurable outcomes;
- Map the current service offer, identify any gaps and work with partners to develop clear pathways which are based on evidence of impact and to ensure resources are targeted in the right place;
- Develop an Asset Based Community Development approach with communities to fully realise the benefits from the physical assets (community hubs, social care and health resource centres, primary care centres and community hospitals, RSL buildings, village halls) across the county;
- Continue to develop opportunities for contribution and involvement;
- Focus on key areas which are clearly measurable to ensure there is demonstrable prioritisation:
  - Community development priorities identified in each of the five areas (it is recognised priorities will differ from area to area depending on needs, gaps and opportunities);
  - Digital inclusion for people who are not currently connecting online; and
  - Dementia friendly Monmouthshire – encourage public organisations and private business across Monmouthshire to become ‘dementia friends’.

## Action Plan

Action	Expected Impact of the Action	MCC Objective & Strategic plan contributed to	Performance Indicator/milestone	Officer Responsible & Timescale
<b>Develop and implement collective, asset and place based approach</b>	A programme of placed based activities will be undertaken, designed to build community capacity and sustainable and resilient communities.	<b>MCC Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul> <b>Strategic plan:</b> PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of community-initiative projects on Made Open</li> <li>• % of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood</li> <li>• % of people who are members of social groups</li> <li>• % of people who regularly volunteer;</li> <li>• % of people who talk to their neighbours regularly.</li> </ul>	Sharran Lloyd - ongoing
<b>Develop and implement a strategy to tackle loneliness and isolation</b>	<p>Current provision will be mapped against the loneliness framework and findings made available via the partnership framework.</p> <p>Gaps will be highlighted and addressed using the <b>collective, asset and place based approach</b> noted above.</p>	<b>MCC Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of community-initiative projects on Made Open</li> <li>• % of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood</li> <li>• % of people who are members of social groups</li> </ul>	Sharran Lloyd – ongoing Nicki Needle - ongoing

	<p>Support will be targeted to specific individuals, groups and communities who are particularly vulnerable to loneliness and isolation.</p> <p>Clear and relevant information on combatting loneliness and isolation will be provided.</p> <p>Citizens and communities will be actively involved in co-designing and delivering support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategic plan:</b> PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of people who regularly volunteer;             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of people who talk to their neighbours regularly.</li> <li>• Number of regular social groups and wellbeing activities developed and supported</li> <li>• Number of people taking part in activities they enjoy</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Range of support available to enable access to activities/opportunities</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Delivery of the Community Leadership Academy</b></p>	<p>Provision of a suite of training and personal development opportunities to people who give their own time to support their communities. The Academy will have the dual benefit of allowing individuals to develop their personal skill sets (with associated benefits for employment and the local economy), whilst also bringing about benefits for the wider community by enhancing the quality of community leadership.</p>	<p><b>MCC Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategic plan:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of community activists accessing development</li> </ul>	<p>Owen Wilce – March 2020</p>

		PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.		
<b>Progression of 'A County that Serves' programme</b>	Increase in number of volunteers across the county.	<p><b>MCC Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategic plan:</b> PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased % in number of volunteers</li> </ul>	Owen Wilce – Ongoing
<b>Extend the reach of Monmouthshire Made Open as a technology enabled tool for promoting civic action</b>	Increased civic action	<p><b>MCC Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul>	Increase in the number of users	Owen Wilce – Ongoing

		<p><b>Strategic plan:</b> PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.</p>		
<p><b>Provision of support for town/community councils</b></p>	<p>Increased engagement with councils leading to better informed Council decisions</p>	<p><b>MCC Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategic plan:</b> PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in no. of town/community councils engaged</li> <li>• No. of town/community councilors engaging with the Community Leadership Academy</li> </ul>	<p>Rachel Rawlings - Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Work with partners to increase the availability and take-up of broadband across the county to address digital exclusion</b></p>	<p>Increased broadband connectivity, take up, and ICT exploitation activities</p>	<p><b>MCC Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The best possible start in life</li> <li>• Thriving and well-connected county</li> <li>• Lifelong well-being</li> <li>• Future-focussed Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategic plan:</b> PSB well-being plan, Corporate Plan, MTFP, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in percentage of households with internet access;</li> </ul>	<p>Cath Fallon - Ongoing</p>



## How we will Evaluate Progress

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This section sets out how we will evaluate our progress to ensure transparency and accountability as part of our governance arrangements.

It is important we have a clear set of measures to evaluate the progress made to determine the success of specific work programs in achieving the overall purpose – *Putting Social Justice at the heart of all we do.*

There is growing evidence to suggest that we learn and develop most effectively through the sharing of stories. At a qualitative level of evaluation, we are committed to working with partners who can provide evaluative support to ensure that the impact of approaches and interventions can be effectively measured overtime (recognising some change will be generational) as well as understanding short term effectiveness. To aid this, a cross party advisory committee will be established which will help monitor, evaluate and provide steer to the evolving social justice brief.

To aid evaluation the following set of questions will be used as a guide:

- What changes (good and bad) have come about as a result of the group?
- What does good collaboration look like and have we achieved it?
- What are the enablers and inhibitors to effective collaborative working around well-being across Monmouthshire?

The reasons for using this particular methodology are:

- It fits with the 'spirit' of the group with a strong focus on participation and stories;
- The use of stories and facilitated conversations will support the development of relationships between participants and a common understanding and purpose regarding the concept of well-being;
- The answers to the questions are difficult to predict and will emerge with many unanticipated findings and outcomes;
- The main focus is on learning and development rather than accountability;
- This is a social change programme with a before, middle and after; and
- Members of the group can do this themselves and be fully involved.

It is also important we have specific quantitative measures which we track to understand progress and which we will consider alongside the evidence from the qualitative piece. We have therefore worked with other partners in the region to commission the development of a set of measures and surveys that will enable us to understand well-being at a community level. This work has been developed with a range of experts including Cambridge University and the New Economics Foundations. For specific pieces of work we have therefore identified performance measures in the performance indicator section that we will monitor to evaluate progress.



## Performance Indicators

Indicator	Actual 2016/17	Target <i>This should..</i>
The percentage of people who agree that there is a sense of community	53.4%	increase
The percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions about the area	21.3%	increase
The percentage of children living in low income households	14.2%	decrease
The average salary of people living and working in Monmouthshire	£tbc	increase
The average wage differential between men and women	£149	decrease
The gap in educational attainment at key stage 4 Level 2 threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics (age 16)	43.8%	decrease
The gap in educational achievement in key stage 4 capped 9 points score	119.2	decrease
The percentage of households with internet access	81.1%	increase
The percentage of carers who report they can do the things that matter to them	36.4%	increase
The percentage of families supported by early help services who report being helped with what matters to them	No baseline as yet	
The percentage of families being supported by Building Strong Families Team (TAF) who show improved resilience at the end of intervention measured using the Distance Travelled Tool	No baseline as yet	
The percentage of families being supported by Building Strong Families Team (TAF) who show improvement in relation to family goals at the end of intervention	No baseline as yet	
The percentage of children worked with by Building Strong Families Team (TAF) where school attendance was the focus of intervention and attendance improved	No baseline as yet	
The percentage of children accessing School Based Counselling who report improved wellbeing	No baseline as yet	
The percentage of children supported to remain living with their family	62.7%	increase
The percentage of care leavers who are in education, training or employment at 12 months after leaving care	77.8%	increase
The percentage of care leavers who are in education, training or employment at 24 months after leaving care	77.8%	increase
The percentage of care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year	5.45%	0%

## Risks

There are risks attached to the delivery of this plan and good governance will ensure these risks are understood, managed and communicated. The Council has an established risk management policy that sets out the Council's policy and approach to strategic risk management. The risks related to the delivery of this plan have been identified, assessed and mitigating actions established.

Risk	Reason why identified	Risk Level (Pre – mitigation)				Planned Mitigation & timescales	Residual Risk Level (Post – mitigation)			
		Year	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Level		Year	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Level
<b>Without appropriate and effective governance infrastructure the Council may not deliver its objectives.</b>	Monmouthshire County Council recognises the important and valuable contribution made by volunteers in enhancing service delivery. There is a need to formalise arrangements for the role of volunteers in service delivery and set out the terms governing their engagement and ongoing relationship with the Council	2017/18	Possible	Substantial	Medium	Deliver the implementation plan for volunteering policy (adopted in December 2017) in all service/business areas and continued implementation of the Volunteer toolkit	18/19/20/21	Unlikely	Major	Low
<b>The Council and partners do not make sufficient progress to improve well-being through regional and partnership working.</b>	The Council is already part of regional and partnership working arrangements in a variety of services, some of these require further development	18/19/20/21	Possible	Substantial	Medium	To develop the Public Service Board Well-being plan, implement a delivery framework and develop the role of the Public Service Board Select Committee to scrutinise the PSB arrangements	18/19/20/21	Unlikely	Major	Low

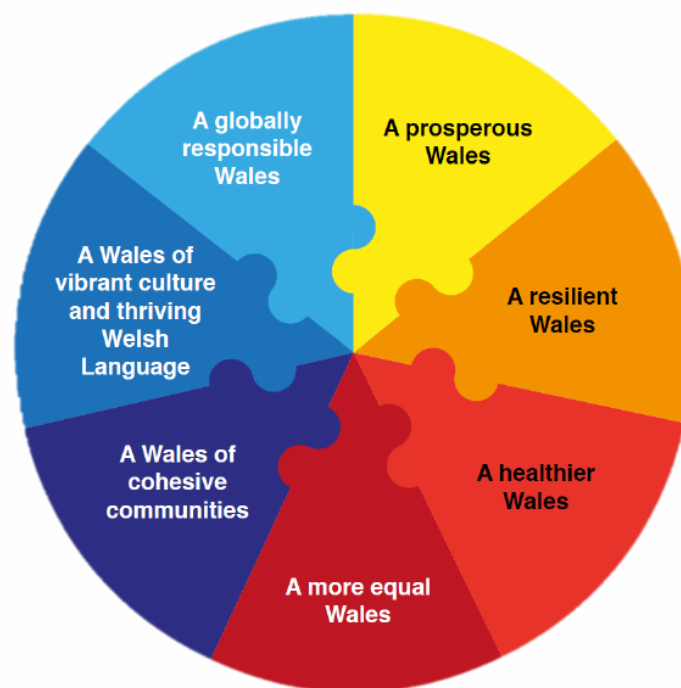
<b>Insufficient ICT infrastructure and skills in the county have the potential to lead to social and economic disadvantages</b>	<p>Monmouthshire residents have high demand for broadband services however a significant skills issue exists in the County with approximately 20% adults in Monmouthshire not using the internet.</p> <p>Other drivers include the council needs to prepare for increased digital public service delivery, the implementation of the Online Universal Credit system, children’s learning opportunities and the provision of digital health care.</p>	18/19/20/21	Likely	Substantial	Medium	Enable the rollout and exploitation of high speed broadband across the County for both businesses and communities.	18/19/20/21	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Major</i>	<i>Low</i>
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## Appendix - National Policy Context

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### The Well-Being of Future Generations Act

The Well-being of Future Generations Act is the fundamental legislation that requires us to carry out sustainable development, this should ensure that present needs are met without compromising future generations in meeting their own needs. When carrying out sustainable development, we have to publish well-being objectives which are designed to maximise our contribution to achieving each of the seven national wellbeing goals and take all reasonable steps to meet the objectives. The seven wellbeing goals are shown in the diagram below while our own well-being goals are incorporated within this plan. The contribution our plan makes towards the seven national objectives has been assessed and is shown in this plan.

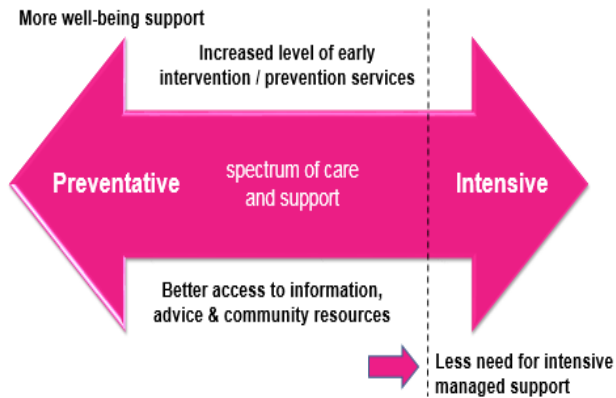


In planning our services and taking action to meet our well-being objectives we must consider, but also demonstrate that we have applied, the following sustainable governance principles in our decision-making:

- Balancing short term needs with long term needs.
- Using an integrated approach, balancing social, economic and environmental needs.
- Involving others and considering their views.
- Working in collaboration with others.
- Putting resources into preventing problems

The Act also puts a well-being duty on specified public bodies to act jointly via Public Service Boards (PSB) to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area by contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals.

## Social Services and Well-being Act



This Act aims to transform the way care and support is delivered, placing responsibilities wider than social services departments. The Act requires a stronger voice and more control for people of all ages, leading to less dependence on institutional services. The Act sets out to engage with and empower citizens; promote independence and well-being and give people who receive support, and their carers, control over their lives and the care and support needed to do what matters to them. The aspiration of the Act, that through acting preventatively and intervening earlier more people can be independent and well without

intensive managed support as described in the image on the left.

## Prosperity for All – Wales Government

In September 2017, Welsh Government published 'Prosperity for all' – the national strategy which sets the aims of the Welsh Government and provides clarity for partners about the changes they want to see progressed to achieve a more prosperous Wales.

The strategy acknowledges that how partners work together can be just as important as what is delivered. In order to make a real difference to people's lives, partners need to do things differently and to do different things.

The strategy details the Welsh Government's twelve objectives and the steps they propose to take to meet them. They place the Well-being of Future Generations Act at the heart of their decision making. The key themes are:

- prosperous and secure;
- healthy and active;
- ambitious and learning;
- united and connected.

## Equality and diversity

The council has a long-standing commitment to equality and diversity and under the Equality Act 2010 has to produce a Strategic Equality Plan. A second plan was published in April 2016 and sets the council's objectives to ensure we deliver better outcomes for people with protected characteristics: race, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity and age. This is clearly aligned with the well-being goals set by Welsh Government, but above all else it is important to us as it is the right thing to do.

### **The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (Wales) 2015 Act**

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 focusses on the prevention of these issues, the protection of victims and support for those affected by such issues and is a unique and ground breaking piece of legislation. In line with the Act the Council has a legal requirement to report on how we are addressing VAWDASV matters within their educational functions, including any action taken within schools.

### **The Welsh Language**

The authority recognises that the Welsh language is central to the goals introduced as part of the Well-being of Future Generations Act to ensure we are able to maximise our contribution to a Wales of vibrant culture and a thriving Welsh language and also to help the Welsh Government reach the target of having a million Welsh speakers by 2050 (Wales 2050).

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and accompanying Welsh Language standards place a legal duty on councils to promote the Welsh Language and provide services to the public through the medium of Welsh. The council have to comply with the 175 standards that they have been allocated. This is a significant challenge that has been set but systems have been put in place in divisions to ensure compliance. One of the Standards set was to write a Welsh Language Strategy for 2017 – 2022, which sets out a vision of how the Welsh language will look in Monmouthshire in 5 years' time and is accompanied by targets to help achieve that vision. Welsh Government in 2012 also produced a new strategy known as "More than words". This basically requires us as a care provider to ask people whether they want services through the medium of Welsh (known as the "Active Offer").

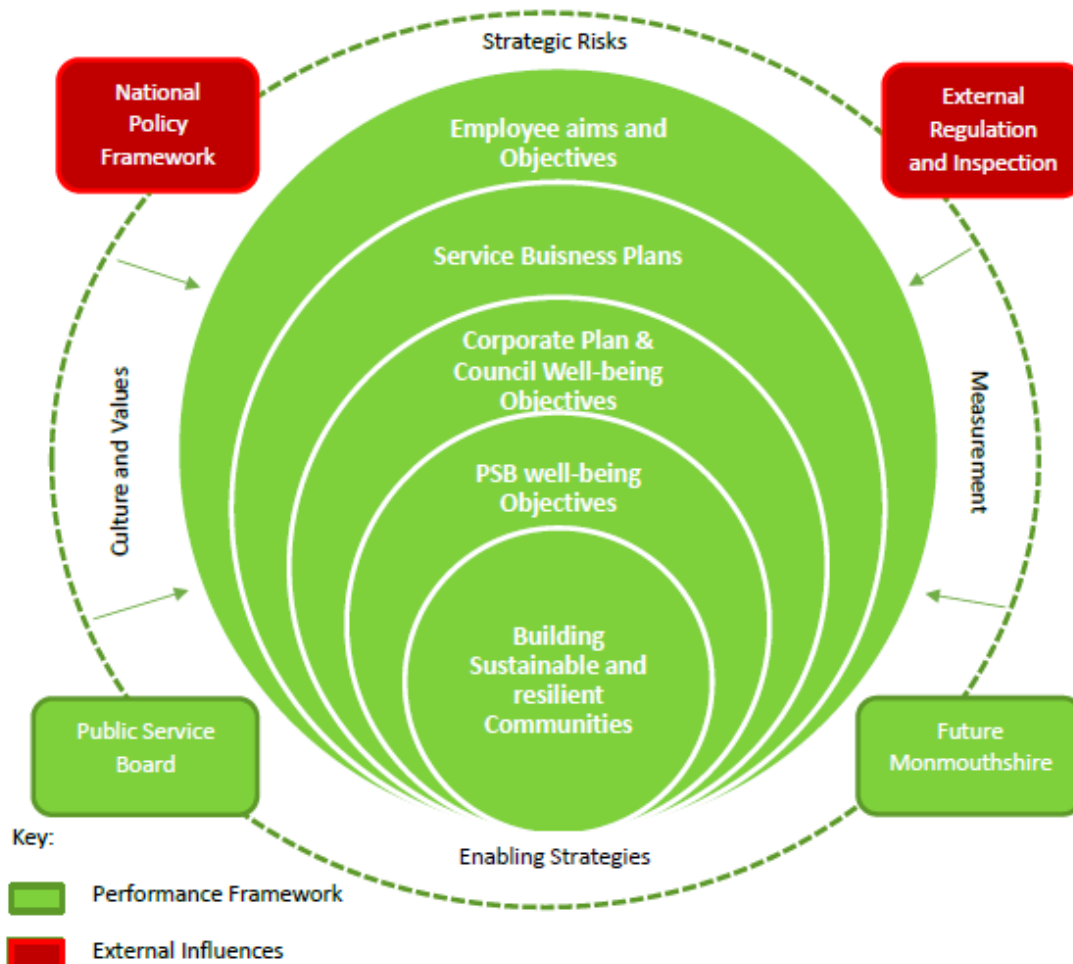
## Appendix – Local Policy context

Our Improvement Framework is supported by a range of plans as part of our Policy Framework that guide our actions to improve services.

### Performance Management Framework

Our performance management framework; illustrates the interdependencies and how the policies, plans and programmes it contains, should be mutually reinforcing. In simple terms, our performance management framework is integral to the adoption and application of our plan because it makes sure that everyone is pulling in the same direction to deliver real and tangible outcomes.

Building sustainable and resilient communities is the unifying purpose of the diverse range of services for which we are responsible. We are a partner in the Public Service Board, which is responsible for setting well-being objectives for the county. The council's own well-being objectives are set by the Council based on the same well-being assessment as the PSB objectives and, form the backbone of our Five Organisational Goals in the corporate plan. Each of our teams has a business plan that aligns to these objectives. We have a range of performance measures that we use to keep track of our progress. Our risk management policy enables us to manage strategic risks to our delivery. Our employee aims and objectives show how the contributions that individual colleagues make to these objectives and delivering our vision in accordance with our values.



Our 'enabling strategies' support the delivery of our objectives. Our work is also informed and guided by national policy and external regulation and inspection. [New diagram](#)

Level	Policy Framework	
<b>Vision</b>	<p>The Public Service Board Well-Being Plan</p> <p>The Public Service Board will produce a local well-being plan in 2018</p>	
<b>Plan</b>	<p>Corporate Plan including Council well-being objectives</p> <p>Set out the direction for the Council in the next 5 years the resources required to deliver it and articulates the council's well-being objectives for carrying out sustainable development and maximise the contribution to achieving the wellbeing goals</p>	
<b>Strategy</b>	<p>Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Describes how we manage our land and property portfolio</p>	<p>Financial Plan</p> <p>Sets out the financial challenges we face &amp; how we will meet these challenges</p>
	<p>People Strategy</p> <p>The strategy connects people to purpose to improve performance and deliver better outcomes</p>	<p>Digital and Customer Strategy</p> <p>The steps we will take to develop our digital offer in our services and communities</p>
	<p>Local Development Plan</p> <p>Our proposals and policies for future development and use of land</p>	<p>Economy and Enterprise Strategy</p> <p>Our proposals for increasing competitiveness, innovation and productivity.</p>
<b>Delivery</b>	<p>Service business plans</p> <p>Each service has a plan that evaluates performance, plans actions for the year ahead, includes metrics to monitor performance and manages risks.</p>	<p>Employee Aims and Objectives</p> <p>Employee appraisals enable individuals and teams to outline the values and performance that is relevant in their role and connects them to the purpose of the organisation.</p>
<b>Evaluation &amp; Risks</b>	<p>Evaluation</p> <p>Evaluates performance, plans &amp; metrics to monitor performance.</p>	<p>Strategic Risk Assessment</p> <p>Identifies, manages and monitors the Council's Strategic risks.</p>

### Future Monmouthshire

The *Future Monmouthshire* programme is about ensuring the council remains relevant and viable for the next generation, while continuing to meet the day-to-day needs of residents, visitors and businesses. Future Monmouthshire and its interventions are built around our design principles. Future Monmouthshire has also focussed in on a number of significant future trends, such as the future of work, the utility of automated systems and machine learning, forward-looking land-use and house building and alternative models of service delivery. We have nine design principles that link to longer-term goals which help guide our work.