

Social Services and Well-being Act: Population Needs Assessment Summary of priorities, actions and process steps

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act is the new law for improving the well-being of people who need care and support, and carers who need support.

What does it mean?

The Act changes the way people's needs are assessed and the way services are delivered and people will have more of a say in the care and support they receive. It also promotes a range of help available within the community to reduce the need for formal, planned support.

- Services will be available to provide the right support at the right time
- More information and advice will be available
- Assessment will be simpler and proportionate
- Carers will have an equal right to be assessed for support
- There will be stronger powers to keep people safe from abuse and neglect

The Act places a duty on local authorities and Local Health Boards to assess the population's care and support needs, including the support needs of carers. This assessment is known as the **Population Needs Assessment**. The population assessment will allow for budgets and resources to be effectively allocated to invest in tackling issues preventatively and is the starting point for partnership working to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

'What the Population Needs Assessment is and what it is not!'

1. This PNA is not an exhaustive list of graphical data but includes appendices where further data is included and will include links to other supporting information such as the local Wellbeing Assessments required under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act – we do not want to duplicate large sections of information in this PNA which is included in other documents
2. This PNA is based on the views of citizens and providers, and co-production is a core design principle. **Citizens and providers helped identify the emerging areas of interest under each core theme.**
3. This PNA is not adopting a 'blank canvass' approach as there are a number of previously completed, and current, needs assessments and market position statements that include useful intelligence. Also, national reports such as NHS Adverse Childhood Experiences provide invaluable data that this PNA will incorporate, but not replicate.
4. The core theme chapters will also include a list of suggested actions to be included in the underpinning regional Area Plan required following the publication of this PNA – **again this list is not exhaustive but a starting point for consultation!**
5. This PNA is the first of its kind and will set the direction of travel for health and social care services – **it is the 'shop window' in terms of priorities and next steps** – and more detailed analysis, mapping of services and actions will be set out in the regional Area Plan required by April 2018.

What People in Monmouthshire told us

Engagement was supported by MCC and PSB through the 'Our Monmouthshire'. Some of the emerging areas of interest are below but further engagement is planned during the consultation period

- An ageing population brings many opportunities, however there are also challenges for service provision and increases in the number of people living with long term conditions.
- Loneliness is a growing concern.
- Monmouthshire has high levels of social capital and volunteering. By taking an asset and placed based approach there is an opportunity to improving well-being.
- Increasing support is required for Looked After Children
- Adverse childhood experiences have a negative impact on people's long term health and economic prospects and can be perpetuated through the generations.

The emerging priorities

- Wellbeing outcomes for Looked After Children – especially out of county placements identified as a large cost to Social Services budgets
- Isolation, independent living and the need for dementia friendly communities
- Support for carers to continue to care
- Mental health awareness and community resources

The suggested actions to progress

- Joint commissioning and pooled resources – combining regional budgets to avoid duplication
- Community Assets and earlier engagement
- Timely information, advice and assistance
- Care Closer to Home strategy with ABUHB

What are Monmouthshire doing already?

- Excellent established processes such as FISH, Raglan Project etc
- At the forefront of dementia friendly communities with development of Dementia Friendly Council
- Supporting a new safeguarding approach (multi agency safeguarding virtual hub) to explore greater working
- Developed synergy with Wellbeing Assessment under Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.