

SUBJECT: Public Service Board Well-being Plan Annual Report

MEETING: Public Services Select Committee

DATE: 5th July 2021

DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Select Committee with the Public Service Board's Annual Report for scrutiny of their performance in 2020/21 in delivering the objectives of the well-being plan.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The intention of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, by taking action in accordance with the sustainable development principle aimed at achieving seven national well-being goals.
- 2.2 The Act places a duty on the Public Service Board (PSB) to prepare and publish a Well-being Plan and well-being objectives for the county and prepare and publish an annual progress report each year.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The committee is invited to use the annual report to hold PSB partners to account for the delivery of collaborative approaches to improve well-being in Monmouthshire.
- 3.2 The committee is invited to examine the annual report to ensure it presents a clear and robust overview of progress towards objectives set in the PSB's well-being plan.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Well-being of Future Generations Act aims to ensure that public bodies think more about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. As part of this duty each Public Service Board must prepare and publish a local well-being plan setting out its local objectives and the steps it proposes to take to meet them.
- 4.2 Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan was approved by the PSB in April 2018 and published at the beginning of May that year. The statutory guidance underpinning the Act requires the Board to prepare and publish an annual report that describes the steps taken to meet the objectives and can also include any other information which the Board feels appropriate.
- 4.3 This is the third annual report, reporting on progress of the PSB towards delivering the objectives set out in the Wellbeing Plan between April 2020 and March 2021. Following scrutiny by the Committee the report will be presented to the Public Service Board for approval and then be published on the PSB's webpages.
- 4.4 During the Coronavirus pandemic public services in Monmouthshire have been at the forefront of efforts to preserve life and stop the spread of the virus, while continuing to provide vital support to communities in Monmouthshire. This report provides an update on the activity delivered by the PSB during 2020/21 on the steps in its well-being plan, this includes activity partners have delivered to address the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic to support residents in Monmouthshire through these unprecedented times. The report includes issues that the

committee have scrutinised over the past year. The report also contains data for the national well-being indicators prescribed by Welsh Government.

- 4.5 With a substantial focus of PSB partners on the pandemic there has been a lessened focus in progressing some areas of the PSB's well-being objectives. The report sets out how partners have evolved and adjusted delivery under the objectives, including responding to the pandemic. There has also been a short delay in producing the annual report beyond the original deadline, however significant effort has been by PSB partners to ensure any delay is limited.
- 4.6 Public services in Monmouthshire continue to work in partnership to deliver and coordinate activity related to the pandemic. There is a need to ensure that the PSB continues to focus the delivery of its well-being plan on the issues that matter most to well-being in Monmouthshire. Utilising the latest evidence and thinking from partners, a review of priority steps, which are areas for particular focus, has been undertaken. The PSB has agreed some areas partners would particularly prioritise collaborative work over the remaining two years of the existing well-being plan, these are: Climate and decarbonisation, mental health, the economy and in particular the extent to which the pandemic may have exacerbated inequality. The PSB will continue to work with local and regional partners to develop its delivery. Any further updates to the well-being plan, will be reported to the committee accordingly.

5. REASONS:

- 5.1 To improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of our county and work towards the aspirations outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations Act and meet the associated legislative requirements set out in the underpinning statutory guidance.
- 5.2 To ensure democratic accountability of the Public Service Board through the appropriate overview and scrutiny provided by the Select Committee.

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no resource implications attached to this report

7. EQUALITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This report presents an evaluation of progress and no implications are identified as a result.

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