

**SUBJECT:** Well-being Objectives and Statement – Annual Report 2017/18  
**MEETING:** County Council  
**DATE:** 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
**DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:** All

**1. PURPOSE:**

- 1.1 To seek council approval of the Well-being Objectives and Statement – Annual Report 2017/18.
- 1.2 To ensure that members have access to performance information for 2017/18.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Well-being Objectives and Statement – Annual Report 2017/18 be approved, subject to any final amendments agreed by Council.

**3. KEY ISSUES:**

- 3.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is about the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, by taking action in accordance with the sustainable development principle aimed at achieving well-being goals. The Council has a responsibility under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to set well-being objectives. To achieve this the Council must:
  - Set and publish well-being objectives (initially by 31st March 2017)
  - Take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives
  - Publish a statement about the well-being objectives
  - Detail arrangements to publish an annual report of progress
- 3.2 The Council is also still required under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set annual Improvement Objectives, produce an Improvement Plan and report annually on progress. The Welsh Government is consulting on a proposal to repeal Part 1 of the Measure which would remove this requirement in future years. Following discussions with regulators and the WLGA, it was deemed sensible to combine the two requirements in a single set of clear objectives.
- 3.3 In March 2017, full Council set Monmouthshire County Council's well-being objectives for 2017/18. These objectives were set just prior to local government elections in May 2017, in order to meet the legislative requirement under the Future Generations Act of approving and publishing well-being objectives by 31st March 2017 and the requirement under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set improvement objectives. Due to the timing of the publication, the latest available evidence from the Monmouthshire well-being assessment, as well as policy and legislation, was used to set the objectives.
- 3.4 Following the election the establishment of the council's Corporate Plan, approved in February 2018, identified revised organisational goals (also the council's well-being objectives) that superseded the objectives set in March 2017. Despite these objectives being superseded by the Corporate Plan, it is important, and we have a duty, to report back on the progress we made in 2017/18 against the objectives set in March 2017, which is the focus of this report. This report will meet the

requirements of the local government measure of publishing an assessment of performance by 31 October 2018, whilst meeting the Well-being of Future Generations Act requirement of reporting performance before 31 March.

- 3.5 The plan describes progress with our four well-being objectives and assesses each one using a six point scale which ranges from unsatisfactory (1) to excellent (6). This includes progress against areas of work related to the objective, an understanding of key performance information and future activity the Council has agreed as part of the Corporate Plan. Performance against the well-being objectives has already been scrutinised by select committees in July 2018. All four of the objectives have been evaluated as making good progress
- 3.6 The report also evaluates the progress made in line with the nine expectations set out by the Future Generations Commissioner, in the 'Well-being in Wales: The journey so far' report published in May 2018, for public bodies to consider in their annual reports. One of the fundamental approaches advocated by the Act is a shift in focus to a stronger link between the actions of public bodies and the outcomes that enhance the quality of life of citizens and communities both now and in the future. The report takes account of the fact that the objectives are more focused on longer term outcomes and the impact made by the objectives may not be clearly demonstrable over short timescales, as was more the case with its predecessor the Improvement plan.
- 3.7 The annual report is a public document and should be accessible to a wide audience. The plan will be published by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 on the council's website alongside a shorter summary version. The summary will be made available as a hard-copy in community hubs, reception areas and on the council's website.
- 3.8 Future annual reports will be based around monitoring and evaluating progress against the goals, which are also the Council's well-being objectives, set in the Corporate Plan.

#### **4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

- 4.1 This plan is an evaluation of previous commitments and is not seeking a decision on a future policy direction. The report provides a comprehensive analysis, using a range of information, on the council's performance in 2017/18. The structure of the report has been informed by the legislation it is required to meet, including expectations for annual reports set out by the Future Generations Commissioner.

#### **5. EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- 5.1 The report provides a comprehensive analysis of the performance of the council in 2017/18. When setting the 2017/18 well-being objectives a clear framework for how we would evaluate progress was identified which has been used to evaluate the objectives. The report also utilises a range of performance information, including data that is used to measure and benchmark local authority performance.

#### **6. REASONS:**

- 6.1 To ensure that the council can be held to account for performance and can demonstrate progress towards delivering better outcomes for citizens.

6.2 To comply with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

**7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

7.1 None. This report is a review of performance in 2017/18.

**8. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):**

This plan is an evaluation of previous commitments and is not seeking a decision which would have an impact on these issues. The progress the Council has made on the Future Generations Act, equalities and safeguarding is set out in the plan.

**9. CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team;

Cabinet;

Select Committees scrutinised progress against the well-being Objectives during July 2018. This facilitated Select committees to scrutinise how well the authority performed against the objectives set and give consideration to any further areas of scrutiny that committee may want to include on their forward work programme.

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Well-being Objectives and Statement 2017

Corporate Plan 2017-22

**11. AUTHOR:**

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