

Public Service Board
Wednesday 4th April 2018 at County Hall, Usk

Minutes

Attendees:

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| Jeff Scrivens (for Huw Jakeway) | South Wales Fire and Rescue Service |
| Sharran Lloyd | Monmouthshire County Council |
| Paul Matthews (chair) | Monmouthshire County Council |
| David Barnes (minutes) | Monmouthshire County Council |
| Bill Purvis (for Steve Morgan) | Natural Resources Wales |
| Kerry Williams (for Martin Featherstone) | GAVO |
| Tom Broadhead (for Paula Kennedy) | Melin Homes |
| Ian Roberts (for Julian Williams) | Gwent Police |
| Matthew Gatehouse | Monmouthshire County Council |
| Chris Edmondson | Community Member |
| Jeff Cuthbert | Office of Police & Crime Commissioner |
| Diane Watkins | Aneurin Bevan Health Board |

Apologies:

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| Huw Jakeway | South Wales Fire and Rescue Service |
| Martin Swain | Welsh Government |
| Lyn Webber | Office of Police & Crime Commissioner |
| Julian Williams | Gwent Police |
| Nick Wood | Aneurin Bevan University Health Board |
| Steve Morgan | Natural Resources Wales |
| Martin Featherstone | GAVO |
| Paula Kennedy | Melin Homes |
| Peter Fox | Monmouthshire County Council |
| John Keegan | Monmouthshire Housing |
| Sarah Aitken | Public Health Wales |

1. Welcome and apologies

PM welcomed all and stated now is an important time, as the Plan is now approved and we begin the hard work. Several partners have sent notes to suggest it's already been navigated through their processes and we can now focus on the doing.

2. Minutes of the last meeting (30th January 2018) & Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

3. Wellbeing Plan

MG noted that the Plan has been back in various forms on a number of occasions. The item now asks partners to make a decision to approve the plan prior to publication in order to comply with the need to publish within 1 year of the last County Council elections. There are some final typos and the Welsh translation to complete. Another decision is in terms of actions and the delegation to lead partners, under each action are a number of steps which are quite high level – the reason for that is that we are dealing with complex challenges and if we knew the answers we would have solved already.

The next task for when we come back to PSB in July, is to spend time talking around sequencing and resourcing areas of projects of work we choose to take forward. A lead partner has been identified for each one of the areas, with the document also having been to Programme board and signed off there. We have had discussions with the leads and in the coming weeks will come up with detailed proposals following a full away day by Programme Board, with pieces of activity to sign off on - and to come back to PSB with resourcing implications. At the next meeting we are really starting to get into what these projects mean in reality.

JC said that we was very happy and quite content with what has been presented in terms of the Plan and next steps. It all seems logical and the key tasks seem rational. Tackling causes of ACES for example has a major project beginning separately - an all Wales project in looking into the issue of ACEs, and what lessons we can learn. Asking the group how do we gel these things together and work as one in effect so we don't duplicate work and share the outcomes. MG replied that there are a number of things we've been looking at a Gwent level and we are doing a bit of collective work on this in terms of shared priorities. Adding that one thing the PSB leads recognise, is where it is sensible to do so, we do these things once and apply that across all authorities.

IR added that the lead on ACEs for Gwent Police is proposing a Gwent wide workshop, and that the work would probably be done at a Gwent level and then fed back into this level.

PM stated that this again brings up the question of having a greater Gwent PSB, we are in favour but some others are not. All partners around the table need to make time for each other, the piece of work coming out of police forces has amazing potential – but only if all play their part. We need all 5 to want to be there.

PM also discussed the City Deal involving the 10 South East Wales civic areas. One aspect of the portfolio of work the joint cabinet is looking at is the emergence of the public service test bed. In understanding whether there are one or two themes across all 10 civic areas that need to be looked at and changed. The issues presenting themselves at the moment are Decarbonisation, Dementia, and Diabetes. This is another example of how we need to be really good at bolting things in, and taking advantage of emerging practice.

PM reminded all that the Public Service Board Select Committee is a democratic function that sits in MCC, and they are incredibly interested in being able to prove to itself that all partners are involved – and how the content of the Wellbeing Plan embeds itself in what we do. PM has attended and imagined that the invitation to attend will start to be extended more broadly.

The PSB signed off the Wellbeing Plan

BP wanted to thank all the officers that have brought the Plan to this stage. Having seen all plans, Monmouthshire have had favourable comments from the NRW board.

4. Feedback from Older People's Commissioner

MG noted that the paper received from Sara Rochira, did highlight issues – and where they resonated with our work they have been reflected in the Plan. We feel we have a pretty good reflection of what matters to the people in Monmouthshire.

5. Developing Regional Work

MG informed the group that last March, we had a pot of money from Welsh Government of around 74k to fund projects of work we could take forward on a regional level.

One of the projects was Happy Cities that includes a two-fold piece of work. The Happiness Index takes available datasets and combines them to provide a score of wellbeing. The Happiness Pulse is about getting people to fill in questionnaires. The Happiness Index is now being taken forward at an all Wales level as interest has snowballed. In terms of surveys, Monmouthshire have received around 1000 or so responses which gives us a pretty good baseline of wellbeing. With a similar amount of funding this year we are looking to repeat that piece of work. This will let us measure whether their own measure of wellbeing is improving.

The other piece of work funded last year was on Gwent futures, as some of the feedback received on the Plan is how well we understand the potential futures scenario. We commissioned this piece of work and have now had the final version of the report, which will be circulated to the group.

ACTION: DB to circulate.

From this year's funding, a piece of work strongly advocated by NRW is a piece on climate change mitigation and adaptation. The project will look at 5 communities around Gwent and the potential impact of climate change and what it means for those communities. Having a piece of evidence like this would be useful going forward.

JC commented it was very interesting work and looked forward to receiving the finalised draft of the Gwent Futures document. Reading this one, it seems a very generic document with a bit about Gwent in the end, and looked to be more of a grab of information available on a wider basis. For the Wellbeing index, Gwent Police and OPCC are producing a policy on general vulnerability and wellbeing, it's about how we will promote the protection of the most vulnerable people in our communities but we need to have something to judge whether it's successful. Adding that joint working is important and we need to be making sure we are not drawing different conclusions.

MG said that he was disappointed with the Gwent Futures report although it had been well-received by some of the other authorities in Gwent.

PM added that we were looking for issues that would affect practice.

PM asked about the climate change piece, about if we know how it's going to be done – in terms of determining the 5 communities.

MG commented that the communities have yet to be determined, and will circulate further details to the group.

PM responded that we would be much more interested in the different types of communities that could be relatable to others elsewhere.

ACTION: DB to circulate

6. Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)

SL provided some background, that the Shared Delivery paper had changed the landscape of Community Safety partnerships, which were now fragmented in Wales. In light of the non-devolved legislation it was decided the most consistent way to handle DHR would be to go to PSB as the statutory partners of CSP would sit on PSB. As of today we have had 3 in Monmouthshire, 1 has been concluded, 1 is not being taken forward following the coroner's report, and the most recent 1 going forward to be used as a pilot for the new process.

The new process involves the adult and child practice review process as they are a more solid structure that are existing, and current DHR practice can be lengthy. We are currently trialling the new method with the most recent DHR, trying to minimise duplication and taking into consideration the impact on the families. The VAWDASV Board will inform the PSB of the right review to carry out and conduct the review, it will then come back to PSB to sign off. Had permission from the Home Office to trial and the determining of whether a DHR should be done or not can be done via email

CE was interested to know how you demonstrate the independence of the chair.

SL replied that that is the VAWDASV Board's only concern. We understand that heads of service from other authorities come in to conduct reviews so the level of challenge is there and is robust, as officers understand how things work.

JC asked whether the statutory members of the Board mentioned meant the statutory members of what would be the CSP. SL confirmed this.

IR noted that it makes sense for VAWDASV Board to have responsibility as this avoids duplications.

PM stated that if we are content with that, we are comfortable to give it a go.

7. Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)

PM informed the group that at a recent meeting with executive of Chepstow Racecourse, they were keen to have race day to celebrate the uniqueness of Monmouthshire, sponsored by businesses of Monmouthshire. We noted about how easily Police/SWFRS/Ambulance/MCC how they changed the face of their fleet with white ribbon branding – and welcomed another example of community actors asking what more can I do.

-END-

| Action | Responsible |
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| Circulate final Gwent Futures report | DB |
| Circulate details on climate change adaptations project | DB |
| Bring back work following sessions with project leads | SL/MG |

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