

**SUBJECT: Well-being Assessment and Well-being Objectives**

**MEETING: Special Joint Select Committee**

**DATE: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All**

## **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To provide members with an opportunity to consider the draft well-being assessment ahead of a decision by Council on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- 1.2 To provide members with the opportunity to consider the emerging Well-being Objectives ahead of a decision by Council on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is about the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, by taking action in accordance with the sustainable development principle aimed at achieving well-being goals.
- 2.2 The Act places a duty on the Public Service Board is to prepare and publish a local Well-being Assessment within twelve months of the Assembly elections. It also places a duty on individual public bodies to set well-being objectives by the 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.
- 2.3 The Council presently has to comply with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 which requires public bodies to set Improvement Objectives each year.

## **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Members are invited to scrutinise draft Well-being Assessment and the extent to which it assess the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in the area
- 3.2 That members consider the draft well-being objectives and the extent to which they will enable the authority to maximise its contribution to achieving each of the seven well-being goals.

## **4. KEY ISSUES:**

- 4.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a well-being duty on 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 seven well-being goals. The four statutory members of the PSB are the Local Authority, Local Health Board, Fire and Rescue Authority and Natural Resources Wales, other organisations are also invited. As part of this responsibility the PSB has produced a draft well-being assessment which assess the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in Monmouthshire.
- 4.2 The production of a well-being assessment is a key part of identifying the priorities for the area that the Public Service Board will work to progress. The assessment is evidence based and draws on a range of sources, in particular: data; the views of

local people; information about future trends and academic research. Members were e-mailed a link to the assessment in early February. The summary assessment is included with the agenda while an extended version can be found at [www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ourmonmouthshire](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ourmonmouthshire).

- 4.3 The assessment highlights a number of strengths on which we can build a future for the people and communities of Monmouthshire and also a number of problems and challenges that need to be addressed. The issues below are those that have emerged most clearly from the evidence that public service partners can use to undertake the next phase of their work in developing a well-being plan for the area. During the consultation phase between January and February 2017 the PSB is seeking the views as to whether the right issues have been identified based on the evidence presented as part of the assessment.
- 4.4 The challenges and opportunities facing public services in Monmouthshire are in the process of being finalised through the consultation process and discussions with PSB partners. At the time of writing they are identified in the draft assessment as:
- Inequality between communities and within communities.
  - Wage levels available locally are low, coupled with high property prices, making it difficult for young people and future generations to live and work locally
  - With an increasingly globalised economy and technological advances tomorrow's workforce will need a very different skillset to those of today's school leavers
  - Limited public transport, particularly in rural areas makes it harder for people to access jobs, services and facilities. This could be exacerbated by rising fuel prices but there are also future opportunities from things like automated vehicles.
  - Adverse childhood experiences have a negative impact on people's long term health and economic prospects and can be perpetuated through the generations
  - There is a need to increase healthy behaviours with a particular focus on the first thousand days of a child's life
  - Reducing levels of physical activity which along with dietary changes are leading to growing levels of obesity. This is likely to lead to an increase in long-term conditions associated with it such as type 2 diabetes
  - 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.
  - The natural and built environment needs to be protected and preserved for future generations, due to risks from development, climate change and pollution
  - There are human health impacts of air pollution, especially in Usk and Chepstow
  - Water pollution is a concern, especially from changing agricultural practices
  - Climate change is likely to increase the risk of flooding, as well as many other risks, so mitigating climate change and building resilience is crucial
  - There is a need to increase accessibility of arts, culture and heritage and to ensure adequate provision of Welsh medium education
  - Monmouthshire has high levels of social capital and volunteering. By taking an asset and place based approach there is an opportunity to improve well-being.

- 4.5 The Council also has a responsibility under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to set its own well-being objectives. To achieve this the organisation must:
- Set and publish well-being objectives by 31st March 2017
  - Take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives
  - Publish a statement about well-being objectives
  - Detail arrangements to publish an annual report of progress
- 4.6 The Council is still required under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set annual Improvement Objectives and produce an Improvement Plan. Welsh Government is consulting on a proposal to repeal Part 1 of the Measure which would remove this requirement in future years. Following discussions with regulators and the WLGA it has been deemed sensible to combine the two requirements in a single set of clear objectives to be published by 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- 4.7 The emerging well-being objectives set out in appendix 1, bring together the latest evidence from the draft well-being assessment, policy and legislation to set out how we will strive to deliver a public service that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 4.8 To support the delivery of the well-being objectives, which are focused on the outcomes that enhance the quality of life of citizens and communities, we also have to ensure that our organisation remains relevant and viable for the next generation, while continuing to meet the needs of residents, visitors and businesses in the here-and-now. Appendix 2 identifies some key actions that will be undertaken to enable us to do this.
- 4.9 One of the fundamental approaches advocated by the Act is a shift in focus from gains in service output to a stronger link between the actions of public bodies and the outcomes that enhance the quality of life of citizens and communities both now and in the future. This means that the measures aligned to the objectives will have a longer term focus and members should not always expect to see changes in metrics in the short or medium term.
- 4.10 In order to meet the legislative requirement of approving and publishing the Wellbeing Objectives by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, further details on actions that will be taken to deliver the objectives and metrics to evaluate progress are still being developed. With the pending elections in May 2017 it is proposed the objectives will be further developed, including this detail, and presented to the newly formed Council following the elections in May and subject to discussions with the incoming administration.
- 4.11 Public Service Boards also have a planning responsibility to produce a local well-being plan by May 2018. The local well-being plan will provide important evidence that may inform the council's well-being objectives. It is prudent that the well-being objectives are kept under review and amended through this period, if appropriate, based on this evidence.

## **5. REASONS**

- 5.1 To improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the county in a way that is consistent with the evidence produced as part of the well-being assessment and the priorities of the council.
- 5.2 To comply with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009

**6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 The objectives will draw together key activities that will already have been agreed by members or which will be brought forward for decisions in the year ahead, each will come with separate resource requirements. Production of the plan itself has no resource implications.

**7 EQUALITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no specific implications identified at this stage.

**8. CONSULTEES:**

Senior Management Team  
Senior Leadership Team (scheduled)

The Public Service Board draft Well-being assessment draws together findings from data, academic research and policy papers and the views of local people. The assessment was informed by more than a thousand people who responded to the “Our Monmouthshire” engagement process. This has been used to inform the council’s well-being objectives while further consideration being given to the assessment in future reviews of the objectives.

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## Appendix 1 – Emerging well-being objectives

Wellbeing Objective:	Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life to help them achieve better outcomes
<p><b>Why have we chosen this?</b></p>	<p>The first thousand days of a child’s life from conception to their second birthday has a significant impact on their outcomes and those of future generations. Adverse childhood experiences have a negative impact on people’s long term health and economic prospects and can be perpetuated through the generations. Increasing healthy behaviours in these stages of a child’s life will improve their life chances and there is a role for the council, working in partnership with others to address this.</p> <p>A fifth of children in the county are overweight or obese by the age of five with an estimated one hundred classrooms of obese children in the county.</p> <p>High levels of attainment in our schools can mask variation in attainment in different areas with strong links between poverty and lower attainment. Attainment rates in primary schools are not maintained through key stages 3 and 4. A further challenge is whether young people are being equipped with the skills for a changing job market which is influenced by globalisation and automation with Pisa results showing that children in Wales can lag behind those in other developed nations.</p>
<p><b>Well-being goal contributed to</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A prosperous Wales</li> <li>• A healthier Wales</li> <li>• A more equal Wales</li> </ul>
<p><b>What will we do?</b></p>	<p>This could include things like: The Team Around Family; Partnership working to address Adverse Childhood Experiences; Increasing opportunities for exercise and reducing obesity; Improving educational attainment at all key stages; Safeguard children to enable them to have effective life chances; equipping learners with opportunities, skills and behaviours needed to realise their potential; Delivering the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan</p>
<p><b>National well-being indicators associated with the objective</b></p>	<p>Percentage of live single births with a birth weight of under 2,500g.; Healthy life expectancy at birth including the gap between the least and most deprived; Measurement of development of young children; Percentage of pupils who have achieved the “Level 2 threshold” including English or Welsh first language and Mathematics, including the gap between those who are eligible or are not eligible for free school meals. (To be replaced from 2017 by the average capped points score of pupils); Percentage of children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours (not smoking, eat fruit/vegetables daily, never/rarely drink and meet the physical activity guidelines); Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups; Percentage of people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh; Percentage of people who can speak Welsh.</p>

<b>Wellbeing Objective:</b>	<b>Maximise the potential in our communities to improve well-being for people throughout their life course</b>
<b>Why have we chosen this?</b>	Monmouthshire has an ageing population with the number of over 85s set to increase by 186% in the next 25 years. This creates challenges but also brings many opportunities. Public services cannot continue to meet needs in the same way yet Monmouthshire has high levels of volunteering and social capital. By taking an asset and placed based approach there is an opportunity to improving well-being within communities while reducing the future demand on public services by keeping people well for longer.
<b>Well-being goal contributed to</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A prosperous Wales</li> <li>• A resilient Wales</li> <li>• A healthier Wales</li> <li>• A more equal Wales</li> <li>• A Wales of cohesive communities</li> <li>• A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</li> </ul>
<b>What will we do?</b>	This could include things like: Transformation of adult social care; A County That Serves volunteering programme; improving community governance arrangements; developing clearer support for groups interested in developing local solutions; Developing a community leadership academy
<b>National well-being indicators associated with the objective</b>	Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need; Percentage of people satisfied with local area as a place to live; Percentage of people agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect; Percentage of people who volunteer; Percentage of people who are lonely; Mean mental well-being score for people.

<b>Wellbeing Objective:</b>	<b>Maximise the benefits of the natural and built environment for the well-being of current and future generations</b>
<b>Why have we chosen this?</b>	<p>Residents who responded to “Our Monmouthshire engagement” clearly emphasised the landscape and countryside of being of great value. The environment, both natural and built, is an asset that needs to be valued and protected for future generations, while also equally be accessible, promoted and enhanced for its contributions to culture, the economy, society and health and well-being.</p> <p>Our natural resources are also under many pressures including from development, climate change, the need to produce energy and more. Managing our natural resources responsibly is essential to ensure our long term well-being, we have a responsibility to continue to play our part in mitigating to prevent changes to our natural resources as well as adapting to protect our communities and infrastructure from the inevitable effects of changes. We also have responsibilities under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to support Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience.</p>
<b>Well-being goal contributed to</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A prosperous Wales</li> <li>• A resilient Wales</li> <li>• A healthier Wales</li> <li>• A Wales of cohesive communities</li> <li>• A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</li> <li>• A globally responsible Wales</li> </ul>
<b>What will we do?</b>	This could include things like: Implement the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Forward Plan; Maximising the benefits from Green Infrastructure; improving access to the countryside; promoting tourism; Renewables; Energy efficiency
<b>National well-being indicators associated with the objective</b>	Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ) pollution in the air; Capacity (in MW) of renewable energy equipment installed.; Concentration of carbon and organic matter in soil; The Ecological Footprint of Wales; Amount of waste generated that is not recycled, per person; Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales; Emissions of greenhouse gases attributed to the consumption of global goods and services in Wales; Areas of healthy ecosystems in Wales; Status of Biological diversity in Wales; Percentage of surface water bodies, and groundwater bodies, achieving good or high overall status.

Wellbeing Objective:	Develop opportunities for communities and businesses to ensure a well-connected and thriving county
<b>Why have we chosen this?</b>	<p>Monmouthshire is often perceived as an affluent county and many measures of the economic and labour market reflects this although these headline measures mask some clear disparities, including wage levels available locally are low, property prices are high and many people commute out of the County to work. There are pockets of inequalities between and within communities, with factors causing poverty sometime varying between urban and rural communities.</p> <p>In order to enable the county to thrive we need to ensure there is sufficient transport infrastructure, housing and job opportunities available locally for people, particularly younger generations, to live and work in the county. We can't do this alone and we can't plan for Monmouthshire in isolation we will need to work closely with private, public and third sector partners to plan for opportunities across South East Wales and beyond.</p>
<b>Well-being goal contributed to</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A prosperous Wales</li> <li>• A resilient Wales</li> <li>• A healthier Wales</li> <li>• A more equal Wales</li> <li>• A Wales of cohesive communities</li> <li>• A globally responsible Wales</li> </ul>
<b>What will we do?</b>	<p>This could include things like: Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) City Deal; South Wales Metro Scheme; Improvements to rural transport; broadband improvements; increasing the land supply for homes and businesses; schemes to address rural poverty; Agri-Urban project and the diversification of farming; attracting new industries to increase wage levels to bring people out of poverty and narrow the gender pay differential</p>
<b>National well-being indicators associated with the objective</b>	<p>Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked; Gross Disposable Household Income per head; Percentage of businesses which are innovation-active; Percentage of people in employment, who are on permanent contracts (or on temporary contracts, and not seeking permanent employment) and who earn more than 2/3 of the UK median wage; Gender pay difference; Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age; Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation; Percentage of people moderately or very satisfied with their jobs; Percentage of people in employment; Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups; Number of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless per 10,000 households; Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need.</p>



## Appendix 2 – How we will support the Objectives

### What will we do?

- We will plan to develop our workforce to meet the future skills and requirements of public service delivery whilst ensuring the well-being of staff.
- We will plan our budgets to meet difficult financial circumstances.
- We will work to enable users of our services to access them in an efficient and effective way, including advancing our use of technology and digital infrastructure.
- We will develop our use of data to strengthen how we plan and deliver services and open up our data to help solve some of our problems and improve accountability.
- We will optimise our land, buildings and assets to contribute to truly sustainable and resilient communities
- We will develop a clear plan that will make sure we remain relevant and viable for the next generation, we are calling this work Future Monmouthshire.