

SUBJECT: Update on Regional Well-being Work
MEETING: Public Service Board Select Committee
DATE: 26th March 2019
DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 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.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are invited to use this update to enhance their understanding of how regional working can help the Public Service Board (PSB) meet the requirements of The Act.

3 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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.

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

4. REASONS

- 4.1 To ensure that members understand the regional work that is being undertaken to embed the Well-being of Future Generations Act and are able to hold the Public Service Board to account.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None at this stage. The funding for these programmes has come from Welsh Government Grant funding which was made available to PSBs to work on collaborative projects to support the development of well-being plans.

6. EQUALITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This is an update report and does not propose any change in policy or service and so no assessment has been completed.

7. AUTHOR

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