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County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Date Not Specified

Notice of meeting

Public Service Board Select Committee

Thursday, 11th July, 2019 at 2.00 pm,
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK - County Hall, The
Rhadyr, Usk

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	To elect a Chair	
2.	Apologies for absence	
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10.	To note the date and time of the next meeting as 12th September 2019 at 10am	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

D. Batrouni
L.Dymock
M.Feakins
P.Pavia
R.Roden
F. Taylor
J.Treharne
T.Thomas

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.

Role of the Pre-meeting

1. Why is the Committee scrutinising this? (background, key issues)
2. What is the Committee's role and what outcome do Members want to achieve?
3. Is there sufficient information to achieve this? If not, who could provide this?
 - Agree the order of questioning and which Members will lead
 - Agree questions for officers and questions for the Cabinet Member

Questions for the Meeting

Scrutinising Performance

1. How does performance compare with previous years? Is it better/worse? Why?
2. How does performance compare with other councils/other service providers? Is it better/worse? Why?
3. How does performance compare with set targets? Is it better/worse? Why?
4. How were performance targets set? Are they challenging enough/realistic?
5. How do service users/the public/partners view the performance of the service?
6. Have there been any recent audit and inspections? What were the findings?
7. How does the service contribute to the achievement of corporate objectives?
8. Is improvement/decline in performance linked to an increase/reduction in resource? What capacity is there to improve?

Scrutinising Policy

1. Who does the policy affect ~ directly and indirectly? Who will benefit most/least?
2. What is the view of service users/stakeholders? Do they believe it will achieve the desired outcome?
3. What is the view of the community as a whole - the 'taxpayer' perspective?
4. What methods were used to consult with stakeholders? Did the process enable all those with a stake to have their say?
5. What practice and options have been considered in developing/reviewing this policy? What evidence is there to inform what works?
6. Does this policy align to our corporate objectives, as defined in our corporate plan?
7. Have all relevant sustainable development, equalities and safeguarding implications been taken into consideration? For example, what are *the procedures that need to be in place to protect children?*
8. How much will this cost to implement and what funding source has been identified?
9. How will performance of the policy be measured and the impact evaluated.

Questions for the Committee to conclude...

Do we have the necessary information to form conclusions/make recommendations to the executive, council, other partners? If not, do we need to:

- (i) Investigate the issue in more detail?
- (ii) Obtain further information from other witnesses – Executive Member, independent expert, members of the local community, service users, regulatory bodies...
- (iii) Agree further actions to be undertaken within a timescale/future monitoring report...

General Questions....

Empowering Communities

- How are we involving local communities and empowering them to design and deliver services to suit local need?
- Do we have regular discussions with communities about service priorities and what level of service the council can afford to provide in the future?

Service Demands

- How will policy and legislative change affect how the council operates?
- Have we considered the demographics of our council and how this will impact on service delivery and funding in the future?

Financial Planning

- Do we have robust medium and long-term financial plans in place?
- Are we linking budgets to plans and outcomes and reporting effectively on these?

Making savings and generating income

- Do we have the right structures in place to ensure that our efficiency, improvement and transformational approaches are working together to maximise savings?
- How are we maximising income? Have we compared other council's policies to maximise income and fully considered the implications on service users?
- Do we have a workforce plan that takes into account capacity, costs, and skills of the actual versus desired workforce?

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Public Service Board Select Committee held
at on Tuesday, 26th March, 2019 at 10.00 am**

PRESENT: County Councillors: J.Pratt, J.Treharne and V. Smith

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Sharran Lloyd	LSB Development Manager
Matthew Gatehouse	Head of Policy and Governance
Hazel Clatworthy	Sustainability Policy Officer
Hazel Ilett	Scrutiny Manager
Wendy Barnard	Democratic Services Officer
Richard Jones	Performance Manager
Chris Rees	Natural Resources Wales

APOLOGIES:

County Councillors D. Batrouni and M.Groucutt

1. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

County Councillor J. Pratt was elected Chair for the meeting. County Councillor V. Smith was substituting for Councillor D. Blakebrough.

2. Public Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed as a true record.

4. Progressing the steps in Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan

Purpose:

To provide the context for presentations that will be given to update the Select Committee on the delivery of key steps as part Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan. The Committee is invited to scrutinise the lead agency assigned to these steps. Each lead agency is a member of the Public Service Board.

Key Issues:

1. The Public Service Board has approved four well-being objectives that underpin a clear purpose of building sustainable and resilient communities. The ideas and activity that will contribute to the delivery of these is set out as 'steps' within the Well-being Plan, each one being led by a PSB partner.

2. It is important that the vision set against each of these steps displays the appropriate ambition and clarity to ensure that it is supported by all partners and benefits from collaborative and integrated approaches. Organisations are being asked to put resources and energy into

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Minutes of the meeting of Public Service Board Select Committee held at on Tuesday, 26th March, 2019 at 10.00 am

these in the name of the Public Service Board and it is important to ensure that that they are focusing on the right things.

3. The work on the steps is at different stages of evolution. The Programme Board sits underneath the PSB and maintains an oversight of all activities and is meeting the day before this committee.

4. The PSB has prioritised a six steps for particular focus. They are:

- Adverse Childhood Experiences - led by Gwent Police
- The Mental Health of Children and Young People – led by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
- Improve the resilience of ecosystems by working at a larger scale – led by Natural Resources Wales
- Promoting active citizenship – led by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations
- Re-addressing the supply and mix of housing stock - led by Monmouthshire County Council, with involvement of registered social landlords
- Develop technology-led solutions for improving rural transport – led by Monmouthshire County Council.

5. Members will recall that these six steps have been selected due to the extent to which they integrate, inform and create the conditions to enable these pieces of work to progress, or because there will be outputs over the next six months that will require debate, review and evaluation before decision are taken on how best to move forward. Partners need to ensure that these projects are appropriately resourced to ensure real progress over a defined period and must be prepared to provide updates to the PSB Select Committee.

6. The Select Committee can require any statutory member of the board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on the partner as a statutory member of the board in line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

7. At its meeting on the 9th January 2019 the Committee scrutinised progress against the Active Citizenship and Supply and mix of housing step. This meeting will receive presentations on rural transport and improving the resilience of ecosystems. There will be a brief update on Adverse Childhood Experiences, with the committee previously having scrutinised Gwent Police in autumn 2018. The final of the priority steps addressing mental health will be presented at the next meeting of the committee.

8. The Presentations to the Select Committee should reflect the challenge identified in the well-being assessment and provide some of the available evidence to demonstrate the rationale for selecting the issue. The Select Committee will gain a clearer understanding of how the steps being taken reinforce the PSB's vision and ambition for the future.

9. The Select Committee may wish to consider the extent to which they feel the partners have applied the following five ways of working in their leadership of the steps they are delivering, as follows:

- Long term
- Integrated
- Involvement
- Collaborative
- Prevention

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9. Members may also wish to make use of the newly published Future Generations Framework for Scrutiny. This resource suggests questions to ask and the answers that scrutineers may expect to hear if the Act has been properly considered. The framework can be downloaded from:

https://futuregenerations.wales/resources_posts/future-generations-framework-for-scrutiny/

Member Scrutiny:

The Head of Policy and Governance presented the report noting that there were two presentations for consideration.

Following the presentations, questions were invited as follows:

a) Presentation from Natural Resources Wales

Chris Rees, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) provided a presentation about the sustainable management of natural resources referring to the Wellbeing of Future Generations and Natural Environment Acts. The slides were circulated to Committee Members.

- A Select Committee Member queried if NRW is liaising with Monmouthshire County Council on the local development plan. It was agreed such liaison is a key part of the Acts and is one of the benefits of the Public Service Board.
- A Member asked how NRW is engaging with the general public (not just those who are more active on environmental matters). It was responded that social media is important in communicating NRW's work. Regarding the development of area statements, residents in focus areas will be contacted and public meetings will be held.
- A Member observed that a recent climate ready meeting was poorly attended and asked how future events will be publicised. NRW is working with local partners to contact networks in the areas. It was accepted that better promotion of events in the towns would be useful. The Communities and Partnerships Manager emphasised the role of the Community Engagement Teams that are area based and support the Public Service Board lead officers to take priorities to the community and seek responses on e.g. litter and protecting the environment. It was commented that events must be better publicised for better attendance as it was felt that the public would currently have to specifically look for information.
- The Chair raised the need for information to be relevant to local communities and communicated in simple language to encourage involvement and ideas e.g. harnessing waterfall power.
- A Member explained that people in his ward are interested but don't want to be active, and the challenge is how to change that. It was suggested that when it is possible to demonstrate achievement from working together with the Public Services Board, it will be easier to disseminate information to wider communities for more involvement. This was taken away as an action point
- A Member asked about NRW plans to prevent catastrophes due to climate change. It was replied that a major priority of NRW is to stop flooding in high risk areas. Communities can work with other partners in mitigating surface water flooding and planting trees.

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- A Member asked about plans for the £2.2m earmarked for Gwent. A briefing was made available to committee members.
- The Chair referred to Brexit and the loss of EU funding, and asked if there will resources to deliver outcomes and queried the ability to produce more food. Considering Brexit, it was noted that partners have received EU funding e.g. for improving the habitat of fish species. It was suggested that the question is directed to the Public Service Board. It is a priority to understand shared Assets, such as land, and to consider alternative management measures.
- The Chair asked how much input NRW has on big road projects referring to a significant local problem with flooding. It was responded that this was a rare incident and a lot of work has been carried out to ensure, as far as possible, it won't happen again. NRW has a good relationship with contractors and they are aware of the consequences of not abiding to good environmental management.
- The Chair asked about house building on flood plains. It was confirmed that NRW is a statutory consultee. Early involvement is welcomed and more work is needed to understand collective benefits and ensure legislation is made to underpin all decisions.
- A Member asked about the relationship of NRW with the fire authority. It was explained that there is regular consultation on how NRW deploys on incidents. NRW is a category one responder under the Civil Contingencies Act. Training is also undertaken together to strengthen resilience.
- The Chair stated that area practitioners need to be more proactive in engaging with locally elected members; engagement with NRW is welcomed. It was queried if there are area representatives available to meet town and community councils, and to ensure the input of residents. Being mindful of limited resources, it was responded that input is available according to need. It was added that the area statement process will identify issues allowing better connection with communities.

Committee Conclusion:

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, noted that NRW carries out vital work for areas of the county.

The presentation helped to contextualise the challenges faced by NRW and communities.

The need to publicise the work of NRW was emphasised and also the need for more engagement with local communities.

The representative of NRW and officers were thanked for their input to the meeting.

b) Develop new technologies for improving rural transport

The Head of Policy and Governance provided a presentation regarding rural transport. It was highlighted that the initiative was as a result of the wellbeing assessment where residents considered what matters to them and questioned their aspirations for their future and that of future generations. Wellbeing objectives were then set by the Public Services Board.

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Member scrutiny:

Following the presentation, questions were invited as follows:

- The Chair and Councillor Smith had visited the RiverSimple hydrogen powered car pilot in the bus station in Abergavenny, were very impressed and agreed that the idea should be promoted more adding that the installation should be made more attractive with information to encourage residents to think more about this option. It was agreed that the facility could be promoted more.
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that Grassroutes buses are driven by a mix of volunteer and paid drivers.
- A Member raised the poor condition of some toilets in Monmouthshire and referred to more sustainable facilities available in the market that e.g. conserve water and electricity.
- The availability of electric charging points was raised. A recently completed project as part of the Rural Development Plane (RDP) installed 20 electrical charging points in tourist locations, such as hotels, caravan sites; these were fitted at no cost to the business in return for advertising. A hotel has reported increased business due to the availability of charging points. A report on the success of the "Fully Charged" project will be compiled. It was confirmed that the first RiverSimple hydrogen car will be delivered very soon. It was also reported that there is a possibility that schools may work with Gwent Energy to provide artwork for the construction at the bus station. Information was provided that electric car owners generally check ZapMap before journeys to check the location of charging points.
- The Chair asked about taxis, and provided the example of ViaVan which is an on-demand transit system that takes multiple passengers heading in the same direction and books them into a shared vehicle. It was confirmed that the GovTech companies are looking at this sort of solution but also taking into account the rural aspect. The GovTech project competitive process ends this week. Other important dates for the project were provided.
- A Member asked the insurance status for persons providing lifts in their own car. It was thought that a private car driver is not insured to take money/reward to give someone a lift but individuals would have to check their own policies. It was requested that the information from Bridges car sharing project is provided to County Councillor Smith.
- A Member raised a query about City Deal and it was confirmed that there is significant investment in heavy and light rail. In Monmouthshire most communities will not be touched by this. If Monmouthshire County Council has a successful technology driven solution that connects rural and isolated communities, it could possibly be referred to the City Deal Cabinet for further development.

Committee Conclusion:

The Committee was encouraged with the direction of the GovTech scheme.

It was agreed that more effort must be made to promote environmentally friendly transport.

It was agreed that a Special scrutiny meeting would be required to look at all rural transport options.

5. Update on Regional Well-being Work

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Public Service Board Select Committee held at on Tuesday, 26th March, 2019 at 10.00 am

Purpose:

To provide the committee with a brief update about work being undertaken at a Gwent regional level to build on well-being assessments and to provide an update on emerging proposals for 2019-20 funding from Welsh Government which is in place to help Public Service Boards build their strategic capacity and capability to support the delivery of well-being plans as well as consolidate work on the assessments and plans.

Key Issues:

1. Officers representing the five Public Service Boards in Gwent have been meeting in the Gwent Wide Strategic Well-being Assessment Group (GSWAG) to share learning and identify opportunities to collaborate on areas of common interest. This work initially focused on the development of the well-being assessment and has continued to strengthen the development and implementation of well-being plans with a particular focus on collaboration and regional working.
2. For each of the past two years the Welsh Government has made available circa £74K of funding for the five PSBs in the Gwent area to use collaboratively to build on work completed as part of the well-being assessments and help build towards the development of the well-being plan.
3. Past projects include:
 - i) Future Trends – The limitations of work on future trends was a common theme raised by the Future Generations Commissioner and Welsh Government when they provided feedback on Well-being Assessments. Initial work on identifying strategically important future trends and disruptors has now been built upon with a regional conference in November and a local workshop for Monmouthshire, held in Monmouth in December which developed this at a local level and which members of the committee were invited to attend.
 - ii) Climate Ready Gwent – This work is underway and aims to identify landscape scale opportunities for climate adaptation using an ecosystems approach and make recommendations for future strategic regional collaboration. The aim is to influence the required changes to policy and practice that will enable Monmouthshire and its neighbours in Gwent to take the necessary steps towards being climate ready for the future.
 - iii) Happy Communities – This provided two tools: the Happy Communities Index (now called Thriving Places Index in Wales) which measured the local conditions for community well-being and the Happiness Pulse which is a measure of personal well-being.
 - iv) Data and Dashboards – Remaining funding is being utilised to improve how Monmouthshire PSB can use a type of data that is published under an Open Government License to develop accessible and automated reporting of key data issues raised in the well-being assessment, that can be used by the community, the PSB and councillors.
4. A further allocation of funding has been made for 2019-20 (see appendix 1). Officers on the Gwent wide group are currently developing projects to utilise this funding for 2019-20 and this is a work in progress ahead of a submission at the end of March. A progress

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Minutes of the meeting of Public Service Board Select Committee held at on Tuesday, 26th March, 2019 at 10.00 am

update will be given at the meeting. It is likely to include work on annual reporting and community risk registers.

Member scrutiny:

The Policy and Performance Manager provided an update on regional wellbeing work. Committee members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

- Regarding concerns about the small numbers of the public attending the Monmouth climate ready workshop, it was confirmed that the first workshop was widely advertised and attended by 40 members of the public. The second workshop was arranged for public bodies.

Committee conclusion:

The Officer was thanked the officer for the update and looked forward to receiving the annual report for scrutiny.

6. To consider the Select Committee's forward work programme

The forward work programme was noted.

It was agreed that it is helpful to have partner organisations in attendance.

7. To note the date and time of the next meeting: TBC

The meeting ended at 12.26 pm

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SUBJECT: Progressing the steps in Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan

MEETING: Public Service Board Select Committee

DATE: 11th July 2019

DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the context for the presentations that will be given to update the Select Committee on the delivery of the key step being led by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board as part Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan. The Committee is invited to scrutinise the lead agency assigned to these steps.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is the legislation which defines the process of how public bodies can 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 One of the responsibilities the Act places on the Public Service Board (PSB) is to prepare and publish a Well-being Plan and well-being objectives for the county. Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan was approved by the PSB in April 2018 and published at the beginning of May 2018.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The committee is invited to scrutinise presentations from partners of the PSB to ensure that: The work being delivered to progress the steps identified in the well-being plan reflects the necessary ambition and to ensure that the sustainable development principle is applied in a way that supports and contributes towards the Public Service Board's Well-being Objectives.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Public Service Board has approved four well-being objectives that underpin a clear purpose of *building sustainable and resilient communities*. The ideas and activity that will contribute to the delivery of these is set out as 'steps' within the Well-being Plan, each one being led by a PSB partner.
- 4.2 It is important that the vision set against each of these steps displays the appropriate ambition and clarity to ensure that it is supported by all partners and benefits from collaborative and integrated approaches. Organisations are being asked to put resources and energy into these in the name of the Public Service Board and it is important to ensure that that they are focusing on the right things.
- 4.3 The work on the steps is at different stages of evolution. The Programme Board sits underneath the PSB and maintains an oversight of all activities and is meeting the day before this committee.

4.4 Members will be aware that The PSB has prioritised a six steps for particular focus. They are:

- Adverse Childhood Experiences - led by Gwent Police
- The Mental Health of Children and Young People – led by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
- Improve the resilience of ecosystems by working at a larger scale – led by Natural Resources Wales
- Promoting active citizenship – led by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations
- Re-addressing the supply and mix of housing stock - led by Monmouthshire County Council, with involvement of registered social landlords
- Develop technology-led solutions for improving rural transport – led by Monmouthshire County Council.

4.5 Members will recall that these six steps have been selected due to the extent to which they integrate, inform and create the conditions to enable these pieces of work to progress, or because there will be outputs over the next six months that will require debate, review and evaluation before decision are taken on how best to move forward. Partners need to ensure that these projects are appropriately resourced to ensure real progress over a defined period and must be prepared to provide updates to the PSB Select Committee.

4.6 The Select Committee can require any statutory member of the board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on the partner as a statutory member of the board in line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

4.7 At previous meetings members have scrutinised five of the six steps. This meeting will receive a presentation on the mental health of children and young people. This should reflect the challenge identified in the well-being assessment and provide some of the available evidence to demonstrate the rationale for selecting the issue. The Select Committee will gain a clearer understanding of how the steps being taken reinforce the PSB's vision and ambition for the future.

4.8 The Select Committee may wish to consider the extent to which they feel the partners have applied the following five ways of working in their leadership of the steps they are delivering, as follows:

- Long term – Are activities defined over the longer term to ensure the ability of future generations to meet their own needs is not compromised? How has the Sustainable Development Principle been applied by the partner and how do the actions presented achieve the principle? I.e. how have corporate activities, medium and long-term risks and workforce planning been taken into account (irrespective of current budget positions).
- Integrated – How have the PSB's well-being goals been taken into account in agreeing the well-being objectives? Has the interdependence between the seven well-being goals and the well-being objectives been recognised? What consideration been taken of how well-being objectives may impact upon each other and upon the objectives of other public bodies, either

positively or detrimentally? Do the well-being objectives make sense as a whole and if there are any conflicts, how will these be resolved, managed and mitigated.

- Involvement – To what extent have partners engaged with the community through recognised models of engagement and in doing so, ensured that the diversity of the population has been reflected in the engagement activity to ensure people are involved in decisions that affect them.
- Collaborative – Can partners demonstrate that they are working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions?
- Prevention – Does the PSB understand the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring and are solutions and early interventions being instigated at the right time (seeking early action rather than waiting for crisis trigger points to be reached) to enable the PSB to make progress in achieving the well-being goals? Is the PSB applying an integrated approach to improve well-being through the early identification of ‘cause and effect’ problems?

4.9 Members may also wish to make use of the [Future Generations Framework for Scrutiny](#). This resource suggests questions to ask and the answers that scrutineers may expect to hear if the Act has been properly considered.

5. REASONS:

5.1 To ensure that actions are in place that will help build a sustainable and resilient Monmouthshire and make progress towards the objectives published in the Well-being Plan.

5.2 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.

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no resource implications attached to this report.

7. EQUALITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Evaluations are being completed as these steps are developed and will be available for scrutiny when the work identifies key decisions that need to be taken.

8. AUTHOR:

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SUBJECT: Well-being Plan Annual Report

MEETING: PSB Select Committee

DATE: 11th July 2019

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 to date 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 then to prepare and publish a progress report on the full year's activity within 14 months.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members of the committee are invited to scrutinise the annual report and hold PSB partners to account for the delivery of collaborative approaches to improve well-being in Monmouthshire.
- 3.2 The Select Committee is invited to review the attached annual report to ensure it contributes to democratic accountability by presenting a clear and robust overview of progress towards objectives set in the PSBs 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 PSB 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 a report no later than 14 months after the publication of the well-being plan reporting on the full year's activity. In Monmouthshire's case this means publication by 4th July. The report must describe the steps taken since publication to meeting the objectives and can also include any other information which the Board feels appropriate.
- 4.3 Monmouthshire's report effectively summarises the issues that the committee have been scrutinising over the past few months including regional projects such as the Gwent Futures Work. It also contains data for the national well-being indicators prescribed by Welsh Government. Members of the committee have previously been sent a copy of the report informally as the publication date occurred before the meeting.

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 PSB 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 There are no implications identified as a result of this report.

8. AUTHOR:

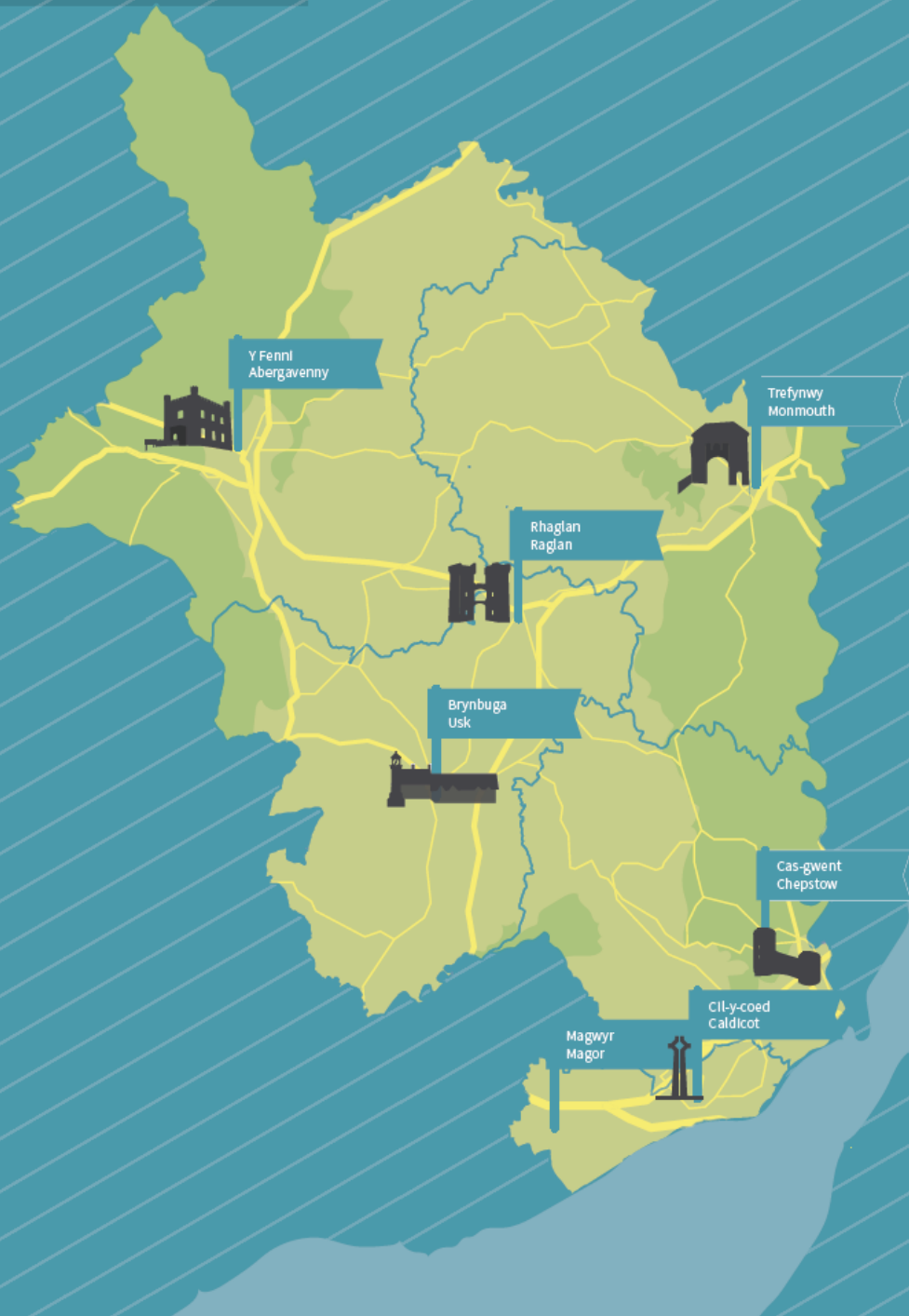
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MONMOUTHSHIRE



Monmouthshire
Public Services Board
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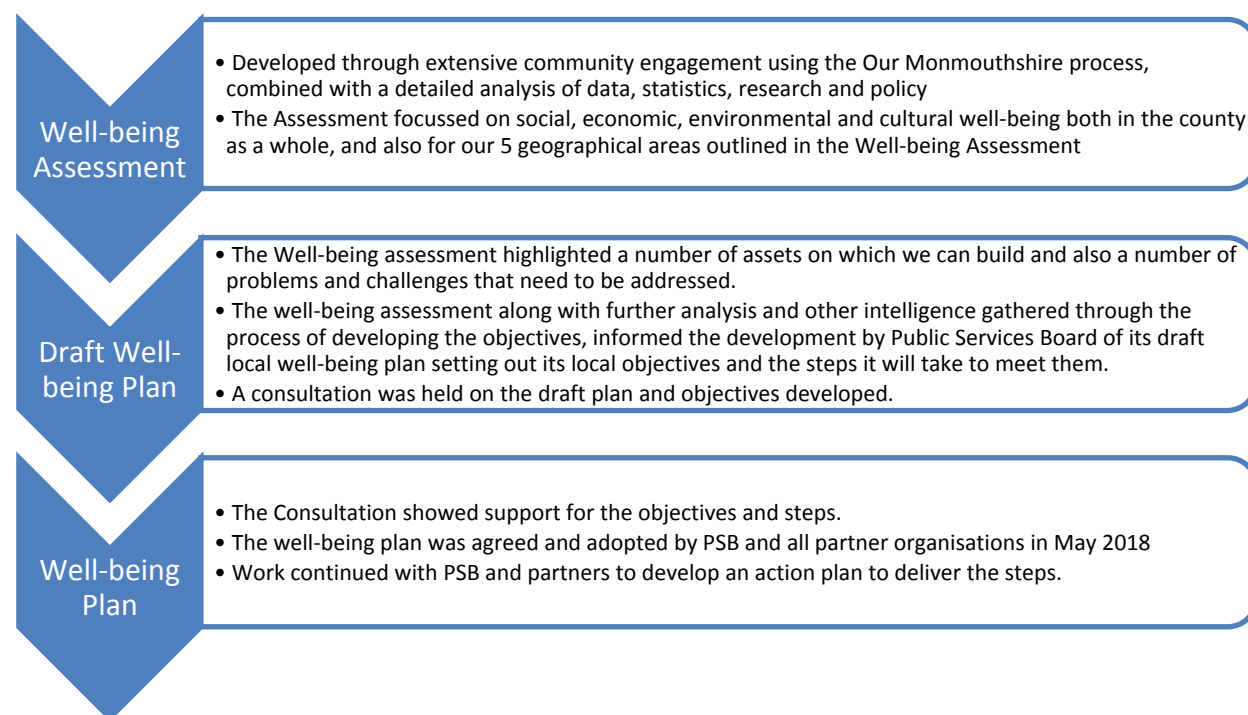
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Public Services Board Well-being Plan

In May 2018, the Public Services Board, Monmouthshire’s strategic partnership of public bodies, adopted their Well-being Plan in line with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. They agreed the shared purpose of ***building sustainable and resilient communities***, three cross-cutting aspirations that would apply to all objectives and steps, and four well-being objectives – two about people and two about the place, as shown in the following table:

Purpose	Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities	
Our aspiration is to:	Reduce inequalities between communities and within communities Support and protect vulnerable people Realise the benefits that the natural environment has to offer	
Our Well-being Objectives are:	<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.

A lot of background work went into the development of the Well-being Plan, which is summarised below:



This report sets out the progress made so far by the PSB to deliver the objectives set out in the well-being plan.

From well-being steps to action

The ‘steps’ within the well-being plan aim to address some of the most significant challenges and opportunities for well-being in Monmouthshire. As a result, they are often complex and there are no quick solutions to address them.

Each of the 19 steps has a lead partner organisation allocated who has the responsibility to explore the step further and begin to identify more specific actions which the PSB can then prioritise to deliver or commission.

Informed by the evidence gathered in the well-being assessment and well-being plan, each partner has been further developing the evidence base and exploring potential solutions that move towards delivery against the outcomes in the plan. This has included holding workshops and involving other partners, organisations and community groups.

Setting the PSBs priorities

It is important that the vision set against each of these steps displays the appropriate ambition and clarity to ensure that it is supported by all partners. Organisations are being asked to put resources and energy into these steps and it is important to ensure that they are focusing on the right things.

Prioritising the steps was necessary, as the partners do not have the capacity to work on all 19 steps at the same time. Some of the steps are still in the exploratory, developmental phase whilst others are more advanced and are developing pilots. Following a review of all the steps, the PSB prioritised the following six areas for particular focus in 2018 and 2019, further detail on the progress with steps is provided in the “Well-being objectives – progress so far” section.

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) – led by Gwent Police
- The mental health of children and young people – led by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB)
- Improve the resilience of ecosystems by working at a larger scale – led by Natural Resources Wales
- Promoting active citizenship – led by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO)
- Re-addressing the supply and mix of housing stock - led by Monmouthshire County Council, with the involvement of registered social landlords
- Develop technology-led solutions for improving rural transport – led by Monmouthshire County Council.

Applying the five ways of working

Throughout the process of developing the Well-being Assessment, producing the Well-being Plan and delivering the objectives, the five ways of working set out by the Act have been applied. These have continued to be applied as the action to deliver the steps has been developed, consideration includes:

Long term

By their very nature, the steps set out in the Well-being plan are often complex issues which cannot be solved in the short-term. The Well-being plan aims to focus on these longer-term challenges whilst ensuring the ability of future generations to meet their own needs is not compromised. We have benefited from the Gwent Futures work that has been undertaken which helps identify some of the future trends that we face in Monmouthshire. A workshop was held for PSB partners to explore the specific implication of the futures work on selected steps in the Well-being Plan, ensuring that long-term trends are considered as the steps are developed.

Involvement

Involvement is key to developing the steps in the Well-being Plan. All of the steps require partners to involve the public, service users and organisations. A good example of where this has happened has been through the Promoting Active Citizenship step, which has included holding community engagement events around the county. The aim of these events has been to bring residents and local groups together to build new relationships and strengthen existing networks to benefit the local areas.

Collaboration

Many of the steps in the Plan can only be delivered effectively by collaborating with others. For example, the Rural Transport step has involved working in collaboration with private sector companies who can deliver innovative solutions, as well as working with the third sector. Another example is the ACEs workshop that was held to gather the views of different agencies on the issues faced to inform the development of that step.

Prevention

Fundamental to the steps in the Well-being Plan is the principle of prevention. For all of the steps it has and continues to be essential that partners explore and understand the root causes of issues in each step, in order to aim to prevent them from occurring, and that solutions and early interventions are being instigated at the right time (seeking early action rather than waiting for crisis trigger points to be reached). Throughout the development of the steps, the “double diamond” approach was used to thoroughly “discover”, “define” and “categorise” the issue, before moving on to “develop” the opportunity and “deliver” the solution (see p11-12 of the [Well-being Plan Annex](#)). This emphasis on really understanding the root causes of the challenge before moving to solutions means that there is a good understanding of how to prevent issues from occurring, rather than just treating the symptoms.

Integration

The Programme Board is a group that sits below the PSB. All steps taken under the Well-being Plan are reported to the Programme Board, which means that all the partners and step leads are around the table and are able to see where there are synergies and opportunities to work in a more joined up integrated way. This means the Programme Board are well placed to see integration across well-being objective steps and if there are any conflicts, how will these be resolved, managed and mitigated. Work to progress each of the steps will impact on other steps, and some of the steps are being progressed together to ensure good integration and a joined-up approach. The table on the following page shows how each of the steps integrates with other steps:

	ACES	Obesity	Well-being in Schools	Mental Health	Housing	Intergenerational living	Active citizenship	Model of care	Networks of support	Ecosystem resilience	Design and Planning	Renewables	Active/Sustainable travel	Sustainability education	City Deal	Education business links	Rural transport	Business networks	Centres of excellence
ACES	Black		Blue	Blue															
Obesity		Black								Blue	Blue		Blue	Blue					
Well-being in Schools	Blue		Black	Blue										Blue		Blue			Blue
Mental Health	Blue		Blue	Black										Blue					
Housing					Black	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue		Blue				
Intergenerational living					Blue	Black	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue								
Active citizenship						Blue	Black	Blue	Blue	Blue				Blue		Blue	Blue		
Model of care					Blue	Blue	Blue	Black	Blue										
Networks of support					Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Black										
Ecosystem resilience		Blue					Blue			Black	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue					Blue
Design and Planning		Blue			Blue	Blue				Blue	Black	Blue	Blue				Blue		
Renewables											Blue	Black	Blue	Blue			Blue	Blue	
Active/Sustainable travel		Blue			Blue					Blue	Blue	Blue	Black	Blue	Blue		Blue		
Sustainability education		Blue	Blue	Blue			Blue			Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Black		Blue			
City Deal					Blue								Blue		Black	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Education business links			Blue				Blue							Blue	Blue	Black			Blue
Rural transport							Blue				Blue	Blue	Blue		Blue		Black		
Business networks												Blue			Blue			Black	Blue
Centres of excellence			Blue							Blue					Blue	Blue		Blue	Black











Well-being Objectives – Progress so far

The PSB Well-being objectives and steps are set out in the tables below. The prioritised steps for 2018-19 are highlighted in bold and detail on progress made with each of these steps is provided.

The Well-being plan sets out in detail the evidence that was used to “discover” the evidence for each objective and “define” the response.



Well-being Objective 1 - Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life

Well-being goals contributed to						
Prosperous Wales (1)	Resilient Wales (2)	Healthier Wales (3)	More equal Wales (4)	Wales of cohesive communities (5)	Vibrant culture & thriving Welsh language (6)	Globally responsible Wales (7)
<p>In order to secure employment and contribute to a Prosperous Wales, it is crucial that young people are able to develop the skills they need for the future. Their physical and mental health are key to them developing their potential and becoming healthy adults as part of a Healthier Wales, whilst increasing participation in sport contributes to a Vibrant Culture. It is essential all children and young people have equal access to education, opportunities and the best possible start in life. This will help young people to contribute to their community in a positive way as they become adults, helping to develop Cohesive Communities.</p>						
Delivering the Solution						
The PSB will focus on:			Objective links	Goals	Impact	
Tackling the causes of ACEs and the perpetuation of generational problems in families.			 	1, 3, 4, 5	Long Term	
Working to tackle physical inactivity and obesity in order to increase the health and well-being of future generations			  	3, 5, 6	Long Term	
Working to ensure that schools and services for children focus on well-being and a more rounded approach than purely academic results.			 	1, 3, 4	Med Term	
Supporting the resilience of children and young people in relation to their mental health and emotional well-being.			  	3, 4	Short Term	

Prioritised step – Tackling the causes of ACEs and the perpetuation of generational problems in families.

Why we are doing this

The Well-being Assessment identified that children who experience stressful and poor quality childhoods are more likely to adopt health-harming behaviours during adolescence which can themselves lead to illnesses and diseases later in life. This can be perpetuated through the generations. Preventing these experiences or reducing their impacts can benefit future as well as current generations.

Understanding the Problem

Exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), such as experiencing domestic violence or substance or alcohol misuse, can alter how children's brains develop and they are more likely to adopt health-harming behaviours.

What we're doing

The response to this in Monmouthshire involves an understanding of the impact of ACE's within our communities and coordination with a range of partners, to develop a **long-term** approach to **prevention** taking account of the complexity of issues involved.

A key action has been to develop an 'ACE aware' understanding in all PSB partners and other organisations. To make this happen we held a 'systems thinking' workshop, in collaboration with Cymru Well Wales, ACE's Hwb, and with all PSB partners in October 2018. This **collaborative** workshop has underpinned an action plan which will ensure PSB and partner agencies have a joined up, **integrated** response and resources to focus on proactive preventative and mitigating interventions that enable children and families to access fully integrated support across agencies/departments and benefit from seamless information sharing.

ACE awareness training has been delivered by the ACE Hwb and the Early Action Team, to targeted areas across Monmouthshire.

The second action has been to review the policies of all PSB partners that have implications for ACEs. Each PSB organisation has been asked to review their policies to identify which will require an ACE's assessment and ensure that the appropriate criteria are contained within that assessment to consider and reflect children's rights.

Thirdly, there is a mapping and scoping exercise across Monmouthshire to identify the extent of youth services and provision available to young people. This is complemented by a similar exercise across all schools within Monmouthshire to identify what systems and processes are in place to identify and respond to concerns about ACE's. It is anticipated that these actions will facilitate every child having access to a trusted adult.

The cross-cutting nature of this step creates a natural link with the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership. Here we are looking at representation within the Early Help Panel to ensure this is appropriate to the referrals received and the intervention options available to families and children

What we will do next

We will continue to identify appropriate interventions and system changes to reduce and mitigate the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on individuals, families and communities, and put resources in place across all partners to deliver the intervention programme whilst at the same time working to reduce future demand.

Prioritised step – Supporting the resilience of children and young people in relation to their mental health and emotional well-being.

Why we are doing this?

The health and well-being of children and young people is an essential component now and in the future to support the delivery of the Public Service Board's clear purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities in Monmouthshire.

Giving children and young people the best possible start in life is a priority. Good mental health allows children and young people to develop the skills to cope with adversities in their lives, and to grow into well rounded, healthy adults who are able and willing to contribute to society as well as bring up their own families to become the same.

At a national level, mental health problems affect about 1 in 10 children and young people, and by the age of 14 half of all mental health problems will have begun. They include depression, anxiety and conduct disorders, and are often a direct response to what is happening in their lives. The Well-being Assessment, consultation with children and young people, and other local evidence demonstrate that children and young people living in Monmouthshire experience the same difficulties as elsewhere, and this step was chosen as a key priority because of the multi-agency prioritisation and joint action required to begin to make an impact. This step links very closely with the ACEs step for that reason.

Understanding the Problem/Opportunity

There is a recognition that improving the mental health and well-being of children and young people requires **involvement** and commitment to make change by all those whose functions include services for children and young people. These include education, mental and physical health services, housing, local authority functions including leisure and social services, the third sector, the criminal justice system, as well as families and carers. A joined-up, **integrated** approach is the only way we can deliver a child-centred support system.

Emotional well-being, resilience and early intervention are cited by professionals working in the field of child and adolescent mental health as a very under-developed area, and thus a major development requirement for public and voluntary bodies to work together, supported by specialist child and adolescent mental health services, who deal with the most complex children and young people. It is in this area where the PSB partners can work most effectively together.

What we're doing

A multi-agency Early Intervention Panel has been established, which is picking up referrals for children and young people who need help and support, and acting on them quickly on an individual basis. It will be embedded into custom and practice, appropriately resourced and optimised to meet the varied demands for early intervention, with consistent involvement from relevant organisations.

The PSB are supporting the development and implementation of the pan-Gwent integrated system of emotional and mental well-being for children and young people, utilising the Gwent-wide model developed and funded through the Welsh Government Transformation Fund process, based on a place-based approach to developing integrated localities.

A pilot **integrated** team is being developed as a working model for South Monmouthshire, based at Caldicot Health Centre.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership is being developed to bring key partners together to lead on the delivery plan to meet the priorities, which include children and young people's mental health and well-being.

The PSB is working to improve access to community support, training and activities to enable children and young people across Monmouthshire to take full advantage of all activities that support them and is **involving** children and young people on a regular basis to understand and make improvements based on their experiences.

What we will do next

The action plan has recognized the complexity of interconnecting factors that impact on effective delivery of this step and defined the elements of work required, and progress will now be made as follows:

- Embed the Early Intervention Panel into custom and practice
- Proactively implement the pan-Gwent integrated system of emotional and mental well-being for children and young people, ensuring it is embedded into the development of a place-based approach to developing 'integrated localities'
- Support and contribute to the development of the pilot integrated team approach 'place-based' model for the Caldicot area
- Use the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership **collaboration** to identify, plan and deliver on specific actions which will contribute to this step
- Work closely between partners to ensure accessible and affordable transport is available to enable children and young people to take advantage of all the opportunities available to them
- Continue to engage with children and young people and use their views and experiences to shape services
- Develop an appropriate training plan for all partners
- Ensure and maintain robust links and where possible joint actions with the ACEs step
- Maximise links and synergies with the other steps in the Monmouthshire Well-being Plan.















Well-being Objective 2 - Respond to the challenges associated with demographic change

Well-being goals contributed to

Prosperous Wales (1)	Resilient Wales (2)	Healthier Wales (3)	More equal Wales (4)	Wales of cohesive communities (5)	Vibrant culture & thriving Welsh language (6)	Globally responsible Wales (7)
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In order to have Cohesive Communities with equal opportunities for people of all ages to be able to live and work in Monmouthshire, it is crucial that there is suitable and affordable housing for all. A Cohesive Community will have facilities in place to look after all ages. Although paid employment is key for a Prosperous Wales, volunteering and active citizenship also have a key role to play and contribute to building communities and improving health.

Delivering the Solution

The PSB will focus on:	Objective links	Goals	Impact
Readdressing the supply and mix of housing stock to ensure suitable and affordable housing is available to all demographic groups	  	1, 3, 4, 5	Long Term
Learning from good practice elsewhere to explore the potential for intergenerational living, now and for the future		4, 5	Med Term
Promoting active citizenship through volunteering, time-banking, person to person skill swap and corporate social responsibility	  	1, 3, 5	Short Term
Developing a model of care built on well-being and looking after each other rather than through formal care provision	 	3, 4, 5	Med Term
Developing networks for all ages that support people's well-being in their local communities, including social prescribing (see above for explanation).	  	1, 3, 4, 5	Short Term

Prioritised Step – Promoting active citizenship through volunteering, time banking, person to person skill swap and corporate social responsibility

Why we are doing this?

The Well-being Assessment in Monmouthshire identified that there are high levels of social capital in the County and the opportunity exists to achieve further leverage and animation of this by increasing levels of participation in active citizenship and volunteering, for the benefit of the well-being of individuals and communities.

Understanding the Problem/Opportunity

Active Citizenship (the glue that holds society together) and **involving** volunteers plays an increasingly important role in contributing to the well-being of individuals and resilient and cohesive communities in Monmouthshire. Public Services Board (PSB) partners in Monmouthshire are currently delivering a range of volunteering interventions. Through **collaborative** approaches, there is the opportunity to realise the social capital in Monmouthshire through the integration of activity defined in a Monmouthshire PSB Volunteering Strategy.



Community clean up at the Abergavenny skate park

What we're doing

Through the governance arrangements that exist in the established Joining up Volunteering in Monmouthshire (JUVM) partnership. Progress has been made in extending the representation of the Partnership to reflect and involve the PSB membership as a platform for developing the PSB Monmouthshire Volunteering Strategy.

The JUVM Partnership has agreed on a Vision for the Strategy which has been endorsed by the PSB: 'Monmouthshire is defined by a society where Active Citizenship is part of everyday life and volunteers have quality volunteering experiences that are safe, inclusive and have a positive impact on Well-being.'

The JUVM Partnership have supported and facilitated a mapping exercise to more fully understand the dimensions of existing volunteering programmes across the County. A series of active citizenship 'thank you' and awareness-raising events have taken place, and time-banking and person to person skills swap pilots have been delivered.

An action plan has been developed which reflects the key existing and emerging workstreams that will make further progress in delivering the step.



Training for volunteers through the Be Community Leadership programme

What we will do next

The step action plan has effectively defined the elements of the PSB Monmouthshire Volunteering Strategy and progress will now be made on the aspects of the Strategy as follows:

- Drafting the Volunteering Strategy.
- Producing a Volunteering Charter, to include a set of principles and values supporting collaboration and integration between PSB Partners.
- Developing a Monmouthshire PSB Volunteering Policy.

- Developing and delivering a Training Plan for Volunteers.
- Exploring opportunities to integrate corporate volunteering systems used by PSB partners, for example, digital systems.
- **Integrated** approaches reflecting how volunteers are recognised and appreciated, for example, Volunteer Awards events and recognition certificates
- Communications plan promoting active citizenship
- Take a proactive approach to implementing corporate social responsibility methodologies.
- Learning event to progress the understanding of active citizenship and the interface with volunteering.
- To maximise **integration** and links and synergies with the other steps in the Monmouthshire Well-being Plan.

Prioritised Step - Readdressing the supply and mix of housing stock to ensure suitable and affordable housing is available to all demographic groups

This section looks at the above step together with the step on “Ensuring design and planning policy supports strong, vibrant and healthy communities that are good for people and the environment” since the two are being delivered and developed in tandem.

Why we are doing this

The Well-being Assessment identified some of the challenges and opportunities relating to Monmouthshire’s changing demographic. Future trends indicate a significant increase in the ratio of older people to younger people. The average house price £307,600 (September 2018) is above the UK average and considerably above the Wales average makes it difficult for the county to be a viable and affordable place for young people to live and work.

Poor transport provision can lead to loneliness, exacerbated by distance from family members. Factors such as a lack of affordable housing and employment opportunities increase pressure on families to disperse. The quality of the home has a substantial impact on health; a warm, dry and secure home is associated with better health, particularly for older people.

Understanding the Problem

We have an ageing population with a relative deficit of 20-40 year olds. This affects the sustainability of our communities and our economic attractiveness. The price of housing has risen to more than 9 times the average earnings for Monmouthshire residents. The removal of the Severn Bridge tolls has had a marked short term impact on house prices: the longer term impact is unknown but the expectation is that the County remains an attractive location to relocate to.

The level of growth in the current Local Development Plan was limited to 4,500 new homes over ten years (2011-2021): all of the strategic allocated sites are coming forwards, but at a slower rate than anticipated. New affordable housing is primarily delivered alongside market housing by a limited number of volume house-builders. Monmouthshire County Council’s affordable housing policies seek an on-site proportion of new housing to be affordable, and our policies require that this is neutral tenure, built to Welsh Government Design Quality Requirements, and provides the mix of housing required. Three registered Social Landlords operate within the County, and all three are starting to deliver market housing at a lower profit margin than PLCs, helping to increase affordable housing supply.

What we’re doing



Design of new homes as part of the Welsh Government’s Innovative Housing Fund

Monmouthshire Housing Association, working in partnership with the Welsh School of Architecture and MCC, has delivered its first tranche of homes funded by the Welsh Government’s Innovative Housing Fund (sites in Caldicot and Abergavenny).

MCC and Melin Homes have been working collaboratively for some time to design a scheme that has regard to its rural context, creates a sense of community and belonging and is underpinned by dementia-friendly principles. This has culminated in the planning approval for

290 homes and a care home in Portskewett. A **collaborative long term** relationship and a desire to build consensus to ensure economic growth benefits everyone has been at the heart of this approach.

A place-making approach and award-winning Green Infrastructure supplementary planning guidance are resulting in better outcomes. This approach has been emphasised by recent national planning policy (Planning Policy Wales edition 10, December 2018).

MCC has started work on the new Local Development Plan, which will shape the development of the County to 2033. This has identified and consulted on the issues facing our communities, a **long term** vision and objectives to address those issues. Sites have been suggested by landowners/developers for inclusion in the LDP. A series of Member workshops has commenced to help inform the LDP.



Artist's impression of new development at Crick Road, Portskewett

MCC has agreed in principle to establish a Development Company, part of the remit of which would be to disrupt the housing market and build homes, including discounted market rent.

In relation to improving the comfort and safety of existing housing stock, Monmouthshire Housing Association has completed Welsh Housing Quality Standards across its stock. We also have an established and successful scheme for grant funding adaptations to people's homes (Disabled Facilities Grants and Safety at Home grants), enabling residents to continue to live healthy and independent lives in their homes and **prevent** accidents.

What we will do next

Key relevant next steps include:

- Continuing to work on the new LDP, which is scheduled to be adopted in December 2021.
- Agreeing the level of growth and its spatial distribution, allocating sites for development and drafting policies to shape future development. A Member workshop on affordable housing policies was held in May 2019. The LDP will include further evidence on infrastructure needs and development deliverability and viability. A further Member workshop will consider other policy intervention options to influence what is being built.
- A further report on the proposed Development Company will be considered by MCC in September 2019.
- Consideration will be given to other delivery options such as Community Land Trusts, as well as the role of the public sector as land-owner.
- Melin already has 834 affordable homes in Monmouthshire and is also currently on site in four places building more, with a total investment in Monmouthshire in the next 5 years of £87million; MHA has ambitions to build 100 homes in Monmouthshire by 2022 and is seeking to promote a number of sites through the LDP process including an urban extension to Abergavenny;
- Melin recently offered a pilot project in Monmouthshire giving a young family the chance to get on the property ladder through a 'rent to own' scheme;
- Melin has also created the chance for four young people in Monmouthshire to gain valuable experience on site through our shared apprenticeship scheme Y Prentis;
- MHA, MCC and the Welsh School of Architecture are working together on future possible IHP projects, looking at the themes of modular construction, constrained sites, low cost living costs and carbon reduction.








Well-being Objective 3 - Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment whilst mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change

Well-being goals contributed to

Prosperous Wales (1)	Resilient Wales (2)	Healthier Wales (3)	More equal Wales (4)	Wales of cohesive communities (5)	Vibrant culture & thriving Welsh language (6)	Globally responsible Wales (7)
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As well as being key to environmental well-being, a Resilient Environment is essential to the local economy, to physical and mental health and building Cohesive Communities. To be Globally Responsible, we need to work together to reduce the carbon and pollution we emit by tackling sustainable transport and our energy use and generation. Key to this objective is working with children and young people to help them understand their role in looking after our environment, reducing our environmental impact and recognising the importance of “thinking globally and acting locally”.

Delivering the Solution

The PSB will focus on:	Objective links	Goals	Impact
Improving the resilience of ecosystems by working at a larger scale (landscape) to manage biodiversity and maximise benefits such as natural flood risk management		1, 2, 3	Long Term
Ensuring design and planning policy supports strong, vibrant and healthy communities that are good for people and the environment.		1, 2, 3, 5, 7	Long Term
Enabling renewable energy schemes, especially community-owned schemes, and developing new solutions including storage, smart energy, heat and local supply.		1, 5, 7	Short Term
Enabling active travel and sustainable transport to improve air quality and give other health benefits.		1, 5, 6, 7	Med Term
Working with children and young people to improve their awareness, understanding and action for sustainable development and make them responsible global citizens of the future.		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Long Term

Prioritised Step - Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment whilst mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change

Why we are doing this?

The Well-being Assessment identified that one of Monmouthshire's greatest assets is undoubtedly its landscape and natural environment. Natural Resources such as air, land, water, wildlife, plants and soil provide our most basic needs including food and energy. The public sector in Wales has huge potential to use its collective power to deliver the changes needed to working practices which identifies the risks, opportunities and integrated joined up ways of working necessary to protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment not just for ourselves but for future generations.

Understanding the Problem

The challenges facing our natural environment are many – climate change, development and changing land management practices are all potential threats to our natural resources. Sustainable management of natural resources aims to tackle these problem and challenges by managing Wales' natural resources in a joined-up way that delivers real and better outcomes for the environment, people, the economy and our communities.

The Environment (Wales) Act is built on the notion that a more integrated approach is essential for long term sustainability. The Environment Act helps to plan and manage Wales' natural resources at a national and local level, through developing a State of Natural Resources Report (National) to provide a national assessment and track the progress being made towards achieving the sustainable management of natural resources. This provides evidence for the National Natural Resources Policy.

What we're doing

The Local Area Statement will be prepared and published by NRW in **collaboration** with others, to facilitate the implementation of the Natural Resources Policy. Area Statements will be an important evidence base for bodies operating within an area as they will include information on the natural resources and the priorities, risks and opportunities for sustainably manage natural resources. The Area Statement process will allow us to look at how we can **integrate** our work to build the resilience of ecosystems and enhance the well-being benefits they provide and will help all public bodies to consider best practice for the sustainable management of natural resources.

In development with internal specialists and external partners and stakeholders, the Area Statement process will identify and scope-out priorities, risks and opportunities for the sustainable management of natural resources. As part of this we are developing emerging themes which are the starting point for discussions around tackling the national priorities and challenges identified in the Natural Resources Policy:

- **Gwent Green Grid:** Identifying opportunities for improving the health and ecological connectivity of our protected areas within the wider landscape of the natural and built environments.

- **Climate Ready Gwent:** Identifying landscape scale opportunities for climate adaptation and mitigation using an ecosystems approach.

- **Healthy and Active:** Working with the primary and social care system to develop and deliver services and interventions that are focussed on using the natural environment.

- **Ways of working:** Investing in and strengthening place-based connections, networks and mechanisms for the delivery of SMNR in South East Wales.

Changing Nature

Very many fewer insects last summer
 Insects awake from hibernation earlier in the year
 Earlier blooming / flowers
 Earlier blooming of flowers means vital nectar sources for insects will be affected
 Predictability of swallows and swifts and bluebells [not so now]
 Blossom was out in February this year!

Observations from participants in a Climate Ready Monmouth workshop

One project example is the Lower Wye Valley Natural Flood Risk Management Project. A key part of this work has been working with the Wye and Usk Foundation to carry out farm advice visits and plans. Plans will be written up and given to farmers highlighting ways of **preventing** flooding and the findings will be presented to establish practical intervention opportunities. This work has included soil structure and organic matter testing where appropriate. We have been successful with a Sustainable Development Fund application to work with an additional six farmers in the Angiddy catchment, continuing to work with WUF.

Other work has included invasive weed mapping and control and piloting some Natural Flood Risk



Site visit to look at potential Natural Flood Management pilot

Management approaches. The project will run until December 2019. It is accepted that the short timescale means resolving major access issues or delivering large scale and wide-ranging Natural Flood Management (NFM) and Green Infrastructure (GI) work is unlikely. However, the project is an opportunity to develop thinking, ideas and solutions to known problems, and implementing pilot capital work which can be used as examples of good practice and learning for future funding rounds and **longer-term** projects.

What we will do next

- We are currently developing Area Profiles which will be a live collation of existing environmental information around the natural resources in the area and the benefits that natural resources provide. This will provide a snapshot of the best available data on our natural resources, our ecosystems and the priority networks identified for improving their resilience where available and will help us work with partners to understand: What is special and significant about each ecosystem; the resilience of that ecosystem; and how that ecosystem is currently managed.
- This information, when combined with local knowledge and data, will help us answer the next fundamental question for the Area Statement which is where do we want to build resilience and why?

- In May 2019 Monmouthshire County Council unanimously voted to declare a Climate Emergency and to develop an action plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions to net zero by 2030. This will have a significant impact on the activity and policies of the council, but will also impact on work with PSB partners, and others as we embed decarbonisation and adaptation to climate change.















Well-being Objective 4 - Develop opportunities for communities and businesses to be part of an economically thriving and well-connected county.

Well-being goals contributed to

Prosperous Wales (1)	Resilient Wales (2)	Healthier Wales (3)	More equal Wales (4)	Wales of cohesive communities (5)	Vibrant culture & thriving Welsh language (6)	Globally responsible Wales (7)
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In order to contribute to a Prosperous Wales, links need to be made between education and business to ensure young people are equipped for the jobs of the future. City Deal will be a key contributor to a Prosperous Wales, but it will also be key to build on the strengths of our local economy, heritage and culture to maximise the contribution they bring to the economy. Sustainable transport infrastructure will be key to ensuring that everyone is able to access jobs and training, as well as reducing carbon emissions.

Delivering the Solution

The PSB will focus on:	Objective links	Goals	Impact
Maximising opportunities for Monmouthshire as part of the City Deal	  	1, 4, 5	Med Term
Better understanding the future of work and ensure training and education links with business to identify the skills needed in the Monmouthshire workforce now and in the future	 	1	Med Term
Developing new technologies for improving rural transport	  	1, 4, 5, 7	Med Term
Facilitate better business networking to share knowledge and access to technology and regional opportunities to enable businesses to grow		1	Short Term
Exploring the potential for specialist centres of excellence in Monmouthshire e.g. food/hospitality, agriculture, tourism and technology	  	1, 2, 6	Med Term

Prioritised Step – Develop technology-led solutions for improving rural transport

Why we are doing this

The Well-being Assessment identified that limited public transport, particularly in rural areas, makes it hard for people to access jobs, services and facilities. The assessment also highlighted that potential opportunities could come through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and advances in technology.

Understanding the Problem

Reducing budgets in public services mean there is less money available to subsidise traditional transport services. This is a major issue in Monmouthshire where journey times on public transport to some local services can exceed two hours. As a result, residents are heavily dependent on private cars which is costly, both financially and environmentally. Frailty and **long-term** conditions limit the ability of many older people to drive, while others cannot afford to own a car, resulting in increased loneliness and rising health and social care costs which could be **prevented** with better opportunities to travel and connect with others. Meanwhile, many young people can't afford to run a car limiting their employment and training opportunities.

What we're doing

Without big increases in spending, there was no easy way to solve this challenge. Research has identified that vehicles with spare capacities such as community transport are already making many of the journeys residents want to make but the supply is not properly connected to demand. The PSB will explore whether technology could contribute to a solution to make better use of the resources already in the system to make it sustainable in the long term.

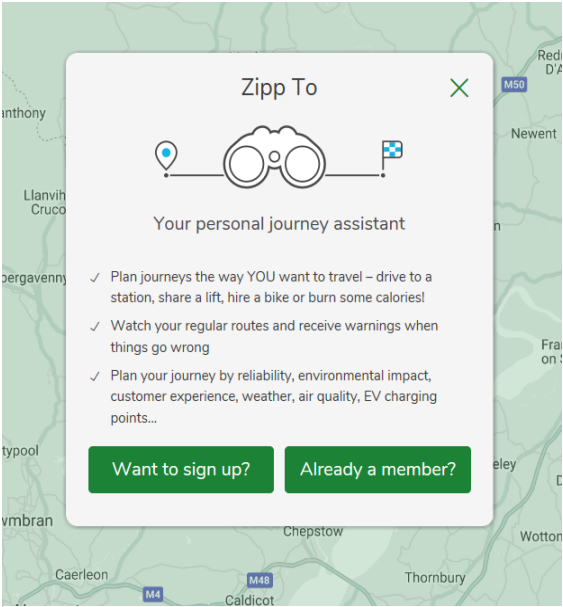
A bid was submitted to the Cabinet Office's GovTech Catalyst which was created to incentivise technology companies to develop innovative solutions to public sector problems. This bid was successful and resulted in support from the Government Digital Service and Innovate UK as well as funding of up to £1.25 million for firms to



Successful GovTech companies

encourage them to **involve** communities in identifying and piloting solutions to the twin challenges of loneliness and rural transport.

Monmouthshire's challenge was launched in July 2018 offering pots of £50,000 to companies to conduct R&D and involve communities in co-designing solutions. 57 firms submitted ideas and five of these were selected to undertake the first



One of the GovTech pilots

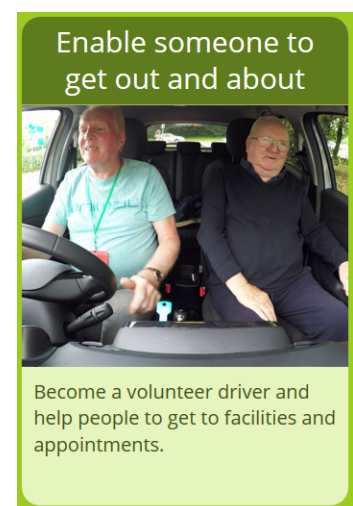
phase of research between December 2018 and March 2019. The organisations working on phase 1 include Zipabout Mobility, GPC Systems and the Behavioural Insights Team.

Beyond the contributions of the PSB members, we are also working to create the culture and environment that enable other private sector and community-led projects to thrive. The Magor Action Group on Rail (MAGOR) which has identified the demand for and benefits of the creation of a new station serving Magor and Undy. The group are conducting research, raising funds and developing a business case for this to form part of the South Wales Metro. Meanwhile, the Bridges Car Share Scheme which connects vehicles and volunteer drivers with people who need additional support for people who need to access shops, appointments and local services. Bridges have **collaborated** with one of the GovTech firms on a proposal and have also expanded their scheme into Abergavenny, Chepstow and Caldicot. There are also other initiatives that have the potential to contribute in the long-term to a sustainable transport eco-system including the piloting of the use of hydrogen cars in Abergavenny by Riversimple.

What we will do next

If the GovTech pilots show enough promise then two of these could be awarded up to £500,000 each from the Cabinet Office to turn the proposals into working prototypes that would be tested in Monmouthshire Communities. In 2020 the PSB would then have the opportunity to commission the roll-out of this at scale.

The potential exists for Monmouthshire be a place you can live without a car, with a fully **integrated** and greener, sustainable transport service that maximises the potential of all modes of transport delivering clear and sustainable benefits to economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being.



Bridges Centre volunteer driver

Scrutiny of Well-being Objectives

Public Service Board Select Committee

The Well-being of Future Generations Act relies predominantly on the role of local government scrutiny to secure continuous improvement. In Monmouthshire a dedicated Public Service Board Select Committee has undertaken this role.

The committee's terms of reference include scrutiny of:

- The PSB's performance in collecting data, analysing evidence, engaging the community and ensuring partnerships deliver the well-being goals;
- Decisions and actions taken by the PSB; the strategic and corporate planning framework; the systems, projects and programmes in place to deliver the well-being goals; and the governance, finance, procurement and workforce planning arrangements to support them.
- Recommendations made by the Commissioner, Minister, Auditor General for Wales.

During 2018-19, the Public Service Board Select Committee has scrutinised the draft well-being plan, inviting key PSB Partners and the Chair of the PSB to discuss key priorities for collaborative/shared delivery. Following approval of the well-being plan, the committee has held key partners leading on the six prioritised steps outlined in the PSB Plan to account for the progress made ensuring their activity was in line with the sustainable development principle.

The committee has begun to apply the Future Generations Framework for Scrutiny which was prepared by the Commissioner's Office and all members will receive training on applying the framework during July 2019. The framework can be found at:

https://futuregenerations.wales/resources_posts/future-generations-framework-for-scrutiny/

Reports and copies of minutes from the PSB Select Committee can be found at:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/>

PSB partners working better together

The Well-being Plan also identified some organisational areas where PSB partners should work better together to progress their activity. Examples of where this is happening include:

Enable communities to help themselves e.g. identify local assets and develop them according to need, seeing them as equal and valuable partners in the county



The Community & Partnerships Development Team, hosted by MCC, is committed to building sustainable and resilient communities through partnership working and taking an asset-based approach. The team work to enable the PSB Partner organisations and the community to come closer together to ensure the five ways of working, under the Well-being of Future Generations Act, are at the heart of the work the PSB is driving forward.

In the last year, the team have worked to develop stronger community networks of volunteers, active citizens and third sector groups who are passionate about their community and who recognise the difference they can make – some of the real assets in Monmouthshire are the people who live here.



A promotional video was produced using members of the local community. The full video can be viewed at: <http://bit.ly/BeCommunity-Mon-event>

Three community network events have been held in the towns of Abergavenny, Monmouth and Chepstow with over 130 stalls manned by volunteer organisations and approx. 600 people footfall across the three events. This provided an opportunity to give recognition to those individuals and groups who are playing an active and vital role in our communities, and an opportunity for us to strengthen our relationships, as PSB partners, with our people ‘assets’ and explore ways in which we can work alongside them and

support them to keep doing the good things that they are doing for people and places within our communities.

The Team have also undertaken a county-wide road-show called 'Big Ideas', which allowed them to go out across the county meeting and talking to members of the public and the wider community about the things that matter to them. Taking an asset-based approach people were asked *'if three other people were willing to help, what would you like to do to make your community even better'*. The response to this has been extremely positive, with community members coming forward with ideas and projects which they felt passionately enough about that they would be willing to get involved and help to develop further. This piece of work has been recognised by the PSB who are keen to capitalise on this by growing and supporting active citizenship throughout the county. The 'Big ideas' captured through this engagement may only be 'seed' ideas, but with PSB partners ability to support, unlock and enable communities to take action on the things that matter to them, they could become key to how we can grow a resilient and resourceful county for years to come.



Ensure clear lines of communication between the PSB, Local Government, Town & Community Councils and the community are established

The Community and Partnership Development team have been working closely with Community & Town Councils to develop local cluster meetings and a network of Town Council clerks. This support aims to assist those Town Councils who have duties under the Act to align the work they carry out in their communities to the broader well-being objectives for the county and to better develop relationships with the PSB. The team in partnership with Community & Town Councils have also held community engagement events and volunteer network events around the county to strengthen links between the voluntary sectors; recognising the important role Community & Town Councils play in their respective areas and the awareness and knowledge they have of their local communities. The events were fully inclusive of all partners and again, it allowed Community & Town Councils to strengthen links with and build on the vital work that community volunteers, active citizens and third sector groups play in their areas.

This has and will continue to allow clerks to share best practice and ideas around how they capture information and report to the PSB and other regulatory bodies. It is anticipated that this network will also enable the Town Councils to be more involved in the work streams being developed under the PSB and strengthen the connectivity and collaboration between all partners more broadly.

Town Councils who are under the duties of the Act have prepared annual reports highlighting the work they have been doing to date to help achieve the aspirations of the Wellbeing plan. Town Councils are keen to further explore the role they play in the county and to be more closely involved as the PSB develops some of its work streams more explicitly, fully embracing the legislation and ways of working. The Community & Partnerships Development Team will continue to work closely with Town Councils to help bridge the gap between local communities and the PSB and to further improve communication, collaboration and better community involvement.

Develop better connections between services, organisations and community groups, to deliver a more joined up and inclusive approach.

In addition to the volunteer networks, Community & Town Councils networks and formal PSB partnership structures, a number of public forums have been structured to enable the voices of the older people, younger people and people with disabilities to feed directly into the PSB. The forums are autonomous in what they want to discuss, with agendas agreed by the people who attend them. The structure and facilitation are supported by the Community & Partnerships Development Team and additional Monmouthshire County Council officers who have a role to play in helping and supporting groups with protected characteristics.

The forums provide an opportunity for residents to speak directly with services in an open meeting, so that people are able to challenge services directly and input into decisions that public bodies make. The forums also provide the opportunity for PSB partners and public bodies to consult, inform and have an open dialogue with residents on areas that might impact them. Any actions that come from forums is positioned within the PSB partnership landscape for multi-agency officer groups to follow-up on and take action where possible or appropriate to do so; this enables PSB partners to hear what matters to people in our communities and seek a positive and more inclusive way forward.

Join up data, information and systems to allow agencies to have a better understanding of challenges and to spot opportunities.

In Monmouthshire work is being piloted to increase the publication of open data and make this accessible via automated dashboards that will allow the public to track key measures of progress for the well-being objectives.

Many partners of the Public Services Boards in Gwent are members of a Cardiff Capital City Region working group to develop the opportunities afforded by open data. They are working towards creating a single portal where residents and businesses will be able to access a wealth of data to hold services to account and develop apps that will add civic value.

Identify opportunities for public sector procurement to better support the development of local services and products and be globally responsible.

Through the work of the Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment Group (GSWAG) there have been opportunities to tender for work jointly to help us deliver aspects of our Well-being Plan. GSWAG have been successful in obtaining funding from Welsh Government and Gwent-wide PSB partners (5 local authorities, NRW, Gwent Police, South Wales Fire and Rescue and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board) to jointly procure consultants to do a feasibility study for electric vehicle

charging points across the region and also a joint fleet review. This kind of collaborative procurement has given economies of scale and will ensure that a coherent regional approach is adopted.

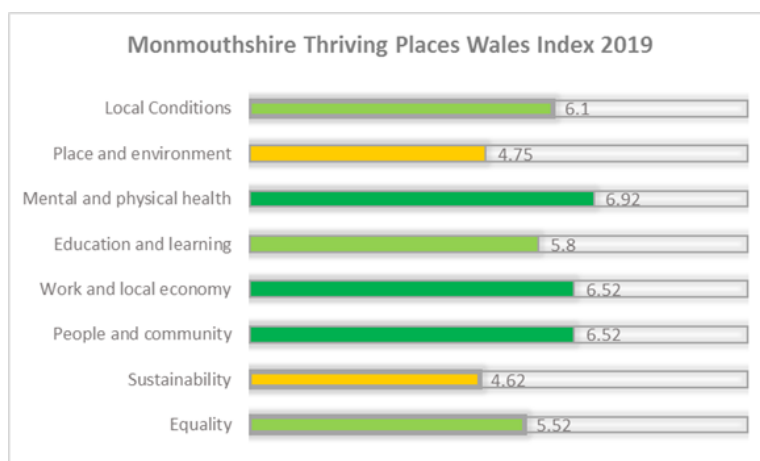
Similarly, through GSWAG consultants were procured jointly to work on the Climate Ready Gwent project, looking at shared learning about climate adaptation.

Regional work

Happy Communities

The five Public Services Boards within the Gwent regions, jointly agreed to use the Happy Communities tools in 2018 to measure and understand the well-being of their populations. Happy Communities provides two tools: the Thriving Places Index in Wales which measures the local conditions for community well-being and the Happiness Pulse which is a measure of personal well-being.

The Thriving Places Index draws on a number of indicators from various data sources to understand and assess the local conditions of well-being. Following initial work in Gwent on the Thriving Places Index, Data Cymru adopted the tool and expanded it to include all local authorities in Wales. Data Cymru published the first release of the Thriving Places Wales Index in April 2018, the second release was published in April 2019. The index is a framework of local authority level indicators which builds a picture of an area summarised under the broad headings of local conditions, sustainability and equality. The full breakdown of the index is available on, www.thrivingplaces.wales, below are the headline scores from the 2019 index for the domains in Monmouthshire.



The Happiness Pulse measures personal well-being in communities through a survey of individuals. The survey was carried out in January and February 2018 across Gwent. The survey was launched in Monmouthshire with the 'beating the blues' campaign. Extensive promotion and a range of methods were used to inform and engage residents. In Monmouthshire, a total of 1,148 residents completed the survey.

The survey provides a well-being score for people who completed the survey and helps people understand how to improve their well-being. The survey was structured under four main domains:

- General** – focusses on how satisfied people are and peoples feeling on the things they do being worthwhile.
- Be** - focuses on how people think and feel about their lives.
- Do** – relates to the things people do to supports better well-being.
- Connect** – covers how people are connected with others.

The results in each domain can help understand more about personal well-being, the results show the scores for Monmouthshire were above average for each domain.

The Pulse was run as a pilot to understand further the insights it could bring to understanding personal well-being. The learning from the project will be used to inform any potential future work on measuring personal well-being.

ONS Measuring National Well-being

The Office of National Statistic’s Measuring National Well-being programme also assesses personal well-being as part of the Annual Population Survey, the latest results for Monmouthshire (from 2017/18) for some of the relevant questions are shown in the graphs below alongside the UK and Wales averages. This shows that Monmouthshire residents’ responses are very similar or slightly higher than both the UK and Wales.



The PSB will continue to review data and evidence on well-being in Monmouthshire and identify appropriate measurements, for example tracking relevant results from the ONS Measuring National Well-being programme, to assess changes over time.

Gwent Futures

In 2017/18 PSBs in Gwent, through the Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment Group (GSWAG), commissioned specific work to develop an understanding of Future trends that could impact on well-being and delivery of public services in Gwent to inform the development of well-being plans.

This work has been completed in two main parts, Horizon Scans and Scenarios:

- Horizon Scans: These identify strategically important trends, potential disruptors and drivers of change and provide valuable evidence for these issues. The Horizon Scans cover ten broad

themes Natural Systems, Resources, Technology, Security, Society, Economy, Politics, Mobility, Spatial and Population.

- Scenarios: The Scenarios report used the horizon scanning output to identify a number of key drivers and uncertainties facing Gwent. The scenarios approach will help PSBs think about these trends when developing their well-being plans and what their impact might be.

To support the embedding of this work in the PSBs' well-being plans a Gwent-wide Futures Conference was held in November 2018 to share the key messages from the work completed and support the development of PSB well-being plans by understanding more about what might happen in the future and what is driving change.

Following the conference, a workshop was held in each of the five PSB areas in Gwent. The workshop in Monmouthshire, held in December 2018, was tailored to develop the thinking at a local level on Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan against the horizon scans that could impact on well-being in the area. A range of partners of the PSB attended the session and the session was facilitated to identify the significant issues from the Horizon scanning work for some identified steps from the well-being plan. This has helped provide a greater understanding of future trends that could impact on each step covered and helps leads to factor this into developing their actions.

Climate Ready Gwent

As Climate Change Adaptation / Decarbonisation is a priority theme for all the PSB's in Gwent, a decision was made through the GSWAG officer group to work collaboratively on 'Climate Ready Gwent'.

Work has focussed around two areas: climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation.

Mitigation

Early collaborative activity regionally has focused on a "demonstrator" to help support a shift towards greener transport solutions for the wider Gwent region. This has involved securing funding to undertake a jointly funded regional electric vehicle charging point infrastructure study, which partners can use to inform the development of a regional EV delivery plan. The study will look at specific sites across the region owned by PSB partners and which meet the Office for Low Emission Vehicles criteria for funding to support the rollout of electric charge points - essentially looking at what needs to go where. The next steps will be to prepare a joint application to fund the installation of charge points in car parks owned by local authorities that meet the criteria. On-street residential charge point scheme or Workplace Charging Scheme.



New EV charging point in Abergavenny



Rasa hydrogen car soon to be beta tested in Abergavenny

Work is also underway on a regional fleet review to identify which vehicles could potentially be replaced with an electric fleet. Following on from the mapping and analysis of existing public-sector fleets in Gwent, opportunities to reduce carbon emissions by creating a low carbon and sustainable “pathway” for fleets in Gwent will be identified. This will involve: Agreeing opportunities for introducing Ultra Low Emission Vehicles as part of a rolling programme for fleet replacements i.e. supporting cost-effective decisions in procuring, running and disposing of the public-sector fleet in Gwent. Similar work is also taking place to look at the potential for hydrogen vehicles, and which involves broadening out a Monmouthshire study.

The outcomes of these areas of work are also feeding into and informing work done in the Cardiff Capital Region.

Adaptation

GSWAG received funding from the Welsh Government to do a regional collaborative project: **Adapting to Climate Change: From lived experience to strategic action.** Consultants have worked with specific communities that face different climate risks (such as flooding, drought, wildfires etc) and present people’s experiences and stories of climate change, to help inform decision makers and shape further regional working. In Monmouthshire, this work has focused on Monmouth and been delivered in collaboration with Transition Monmouth.

The project has where possible linked people’s lived experience with decision makers from the public sector to identify opportunities for delivering different solutions to climate impacts in each place. The outputs from the project will aim to influence policy and practice to help Gwent become more resilient and climate ready for the future. Collectively this will contribute towards a vision for future collaboration on climate adaptation in the Gwent region.

How are we doing?

National Indicators

Welsh Government have published 46 national indicators which have an important role in helping to measure the progress made towards achieving the well-being goals by Wales as a whole. The indicators have been used so far in Monmouthshire to help the Public Services Board understand economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in the well-being assessment.

While the national indicators will not measure the performance of individual public bodies or public services boards, it is important they are considered by the PSB to track the progress being made against the well-being goals and where local level data is available the progress made in Monmouthshire.

Some of the national indicators that are particularly relevant to the Monmouthshire objectives were identified in the well-being plan. The latest data for these indicators, where an update is available at a county level, is in Table 1 below. It can also be useful to compare Monmouthshire with other authorities with similar characteristics. Where data exists to allow this comparison a similar authority comparison has been included in Table 1, comparisons are based on the Data Cymru Comparable Authorities tool for Welsh local authorities and variables selected relate to the subject covered by the indicator. Not all of the indicators will have data available to make this comparison.

As the activity to deliver the steps in the well-being plan is developed more specific performance metrics relevant to the plan will be identified.

Keeping the Well-being Assessment up to date

Utilising regional funding available, a pilot has been undertaken to understand how Monmouthshire PSB can develop accessible monitoring of key data issues (particularly data that is published under an Open Government License) that were raised in the Monmouthshire Well-being Assessment. The learning from this pilot will be used to inform future work on updating the key issues raised in the well-being assessment.



Menu example from the pilot Well-being Assessment update

Table 1: National indicators	Source	Link to Objective	Wales	Similar comparable areas	Monmouthshire Previous	Monmouthshire Current
Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours (not smoking, healthy weight, eat five fruit or vegetables a day, not drinking above guidelines and meet the physical activity guidelines)	National Survey for Wales	Obj 1 & 2	10% (2016/17 & 2017/18)	7% (Ceredigion) 12% (Gwynedd) 11% (Wrexham)	See current	7% (2016/17 & 2017/18)
Average capped 8 points score pupils	Welsh Examination database	Obj 1 & 4	324.1 (2018)	333.6 (Gwynedd) 344.8 (Ceredigion) 333.7 (Powys)	339.3 (2017)	331.5 (2018)
Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked (relative to the UK average)	ONS regional Economic Analysis: Sub-regional productivity indicators	Obj 4	£83.6 (2017)	£91.9 (Vale of Glamorgan & Cardiff)	£89.1 (2016 - Monmouthshire and Newport)	£88.6 (2017 - Monmouthshire and Newport)
Gross Disposable Household Income per head	ONS, gross disposable household income per head	Obj 4	£15,754 (2017)	£16,389 (Vale of Glamorgan & Cardiff)	£17,135 (2015 - Monmouthshire and Newport)	£17,292 (2017 - Monmouthshire and Newport)
Percentage of people in employment.	ONS, Annual Population Survey	Obj 4	73.1% (2018)	80.4% (Vale of Glamorgan) 76.8% (Powys) 72.6% (Gwynedd)	77.7% (2017)	78.0% (2018)

Table 1: National indicators	Source	Link to Objective	Wales	Similar comparable areas	Monmouthshire Previous	Monmouthshire Current
Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation.	National Survey for Wales	Obj 1, 2 & 4	16% (2017/18)	13% (Vale Of Glamorgan) 12% (Powys) 15% (Gwynedd)	12% (2016/17)	14% (2017/18)
Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) pollution in the air.	Department for Environment, food and rural affairs	Obj 3	9 (2017)	6 (Denbighshire) 4 (Ceredigion) 7 (Conwy)	11 (2016)	8 (2017)
Capacity (in MW) of renewable energy equipment installed	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	Obj 2 & 3	3192.9 (2017)	106.1 (Denbighshire) 187.1 (Ceredigion) 754.7 (Conwy)	79.5 (2016)	84.9 (2017)
Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need.	National Survey for Wales	Obj 1, 2, 3 & 4	80% (2018/19)	78% (Pembrokeshire) 65% (Isle of Anglesey) 63% (Gwynedd)	Not available	79% (2018/19)

Table 1: National indicators	Source	Link to Objective	Wales	Similar comparable areas	Monmouthshire Previous	Monmouthshire Current
Percentage of people satisfied with the local area as a place to live.	National Survey for Wales	Obj 1, 2, 3 & 4	85% (2018/19)	90% (Pembrokeshire) 89% (Isle of Anglesey) 89% (Gwynedd)	91% (2016/17)	92% (2018/19)
Percentage of people who Volunteer.	National Survey for Wales	Obj 1, 2, 3 & 4	28% (2017/18)	2018/19 data not available	36% (2016/17)	2018/19 data not available
Percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week.	Adult – National Survey for Wales	Obj 2 & 3	32% (2018/19)	34% (Ceredigion) 37% (Gwynedd) 30% (Wrexham)	38% (2017/18)	38% (2018/19)
	Children – Sport Wales, school sport survey	Obj 1 & 3	47.6% (2018)	52.5% (Ceredigion) 48.8% (Gwynedd) 44.2% (Wrexham)	48.8% (2015)	45.0% (2018)

Next Steps

Building sustainable, resilient communities in Monmouthshire will not be a quick process, the Well-being Assessment and Well-being Plan and this first annual report are significant milestones on the journey towards becoming more sustainable. The next stage will be to continue to develop and deliver actions with clear commitments from partners and organisations to take the next steps on this journey.

As we deliver the plan, it has become apparent that the issues within the Well-being Plan are extremely complex, and in many cases, further work and detailed analysis is still required before a decision on the precise nature of the action is taken. This will make sure that the PSB understand the complexity of key issues and challenges in the wellbeing plan and agree the best way to respond collectively as public services. Many of the suggested steps are challenging and require fundamental changes to the way public services work together and while progress is being made it is unlikely that the steps will be addressed fully and effectively without thorough consideration of the options available.

Detailed action plans and programme management arrangements are being developed to capture the activity that will be delivered by the range of partners, organisations, people and networks who bring the range of insights, constructive challenge, data and solutions to deliver the step. This will be designed to focus on the impact made, and capture where activity may need to be focused in particular localities or focus on opportunities for different social groups, or those with protected characteristics. This will also recognise that not all activity can be carried out concurrently – nor will every step require equal resources or time commitment. Work will need to be sequenced over the life of the plan ensuring that it is ambitious yet achievable.

Programme management will allow the PSB to capture the partnership activity taking place that contributes to the delivery of the Wellbeing objectives more broadly along with clear reporting and communication structures. The PSB will have the ability to steer this work in a more ambitious way exploring with wider partners and the community the opportunities to review whether work meets the needs of our communities or needs changing, or whether practices or working practices need to change.

The way the Public Services Board measures and evaluates performance will need to allow progress and milestones to be evaluated and scrutinised in the short term while also ensuring the right information is used to track progress against longer-term community well-being objectives. Developing the right metrics of community well-being is a continuing process for Public Services Board partners at a local level as well as across Gwent.

Partnership working via the Gwent PSBs will continue, and the Community & Partnerships Development team will be further developing their work with PSB partners, Town and Community Councils and other community partners who are an essential part of helping to deliver the Well-being Objectives. Links will be explored for further regional working which will enable the PSB to have a clearer understanding of the interface between regional working groups, boards and structures that directly or indirectly influence or impact on issues in the Well-being Plan.

SUBJECT:	REMIT OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SELECT COMMITTEE
MEETING:	PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SELECT COMMITTEE
DATE:	11th July 2019
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to suggest a change to the title and the terms of reference of the Public Service Board Select Committee, in order to broaden its remit which will provide enhanced governance arrangements for services delivered to Monmouthshire citizens.
- 1.2 Subject to agreement by the Select Committee and full Council, the proposed changes would enable the Select Committee to scrutinise wider public service provision and where powers allow, to provide greater accountability of services delivered in collaboration or by external partners.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Select Committee agree the changes proposed (below) and make a recommendation to Council to support them, altering the Constitution accordingly.
- 2.2 To change the title of the existing “Public Service Board Select Committee” to “Public Services Select Committee” for reasons outlined in this report.
- 2.3 To revise the existing Terms of Reference to extend the Select Committee’s remit to:

Scrutinise and constructively challenge (where powers allow) the work and effectiveness of strategic partnerships (including the Public Service Board) and other public service providers to ensure public accountability of collaborative services and improved outcomes for people in Monmouthshire, through;

- a) *considering evidence and different views and perspectives on public service provision in order to make recommendations on improving services delivered to residents*
- b) *influencing the decisions, policy and practice of public service providers by providing a platform for greater accountability and democratic involvement*

KEY ISSUES:

- 2.4 The Future Generations Act 2015 requires public bodies to improve social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing in their area through statutory Public Service Boards (PSB). Local government was afforded the responsibility to scrutinise the PSB and to ensure the principles of the act are applied to policy and decision-making. Significant thought was given to developing a ‘Monmouthshire Approach’ to scrutiny

of the PSB to provide democratic accountability and to ensure that statutory partners, invitees, and others add value to scrutiny of the PSB.

- 2.5 A report taken to 21st January 2016 Council meeting to establish a bespoke scrutiny arrangement to scrutinise the activities of the PSB was agreed. This report attached as Appendix C provides a more detailed explanation of the requirements of the act in relation to scrutiny of the PSB and the wider scrutiny responsibilities.
- 2.6 The allocation of the new responsibilities to a bespoke committee has enabled the PSB Select Committee to date to play a distinct and strategic role in scrutiny of the PSB, whilst the existing four scrutiny committees have played a key role in ensuring that future generations are considered through their scrutiny of policy and decision-making.
- 2.7 The Public Service Board Select Committee has fulfilled its statutory responsibilities and provided effective scrutiny as follows:
- Reviewed the governance structure of the Public Service Board and recommendations made to the PSB.
 - Scrutinised the robustness of the evidence gathering process for the “well-being assessment”.
 - Considered the emerging findings of the well-being assessment.
 - Scrutinised the draft well-being assessment and made recommendations to the PSB.
 - Invited the Future Generations Commissioner to a meeting to outline her expectations of the scrutiny committee.
 - Scrutinised the final well-being assessment, inviting key PSB Partners (National Resources Wales and Public Health Wales) and the Chair of the PSB to discuss key priorities for collaborative/shared delivery.
 - Scrutinised the draft well-being plan.
 - Held key partners to account on how they are delivering the six steps outlined in the PSB Plan.
- 2.8 Whilst the Select Committee has performed its role effectively, it has become evident that if the role and remit were able to be expanded, the Select Committee would be able to play an enhanced role in providing challenge to strategic partnerships and other public service providers. Some services delivered in partnership could be more effectively scrutinised and the proposed change to the title and terms of reference would allow this Select Committee greater flexibility in scrutinising services that do not fit neatly within the remits of other Select Committees. The proposal would enhance Monmouthshire’s governance arrangements and provide improved outcomes for people in Monmouthshire.
- 2.9 Appendix B provides the report that was taken to the PSB Select Committee’s first meeting on 28th June 2016 outlining the governance arrangements for the select committee. The responsibilities for scrutiny of the PSB and the current governance arrangements outlined in that report would remain unchanged, however the changes to the title and the terms of reference will reflect the Select Committee’s wider focus. Whilst the Select Committee would have not formal powers to obligate partners other than the PSB to attend scrutiny meetings, they are able to draw upon the Local Government Act 2000 parameters for scrutiny that enables them to scrutinise any issues that affect residents.

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

- 3.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report, however, the decision will enhance Monmouthshire's scrutiny arrangements which will have a positive impact upon future generations through enhanced accountability for services delivered to the public.

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Two options are available for Members to evaluate as follows:

- 4.2 **Option 1:** To continue with the current Select Committee remit of scrutiny of the Public Service Board.

Advantages: The simplicity of a bespoke Select Committee solely to scrutinise the work of the Public Service Board and to hold it to account for its delivery.

Disadvantages: The Select Committee would be confined to scrutiny of the Public Service Board, whilst other services delivered by partnerships and collaborations could be more effectively scrutinised through this vehicle.

- 4.3 **Option 2:** To broaden the remit of the current Select Committee, whilst still providing accountability for the Public Service Board.

Advantages: The opportunity to provide a clear mechanism to hold partnerships and collaborations to account.

Disadvantages: There are none envisaged ~ there is capacity within the Select Committee and a desire to enhance its role.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 5.1 If agreed, the proposal would be subject to a review by the Select Committee at the end of the administrative term as to the effectiveness of the changes implemented, based upon the Select Committee's impact and the outcomes demonstrated.

6. REASONS:

- 6.1 There is a need to ensure that the Council continues to enact its responsibility to scrutinise the PSB. The arrangement in place is fit for purpose and can deliver these responsibilities effectively, however, there is an opportunity to enhance the role and remit to ensure that the Council's scrutiny arrangements offer maximum added value.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 There are no direct implications arising from the report, providing the four Select Chairs continue to rotate the chairing the Select Committee (negating the need for a further Special Responsibility Allowance. There is likely to be an increase in the number of meetings held and there will be implications on staff resources, however, these will be managed as appropriate.

8. CONSULTEES:

Head of Policy and Governance

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix A ~ Terms of Reference for the “Public Services Select Committee”

Appendix B ~ 28th June 2016 - Governance report for the Public Service Board Select Committee

Appendix C ~ 21st January 2016 - Report to Council to establish the Public Service Board Select Committee

10. AUTHOR:

Hazel Ilett
Scrutiny Manager

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Scrutiny in Monmouthshire

Terms of Reference for the Public Services Select Committee

The Public Services Select Committee will:

Scrutinise and constructively challenge (where powers allow) the work and effectiveness of strategic partnerships (including the Public Service Board) and other public service providers to ensure public accountability of collaborative services and improved outcomes for people in Monmouthshire, through;

- a) considering evidence and different views and perspectives on public service provision in order to make recommendations on improving services delivered to residents
- b) influencing the decisions, policy and practice of public service providers by providing a platform for greater accountability and democratic involvement

Guidance for the scrutiny of Public Service Boards

The Future Generations Act 2015 requires each Public Services Board to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area in accordance with the 'sustainable development principle' and in doing so, it must:

- Assess the state of well-being in its area;
- Set local well-being objectives that are designed to maximise its contribution within its area to achieving the well-being goals; and
- Take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives

Each public service board will:

- Undertake a well-being assessment
- Agree well-being objectives that meet the well-being goals
- Develop a well-being plan
- Report annually on their progress

The Public Services Select Committee should hold the Public Service Board to account in:

- Improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area in accordance with the sustainable development principle: "long term, integration, collaboration, involvement and prevention"
- Planning for and delivery of the well-being goals: "a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of cohesive communities, a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, a globally responsible Wales"

Through the scrutiny of (but not limited to):

- The PSB's performance in collecting data, analysing evidence, engaging the community and ensuring partnerships deliver the well-being goals;
- Decisions and actions taken by the PSB; the strategic and corporate planning framework; the systems, projects and programmes in place to deliver the well-being goals; and the governance, finance, procurement and workforce planning arrangements to support them.
- Recommendations made by the Commissioner, Minister, Auditor General for Wales.

The Public Services Select Committee should examine whether the PSB:

- has **identified where progress should be made** in relation to the well-being goals: "a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of cohesive communities, a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, a globally responsible Wales";
- has **taken account of milestones** in setting well-being objectives and taking steps to meet local well-being objectives;
- has **referred to national indicators and milestones** in their assessment of local well-being;
- has **assessed the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in the area** and has had regard to this in setting local well-being objectives;
- has referred to the Future Trends Reports in assessment of local well-being;
- has **recognised long term trends** and has **considered how well-being objectives could contribute to addressing trends**;
- has delivered a well-being plan that takes into account the sustainable development principle.

Powers for the Public Services Select Committee in relation to Public Service Boards:

- To review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the public services board;
- To review or scrutinise the board's governance arrangements;
- To make reports or recommendations to the board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- To consider matters relating to the board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- To carry out other functions in relation to the board that are imposed on it by the Act.

SUBJECT: GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SELECT COMMITTEE

MEETING: PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SELECT COMMITTEE

DATE: 28th June 2016

DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To discuss and agree the governance arrangements for Monmouthshire's Public Service Board (PSB) Select Committee, including the drafting of appropriate terms of reference.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the PSB Select Committee agrees the approach outlined in this report in establishing:
- fit for purpose working arrangements and clear terms of reference in order for the Select Committee to perform its role effectively;
 - a clear governance structure to ensure the Select Committee embeds the principles of openness, transparency and accountability in its work.

3 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Future Generations Act 2015 requires public bodies to improve social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing in their area through statutory a Public Service Board (PSB). Local government has been afforded the responsibility to scrutinise the PSB and to ensure the principles of the act are applied to policy and decision-making in Monmouthshire.
- 3.2 The background paper attached to this report provides a more detailed explanation of the requirements of the act in relation to scrutiny of the PSB and the wider scrutiny responsibilities. That report sought the agreement of the council on 21st January 2016 to establish a bespoke scrutiny arrangement to scrutinise the activities of the PSB. It proposed that the existing four scrutiny committees play a key role in ensuring that future generations are considered through their scrutiny of policy and decision-making. The report's recommendations were accepted and the council has established a PSB Select Committee to scrutinise the activities of the PSB.
- 3.3 The Public Service Board Select Committee will hold its first meeting on 28th June 2016 at which they will need to discuss and agree an effective working approach. This report provides a framework for the future working arrangements and general conduct of the PSB Select Committee in line with the proposals agreed by full council.

Membership of the PSB Select Committee

- 3.4 The Public Service Board Select Committee shall comprise 9 non-executive Members. The four Select Committee Chairs shall be standing Members of the new committee with the remaining elected membership selected to ensure political balance. Political groups should nominate members on the basis of their skills and their commitment to the role. Members could consider multi-sector contribution via co-option of non-elected members

to ensure the committee has the necessary expertise to ensure the spirit of the Act is genuinely implemented.

Chairing of the of the PSB Select Committee

- 3.5 The four Select Chairs will rotate the chairing at each PSB Select Committee meeting to provide strategic leadership (it is anticipated the Select Committee will meet four to five times a year). The rotation of the chairing will negate the need for an additional Special Responsibility Allowance.

Rules of Procedure

- 3.6 Members and the public must have regard for the Chair who will have the authority to determine on any rules of procedure during meetings of the PSB Select Committee.

Referrals to other Select Committees

- 3.7 The PSB Select Committee will operate as a stand-alone scrutiny committee, however, the standing membership of the four Select Committee Chairs seeks to ensure a close alignment to the existing Select Committees. The PSB Select Committee may request another Select Committee to undertake detailed work on a relevant issue and it will be a matter for that Select Committee to decide whether to accept the referral from the PSB Select Committee.

Quorum

- 3.8 A quorum of one third of the PSB Select Committee's membership will be required to enable a meeting to proceed.

Setting the Agenda

- 3.9 Individual agenda items, other than standing items, are to be determined in the first instance by the work programme that is agreed by the PSB Select Committee. The decision to consider additional items or defer planned items will be a matter for the discretion of the Select Committee Chairs in consultation with the Scrutiny Manager.

Work Programme

- 3.10 The PSB Select Committee work programme will be reported to each Select Committee meeting to enable the Committee to review its content and include new items and to define the arrangements required for the next meeting. The updated work programme will be presented by the Select Committee Chairs to meetings of the council's Co-ordinating Board for the purpose of ensuring a clarity of topics being scrutinised and to avoid potential duplication in efforts. The PSB Select Committee work programme will be made publicly available on the council's scrutiny webpage www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/scrutiny

Invitations to the PSB Select Committee

- 3.11 The PSB Select Committee shall review and scrutinise the performance of the PSB and in doing so, shall invite members of the PSB, officers and Cabinet Members to its meetings when appropriate. The PSB Select Committee may request invitees to give account for their activities and their performance on matters within the Select Committee's remit, particularly relating to:

- Any particular decision
- The performance of partners in delivering shared objectives

3.12 When the Select Committee wishes to invite members of the PSB, officers, Cabinet Members or another individual to a meeting, it will:

- Offer a minimum notice of 6 weeks' notice;
- Clearly outline the reason and the likely areas for questioning;
- Identify whether any paperwork is to be produced.

3.13 Where individuals are required to attend before the Select Committee, the Chair shall ensure that they are treated with courtesy and respect. Following the meeting, attendees will be provided with feedback and clarification as to whether further information is required as part of the Scrutiny process.

PSB Select Committee Meeting Procedure

3.14 Robust Scrutiny depends on effective questioning which relies on effective preparation. The meetings of Select Committees will operate as follows:

- Main agenda items will be identified at the previous meeting in line with the agreed work programme. At this point potential witnesses and broad themes should be considered.
- Prior to the meeting all Select Committee Members should be engaged in raising and discussing possible questions by email. The Select Committee Chair will facilitate this process.
- A pre-meeting for all Select Committee Members will be held for 30 minutes immediately before each Select Committee meeting. The purpose is to ensure that members are fully prepared for the Select Committee meeting and that the questioning strategy is clear.
- During the meeting, the Select Committee Chair will be responsible for ensuring that questioning is effective and that the Select Committee achieves its objective.
- Those invited to attend for a particular agenda item shall not be expected to remain at the meeting.
- At the close of the meeting, witnesses will be asked to leave to enable Select Committee Members to discuss their conclusions any recommendations arising from the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations will be reported to the PSB and relevant Cabinet Member(s) in the form of a Chairs' Letter. This part of the meeting should review the effectiveness of the meeting and identify ways that future meetings could be improved.

Call in Arrangements

3.15 In the event of a "Calling-in" of a decision, in line with the 'Call-in Mechanism' outlined in the Constitution, the PBS Select Committee is required to meet within 15 working days of the publication of the decision. The Committee would endeavour to offer advance notice to invitees required to attend.

Evidence Gathering

3.16 The Select Committee is entitled to gather evidence in connection with any review or inquiry it undertakes as part of their agreed work plan. The Select Committee shall adopt methods of gathering evidence to inform their deliberations. These include, but are not limited to, task and finish groups, holding enquiries, undertaking site visits, conducting public surveys, holding public meetings, commissioning research, hearing from witnesses

and appointing advisors and assessors. The knowledge of councillors is also a valuable source of evidence and should be considered as part of each inquiry.

Responding to Scrutiny's Recommendations

- 3.17 The Select Committee will agree outcomes of its meetings and detail the conclusions and any recommendations arising from a Select Committee meeting. The Select Committee may recommend amendments to a strategy or policy at their meeting which will be formally minuted. The Chair will formally make recommendations via a Chairs Letter to the PSB and relevant Cabinet Member(s) in person after the meeting has closed and will report these to the Commissioner following each meeting. Where recommendations have been made to the PSB and/or the Cabinet Member, a written response would be expected within one month, indicating whether the recommendation is to be accepted and what action (if any) will be taken in response.

Accountability Framework

- 3.18 There are parameters for the PSB Select Committee defined within the Future Generations Act, as follows:
- The act allows for scrutiny of the PSB as a 'corporate body', not the individual partners comprising the PSB. Paragraph 169 of the Future Generations guidance states that; ***"The committee can require any member of the board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a member of the board under this Act."*** The PSB Select Committee will therefore scrutinise the work of the PSB and not the individual activities of PSB partners.
 - Whilst the joint actions of the PSB will demonstrate the impact and outcomes achieved, the PSB Select Committees may choose to probe individual partners as to how they intend to exercise their well-being duty in line with the PSB's wellbeing plan. Section 36 (1) (c) of the Act (in defining the PSB's well-being duty) refers to; ***"The taking of all reasonable steps by members of the board (in exercising their functions) to meet those objectives."***
 - Furthermore, Select Committees can exercise their existing power under S21 (2) (e) of the Local Government Act 2000 to; ***"Make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area."***

Declarations of Interest

- 3.19 Members of the PSB Select Committee must declare any interest during meetings of the Select Committee (and withdraw from the meeting if necessary) in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct.

Confidentiality of Information

- 3.20 In accordance with the council's Code of Conduct, members of the Select Committee must not disclose any information considered 'exempt' in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Accessibility of the PSB Select Committee

- 3.21 All meetings of the PSB Select Committee will be held in the public domain and will be live streamed across the internet unless the information is considered 'exempt information' in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972. The minutes and agendas of meetings shall be publicly available on the council's website unless the information is deemed 'exempt' (as above). Any member of the public may address the Select Committee under the Public Open Forum for a maximum duration of 15 minutes.

Functions to be exercised by the PSB Select Committee

- 3.22 The PSB Select Committee shall be responsible for exercising the following functions:
- a) review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the public services board;
 - b) review or scrutinise the board's governance arrangements;
 - c) make reports or recommendations to the board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
 - d) consider matters relating to the board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
 - e) carry out other functions in relation to the board that are imposed on it by the Act.
- 3.23 The PSB Select Committee is requested to discuss appropriate terms of reference for adoption at its next meeting. The full responsibilities for local government scrutiny are outlined in Appendix A of the background report tabled to council on 21st January 2016. The PSB Select Committee will need to consider these responsibilities in order to agree an appropriate terms of reference for the Select Committee.

4. REASONS

- 4.1 The new responsibilities for local government to scrutinise the PSB requires the council to ensure its scrutiny arrangements are fit for purpose and can deliver the responsibilities effectively. Significant thought has been given to developing a 'Monmouthshire Approach' to scrutiny of the PSB to provide democratic accountability and to ensure that statutory partners, invitees, and others can add value to scrutiny of the PSB. The allocation of the new responsibilities to a bespoke committee should enable the PSB Select Committee to play a distinct and strategic role in scrutiny of the PSB.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct implications arising from the report, providing the four Select Chairs rotate the chairing of any new Committee (negating the need for a further Special Responsibility Allowance). There is likely to be indirect implications on staff resources and these will need to be managed as appropriate.

6. SAFEGUARDING, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct implications arising from the report.

7. CONSULTEES

Head of Legal Services
Dr Alan Netherwood, Netherwood Sustainable Futures

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to Council on 21st January 2016.

9. AUTHOR

Hazel Ilett
Scrutiny Manager

10. CONTACT DETAILS:

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SUBJECT:	FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT : SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS
MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	21st January 2016
DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE

- 1.2 To advise Members of the requirements of the Future Generations Act in relation to Local Authority scrutiny and to guide Members on the establishment of fit for purpose scrutiny arrangements for Monmouthshire.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That the Council notes the new responsibility for Select Committees to ensure the principles of the Act are applied to policy and decision-making in Monmouthshire.
- (ii) That the Council agrees to the proposal recommended in this report to establish a bespoke scrutiny arrangement to scrutinise the Public Service Board (PSB) in line with the Acts' requirement.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act achieved Royal Assent in April 2015 and the legislation comes into force in April 2016. The Act requires public bodies to improve social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing, by taking action in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'Wellbeing Goals'.
- 3.2 The guidance (extract attached as Appendix D) advises that public bodies need to embed the Act within their existing corporate processes if they are to effectively carry out sustainable development. This requires the Council to integrate the thinking behind the Act into policy and decision making at every level and the Council's Select Committees to ensure that this occurs. Councils will be subject to review by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and for examination by the Auditor General for Wales in terms of their implementation of the Act.
- 3.3 The Act places a collective well-being duty on Public Service Boards, requiring each Public Service Board (PSB) to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area by contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals through preparing a wellbeing assessment and publishing a well-being plan in addition to producing annual reports. PSB's must also act in accordance with the sustainable development principle and the responsibility to ensure PSB's are challenged appropriately and supported to deliver these objectives has been given to local government scrutiny functions.
- 3.4 The Future Generations Act guidance states that;
- "In order to assure democratic accountability, there is a requirement for a designated local government scrutiny committee of the relevant local authority to scrutinise the work of the public services board" (paragraph 163).

The Future Generations Act states that;

“where a local authority has more than one overview and scrutiny committee, the references in this part to its overview and scrutiny committee are to the committee that the local authority designates for the purposes of this section” (Section 35).

- 3.5 Whilst the guidance is something the Council only needs to ‘have regard to’, the Act is definitive and under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council must ensure a scrutiny Committee (new or existing) adopts the remit.
- 3.6 The full responsibilities for local government scrutiny functions are outlined in Appendix D, however, there are two distinct roles for Local government scrutiny:
- The scrutiny that would take place within the existing Select Committees to ensure the Council applies the principles of the Act to its own decisions and policy – this will require Members to ask different questions to ensure the Council is implementing the act across all that it delivers.
 - Purposeful scrutiny of the PSB – this should be strategic and focussed on the work of the Public Service Board as a whole.
- 3.7 Monmouthshire County Council has volunteered to be part of the Welsh Local Government Association’s “early adopter” scheme, which offers support to help local authorities take steps in 2015/16 to prepare for the Act. Ensuring a ‘fit for purpose’ scrutiny arrangement is in place in readiness for the Act with Members who have been trained in this important role is a key priority.
- 3.8 Significant thought has been given to what would work best in Monmouthshire to provide both democratic accountability and multi-sector input into scrutinising the work of the PSB, ensuring statutory partners, invitees, and others could contribute and add value to scrutiny of the PSB. These issues are still to be determined, however, what is clear is that in order to avoid a scrutiny ‘bolt-on’ arrangement and to ensure that scrutiny can assist in shaping the evolving PSB, it is advisable to establish scrutiny arrangements at an early stage.
- 3.9 There are two options for scrutiny of the PSB that the Council could consider in line with the requirements of the Act:
- 3.10 Option 1: To allocate the new responsibilities to an existing Select Committee:
- Members have reflected that the current Select Committees are operating at full capacity ~ the concern would be that an existing committee may be overloaded and that there would be insufficient capacity to conduct the scrutiny effectively, the additional burden also conflicting with other scrutiny priorities.
 - Members have advised that they do not consider this responsibility should sit within one Committee’s remit, rather that it should be overarching of the 4 existing Select Committees.
 - If an existing Select Committee were designated as a parent Select Committee with a Sub-Committee of that Select Committee established, in line with the constitution, Members would need to be drawn from the parent Select Committee with the following implications:

- They Sub-Committee may not necessarily comprise of the appropriate Members – for example, the four Select Chairs would not be able to sit on the Sub-Committee and thus to oversee the work of the PSB and feed into their Select Committees as appropriate.
- Some Members who may wish to sit on the Sub-Committee that would oversee the work of the PSB would be unable to do so because they are not Members of the parent committee.

3.11 Option 2: To allocate the new responsibilities to a bespoke PSB Select Committee:

- The new Select Committee would play a distinct and strategic role in scrutinising the work of the PSB, the establishment of a designated Select Committee offering it a sense of status and legitimacy.
- This would ensure clarity in terms of role - avoid the confusion of ‘scrutiny of the PSB’ with ‘scrutiny of the Council’s application of the Act to policy and decision-making’.
- A stand-alone Select Committee comprising the 4 Select Committee Chairs would provide genuine integration, providing direct links to the other Select Committees. The Select Chairs could refer detailed work to their Select Committees ~ the Members of that Select Committee would decide whether to accept the referral. Given that the legislation is over-arching and will impact on all facets of the Council’s work, this approach would bridge the knowledge across the Select Committees.
- Other Members could be appointed to ensure political balance, political groups nominating Members on the basis of ‘their offer’ and commitment to the role. Representatives from outside the Council could be co-opted as appropriate, embracing the spirit of the act.
- If the Select Committee Chairs agreed to rotate the Chairmanship of the Committee, there would be no additional SRA required (cost-neutral).

3.12 The recommendation based upon the above factors is for:

- A stand-alone PSB Select Committee to be established as soon as possible after a Council decision has been reached.
- The Select Committee to comprise 9 Members (in line with the other Select Committees), with the ability to co-opt non-voting Members as it sees fit.
- The four Select Committee Chairs to be standing Members of the new Committee with the remaining elected Membership politically balanced.
- The four Select Chairs to rotate the chairing at each meeting to provide strategic leadership (it is anticipated the Committee would meet four to five times a year). The rotated chairing would also negate the need to budget for another Special Responsibility Allowance.

3.13 If the Council agrees this option, an expert in Future Generations has agreed to work with Monmouthshire Members to design a ‘Monmouthshire approach’ to scrutiny of the PSB. This would provide an excellent opportunity for Members to proactively design an effective scrutiny arrangement based on the five sustainable development principles

(involvement, collaboration, prevention, integration, long term). Members could consider multi-sector contribution via co-option of non-elected Members to ensure the Committee has the necessary expertise to ensure the spirit of the Act is genuinely implemented.

- 3.14 The success in delivering effective scrutiny of the PSB will hinge upon ensuring clarity of the terms of reference of the PSB Select Committee, ensuring the recruitment of suitable individuals to perform the role, establishing an arrangement that is overarching and adopting an integrated approach suitable for Monmouthshire.

4. REASONS

- 4.1 Scrutiny is a statutory function and performs a fundamental role in the Council's decision-making process. The new responsibilities for local government scrutiny functions arising from the Act requires the Council to ensure its' scrutiny arrangements are fit for purpose and can deliver these responsibilities effectively.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct implications arising from the report, providing the four Select Chairs rotate the chairing of any new Committee (negating the need for a further Special Responsibility Allowance. There is likely to be indirect implications on staff resources and these will need to be managed as appropriate.

6. SAFEGUARDING, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct implications arising from the report.

7. CONSULTEES

Scrutiny Chairs Liaison Group
Head of Legal Services
Political Leadership Group

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

9. AUTHOR

Hazel Ilett
Scrutiny Manager

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Chapter 6 - Local accountability

161. Local integrated planning will only be effective if the members of the public services board take joint responsibility themselves for securing improvement, with local democratic processes providing appropriate challenge and support. For this reason, the Act gives the Welsh Ministers relatively few powers and relies predominantly on the role of local government scrutiny to secure continuous improvement.

162. The Welsh Ministers will not approve local well-being plans. Local well-being plans are the plans of the public services board members, locally owned and subject to local scrutiny. The Welsh Ministers instead have a power to direct a board to review its local well-being plan; or to refer a plan to the relevant local government scrutiny committee if it is not considered sufficient; for example, due to an adverse report by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales or a concern statutory duties are not being met.

163. In order to assure democratic accountability there is a requirement for a designated local government scrutiny committee of the relevant local authority to scrutinise the work of the public services board.

164. While it will continue to be entirely legitimate for a subject scrutiny committee (such as a children and young people's scrutiny committee) to scrutinise the public services board's work in relation to a specific issue, it is important that one committee takes an overview of the overall effectiveness of the board. This is the reason one committee must be designated to undertake this work.

165. Overview and scrutiny functions: Each Local Authority must ensure its overview and scrutiny committee has the power to:

- a) review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the public services board;
- b) review or scrutinise the board's governance arrangements;
- c) make reports or recommendations to the board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- d) consider matters relating to the board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- e) carry out other functions in relation to the board that are imposed on it by the Act.

166. The Local Authority will do the above through the 'executive arrangements' it is required to make under Part 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. Executive arrangements are arrangements for the setting up and operation by a Local Authority of an executive, which has responsibility for certain functions of the authority.

167. The designated committee will be provided with evidence in the form of the draft assessment of local well-being and, the draft local well-being plan (both of which they will be formally consulted on) and copies of the final versions of both. It will also be provided with annual reports.

168. In addition, the committee will be able to draw on the published advice provided to the public services board by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales.

169. The committee can require any member of the board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a member of the board under this Act.

This includes any person that has accepted an invitation to participate in the activity of the board.

170. The committee must send a copy of any report or recommendation it makes to the Welsh Ministers, the Commissioner and the Auditor General for Wales.

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2019-20

Public Service Board Select Committee				
Meeting Date	Subject	Purpose of Scrutiny	Responsibility	Type of Scrutiny
10th October 2018	Public Service Board Wellbeing Plan	Scrutiny of the action plan to deliver the vision.	Matthew Gatehouse Sharran Lloyd	Performance Monitoring
	Scrutiny of Partners	Scrutiny partners on their delivery of the well-being objectives and future actions.	Gwent Police	
	Adverse Childhood Experiences	Feedback from the workshop held on 1 st October.	Sharran Lloyd	
	Regional Project Work Update	An update report.	Richard Jones	
9th January 2019	Progress on the steps being delivered as part Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan	<p>The PSB has prioritised six steps for focus over a 6 month period. The committee will receive a progress update from two partners of the Public Service Board on the steps for which they are the lead agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting active citizenship – led by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations • Re-addressing the supply and mix of housing stock - led by Monmouthshire County Council with involvement of registered social landlords 	Matthew Gatehouse, MCC Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations	Performance Monitoring
26th March 2019	Progress on the steps being delivered as part Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan	The PSB has prioritised six steps for focus over a 6 month period. The committee will receive a progress update from two partners of the Public Service Board on the steps for which they are the lead agency:	Matthew Gatehouse	Performance Monitoring
11th July 2019	Progress on the steps being delivered as part Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan	Progress on the six steps outlined in the Well-being Plan for focus over a 6 month period ~ Presentation from ABUHB.	Aneurin Bevan University Health Board	Performance Monitoring

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2019-20

Public Service Board Select Committee				
Meeting Date	Subject	Purpose of Scrutiny	Responsibility	Type of Scrutiny
	Draft Revised Terms of Reference for the Select Committee	Consider revised terms of reference and a change to title to reflect a wider scrutiny role.	Hazel Ilett	Governance change
	PSB Annual Report	Scrutinise the performance of the PSB in delivering the 6 steps.	Sharran Lloyd Matthew Gatehouse	Performance Monitoring

PSB DATES:

PSB SELECT DATES:

Monday 3 rd June 2019	10am
Thursday 12 th September 2019	10am
Monday 9 th December 2019	2pm
Wednesday 11 th March 2020	10am

Future Work Programme Items:

- To be determined post May 2019