

SUBJECT:	SOCIAL JUSTICE STRATEGY (REVISION)
MEETING:	STRONG COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE
DATE:	12TH JANUARY 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 Further to the approval of the second phase of the Social Justice Strategy by Cabinet in [July 2019](#), Committee Members are asked to consider the third phase revision of the Social Justice Strategy which now takes a more targeted approach and includes the insertion of the following individual targeted Action Plans namely:
- Tackling Poverty and Inequality Action Plan;
 - Food Development Action Plan; and
 - Homeless Transition Plan

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 Committee to approve the revised Social Justice Strategy and associated Action Plans (Appendix A) subject to any proposed amendments and recommendations, in preparation for final approval by Cabinet in February 2021.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 In May 2018, the Social Justice Strategy was produced to demonstrate the Council's commitment to addressing inequalities in our county in order to make our society function better. Using the Community and Partnership Development Team as an enabling body, it provided an approach to help turn lives around, by removing barriers and facilitating practical support and solutions to enable all our citizens to realise their full potential.
- 3.2 The aim of the Social Justice Strategy has always been 'To put Social Justice at the heart of what we do' and over the past two years the Strategy has set out a broad programme of work to help to make a real difference to the lives of local people by working in partnership.
- 3.3 The Commitments made in the Strategy have therefore focused and continue to focus on the following:
- Enabling connected and caring communities supporting people to live independently;
 - Delivering on social justice, better prosperity and reducing inequality; and
 - Enabling better local services through supporting volunteers and social action
- 3.4 All of this has aligned with the Public Service Board priorities and aspirations:
- To reduce inequalities between communities and within communities;
 - To support and protect vulnerable people; and
 - To consider our impact on the environment.
- 3.5 However, this has always been an evolving strategy and in this third phase, the Strategy details our response to what has been without doubt, the most demanding year for community support, when the UK went into lockdown in March 2020 as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. As a result, the Council had to pivot its Community Service delivery model and in light of the service changes required for 2020, this revised Social Justice Strategy

sets out how the Strategy has evolved and the new direction for the Strategy and the Council's Service areas in particular the Community Support Network (formerly the Community and Partnership Development Team). The Strategy also demonstrates our continuing 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.

- 3.6 Whilst the Aim of the Strategy will remain the same i.e. 'To put Social Justice at the heart of what we do' rather than a broad programme of work, this third phase of the Strategy will provide policy coherence for a number of targeted individual Action Plans. The Action Plans have been produced following consideration of the recently changing societal picture as a direct result of the Covid 19 pandemic, and will continue to help promote equitable prosperity in Monmouthshire.
- 3.7 The Tackling Poverty and Inequality Action Plan, the Homeless Transition Plan and the Food Development Action Plan provide the detailed activities for the next two years and the targets by which we will measure our success to assist us in achieving our goal – putting social justice at the heart of what we do in Monmouthshire.
- 3.8 It is also the ambition to develop two additional Action Plans in 2021 namely the Mental Health/Well-being/Social Isolation Action Plan and the Digital Inclusion Action Plan.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 The assessment of Equality and Future Generations Evaluation (Appendix B) is summarised below for Members' consideration:

This Strategy provides the strategic context to ensure that we 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. The Strategy advocates the bringing together of public services, community leaders, business, schools and all residents to address the issues that matter to that community. By working together around a place, the Strategy can provide the context to ensure that we 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.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 The Strategy continues to demonstrate the Council's commitment to align evidence based policy, programmes of work and resources with the aim of putting social justice at the heart of what we do i.e. the Council's renewed ambitions and policy making decisions; the Council's resource allocation decisions and how the Council supports Monmouthshire's communities and people in their place based activities. The Strategy provides the strategic context to enable a programme of targeted activities that will deliver on a promise to develop strategies with the aim of supporting people and communities to fulfil their potential and live the lives they want to live.
- 5.2 This is Phase Three of an evolving Strategy and given its importance, a Social Justice Advisory Group meets regularly to oversee and direct its implementation. Amongst the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group is an evaluation of progress which will be

reported back to Strong Communities, which in turn will make recommendations of any proposed changes to Cabinet.

6. REASONS:

- 6.1 This revised Phase Three of the Social Justice Strategy, sets out our purpose, intentions and activities for the next two years and the targets by which we will measure our success. Whilst the Aim of the Strategy will remain the same i.e. 'To put Social Justice at the heart of what we do' this third phase of the Strategy provides policy coherence for targeted individual action plans namely the Tackling Poverty and Inequality Action Plan, the Homeless Transition Plan and the Food Development Action Plan. These plans have been produced following consideration of the recently changing societal picture as a direct result of the Covid 19 pandemic and will continue to help promote equitable prosperity in Monmouthshire.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 As an evolving Strategy no additional resourcing needs have been identified at this stage. Instead the Strategy will be used as a tool to provide policy coherence and to inform and align business practice within existing resources, whilst also seeking to identify additional resourcing e.g. grant where a need is identified.

8. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team;
Cabinet;
Social Justice Advisory Group;
Strong Communities Select

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Updated Social Justice Action Plan (Appendix A)
Future Generations Evaluation (Appendix B)
Tackling Food and Inequality Action Plan (Appendix C)
Food Development Action Plan (Appendix D)
Homeless Transition Plan (Appendix E)

10. AUTHORS:

Cath Fallon (Head of Enterprise and Community Animation)
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Future Generations Evaluation

(includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact)

Name of the Officer Cath Fallon Phone no: 07557 190969 E-mail: cathfallon@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Social Justice Strategy Phase Three Update
Name of Service: Enterprise and Community Animation	Date: Future Generations Evaluation 30 th December 2020

NB. Key strategies and documents that may help you identify your contribution to the wellbeing goals and sustainable development principles include: Single Integrated Plan, Continuance Agreement, Improvement Plan, Local Development Plan, People Strategy, Asset Management Plan, Green Infrastructure SPG, Welsh Language Standards, etc.

- 1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group.	The purpose of this Strategy is to be inclusive to all therefore no negative impacts are anticipated in relation to this particular group.	Where any negative impacts are identified the team will seek to address them by taking an inclusive approach.
Disability	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,	As above	As above
Gender reassignment	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,	As above	As above




Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Marriage or civil partnership	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,	As above	As above
Pregnancy or maternity	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Race	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Religion or Belief	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Sex	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Sexual Orientation	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Welsh Language	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Poverty	<i>The Strategy provides the policy context for the Tackling Poverty and Inequality Action Plan detailed as an appendix to this Strategy.</i>	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above



2. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>This draft Strategy advocates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working as part of the Cardiff Capital Region to attract high skill, high wage jobs; Providing 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 and providing access to the labour market for people with disabilities and care leavers Developing, and acting upon, options to improve access to job opportunities in the county to include providing work placements, traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities. 	<p>Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.</p>
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>This Strategy advocates taking a place based approach, working with the community to ensure local biodiversity and ecosystems are enhanced and maintained.</p>	<p>Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.</p>
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>This Strategy advocates developing a collaborative approach to wellbeing to ensure direction setting and oversight of wellbeing in Monmouthshire is informed by those closest to delivery.</p>	<p>Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>The Strategy sets the scene for provision to be community based with the flexibility to respond to local need.</p>	<p>Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
		through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	The Strategy sets the scene to ensure high standards are met and maintained that do not conflict with the global drivers.	Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>	Equality and diversity is the key to this Strategy and as such will be integral to all aspects of the delivery programme.	Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	Equality and diversity is key to this Strategy and as such will be integral to all aspects of the delivery programme.	Where the Social Justice Strategy requires MCC decision, more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will come through subsequent evaluations of the Strategy as specific actions are developed under the objectives.

3. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p> <p>Long Term</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 there is a commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best possible start in life; • Thriving and well-connected community; • Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment; • Lifelong well-being; • Future-focused Council <p>Activities associated with all of the above will focus on enabling the best future for all.</p>	<p>Individual proposals in this document are indicative at this stage. New programmes will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.</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>New programmes will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.</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>New programmes will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>This 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>New programmes will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.</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>	<p>New programmes will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.</p>

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Social Justice, Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Social Justice	<p><i>This Strategy sets out the policy position and strategic context for Social Justice activities within the Council.</i></p>	<p>The purpose of this Strategy is to be inclusive to all therefore no negative impacts are anticipated.</p>	<p>Where any negative impacts are identified the team will seek to address them by taking an inclusive approach.</p>
Safeguarding	<p><i>During the delivery of the programme of activities associated with the Strategy, safeguarding will be at the forefront to ensure that any future service delivery promotes the well-being of children and vulnerable adults, preventing them from being harmed and protecting those who are at risk of abuse and neglect.</i></p>	<p>The purpose of this Strategy is to be inclusive to all therefore no negative impacts are anticipated in relation to this particular activity.</p>	<p>Where any negative impacts are identified the team will seek to address them by taking an inclusive approach.</p>
Corporate Parenting	<p><i>During the delivery of this policy the needs of any 'looked after' children will be considered to ensure any future service delivery protects their welfare.</i></p>	As above	As above

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

This policy is founded upon the following:

- The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act;
- The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act;
- Prosperity for All;
- The Well-being Assessment and the Population Needs Assessment;
- Equality Act 2010;
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission’s “Is Wales Fairer 2018” report; and
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

This Strategy provides the strategic context to ensure that we 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. The strategy advocates the bringing together of public services, community leaders, business, schools and all residents to address the issues that matter to that community. By working together around a place, this strategy can ensure that we 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.

7. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress
Adopting changes as a result of the scrutiny process and amending the policy accordingly.	January 2018	Cath Fallon	
Approval of the Policy	May 2018	Claire Marchant/Cath Fallon	
Twelve month appraisal by Social Justice Advisory Group	February 2019	Frances O’Brien/Cath Fallon	

Consideration of the phase 3 update by Strong Communities Select	January 2021	Cath Fallon/Jude Langdon	
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8. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on:	February 2022.
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9. VERSION CONTROL: The Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	<i>Scrutiny</i>	11 th January 2018 29 th March 2018	<i>This will demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development throughout the evolution of a proposal.</i>
2	<i>Cabinet</i>	2 nd May 2018	Approved
3	<i>Cabinet</i>	11 th July 2019	Approved
4	<i>Scrutiny</i>	12 th January 2021	

