

## **Parameters for Scrutiny:**

The following reflects early discussions with Members and colleagues on the potential parameters for local government scrutiny functions.

The Scrutiny Chairs and other elected Members have highlighted concerns in terms of whether the scrutiny function will have a statutory power to scrutinise the activities of PSB partners or whether work must be restricted to scrutiny solely of the work of the PSB (the Act only allows scrutiny of the PSB as a 'corporate body', not the individual members). 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.”*

Whilst it is the constituent bodies' individual and joint actions under the Act that would demonstrate the impact and outcomes achieved, there may be scope for the Select Committees to probe individual partners by inviting them to give evidence as to how the PSB is exercising its 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”.*

Terms of reference for any new arrangement would need to be discussed with the expert advisor who has agreed to work with Monmouthshire on a bespoke approach, however roles of the Scrutiny Committee designated to scrutinise the PSB are outlined in the guidance attached in Appendix A.