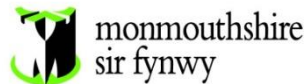


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20fed Gorffennaf 2020

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Pwyllgor Dethol Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus

Dydd Llun, 27ain Gorffennaf, 2020 at 10.30 am
Cyfarfod o Bell

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	I ethol cadeirydd	
2.	Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb	
3.	Datganiadau o Fuddiant	
4.	Fforwm Agored i'r Cyhoedd	
5.	Cofnodion y cyfarfod blaenorol a gynhaliwyd ar 11 Mawrth 2020.	1 - 8
6.	Craffu Cyn-penderfyniad ar Ddrafft Adroddiad Blynyddol y Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus.	9 - 58
7.	Craffu ar Adroddiad Perfformiad ar Risgiau a Strwythur Ymateb Argyfwng Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus COVID-19 (Atodiad 4 yr adroddiad i ddilyn)	59 - 80
8.	Trafodaethau ar syniadau cynnar ar Fwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Rhanbarthol.	81 - 82

Paul Matthews

Prif Weithredwr

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

D. Batrouni
L.Dymock
S. Howarth
P.Pavia
R.Roden
J.Treharne
T.Thomas

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Welsh Language

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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	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree the order of questioning and which Members will lead - Agree questions for officers and questions for the Cabinet Member 	
Questions for the Meeting	
<u>Scrutinising Performance</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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? 	<u>Scrutinising Policy</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <i>the procedures that need to be in place to protect children?</i> 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...	
<p>Do we have the necessary information to form conclusions/make recommendations to the executive, council, other partners? If not, do we need to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (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....	
<u>Empowering Communities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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?

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Monmouthshire Select Committee Minutes

Meeting of Public Service Board Select Committee held at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK - County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk on Wednesday, 11th March, 2020 at 10.00 am

Councillors Present

County Councillor L. Dymock(Chairman)
County Councillors: D. Batrouni, L.Dymock,
R.Roden, F. Taylor, J.Treharne and T.Thomas

Officers in Attendance

Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy and Governance
Sharran Lloyd, LSB Development Manager
Hazel Ilett, Scrutiny Manager

Also in Attendance:

Janice Dent, Regional Officer Gwent VAWDASV
Mary Ryan, Head of Corporate Safeguarding,
Newport City Council

APOLOGIES: County Councillor P. Pavia

1. To elect a Chair.

County Councillor L. Dymock was elected Chair for today's meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest.

No declarations of interest were made.

3. Public Open Forum.

No members of the public were present.

4. Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse (VAWDASV)

Janice Dent, Regional Advisor for the Gwent VAWDASV team, and Mary Ryan, Corporate Safeguarding Lead for Newport City Council, presented their update report on delivering the regional VAWDASV strategy. This is an interim report, as the principal one comes at the end of the financial year. The Officers drew attention to funding, the structure of the Partnership Board, the 2018-23 strategy and delivery plan, progress to date, and wider responsibilities. The Home Office has been very impressed by the engagement with Monmouthshire for the DH-APR pilot project, which has led to the HO considering devolving governance of the review process to Welsh Government. The Regional team is working with the Gwent Safeguarding Board to see how communication can improve, and VAWDASV can be embedded fully into safeguarding procedures – this is one of the main focal points leading into the next financial year. A proposal has been submitted for capital funding, to increase refuge provision for Monmouthshire. Two open days will be held at the end of March to engage with citizens.

Challenge:

Could clearer information about the impacts and outcomes of the team's work be given?

The Needs Assessment is currently being updated. One of the key things about it this year is looking at progress between 2015 and now. This will include reports to Police, how many people have been supported, how many refuge spaces do we have, etc. That assessment is due to be completed at the end of the financial year, and will include the information requested. We are also awaiting the national indicators from Welsh Government, which is a suite of outcomes that each local authority will be required to report on. In addition, the regional Independent Domestic Violence Adviser has a reporting mechanism in terms of how many people have accessed the service; this data will tie in with the end-of-year report. We are working with Safer Monmouthshire to determine which specific measures and outcomes Monmouthshire would like to see. We are working on datasets and a benchmark to properly measure things moving forward.

Why do we not have Independent Domestic Violence Adviser data at this stage?

One of the reasons is timing, as we aren't at the end of the financial year yet. We are also identifying what Members would like to see – that is the basis for the Needs Assessment work, and the work with Safer Monmouthshire.

Is there no baseline on which we can work, while we await that data and information?

The Needs Assessment which was completed in 2015-16 is our benchmark. The Assessment currently being worked on will allow us to identify the difference between 2015-16 and now. This is renewed every three years. In terms of impact, we've worked to understand how people have felt about the service they've received, and consulted with frontline members and citizens. For example, it wasn't clear to people that the same services for women are available for men – consultations such as this are being fed into the Needs Assessment.

Is the strategy therefore not informed by data?

No, the strategy was informed by the Needs Assessment carried out in 2015-16, so with the updated Assessment we will be able to see what impact the strategy has had.

What about the '2021' plan?

This plan had to go to Welsh Government by February, in order to determine whether our funding would continue for another year with the caveat that this could change as a result of the Needs Assessment. It won't change radically because the strategic priorities will be the same, but might do around the specifics of the Gwent Needs action plan that's being developed by board members and STG members in April.

Can it be fed back that the timeline needs to change i.e. that we need the data to drive the strategy? The Needs Assessment could come before the strategy?

Yes.

Some of the wording in the plan makes it unclear how the outcomes could be tracked, and the relevant people held to account.

We can look again at the wording. Unfortunately, at the moment each group has its own action plan, which can lead to the overarching plan looking a little 'woolly'. This is something we're trying to change, moving into 2021.

Where are the measurements for how many victims we help in Monmouthshire, how many we re-house, etc.?

A report was written and submitted to Safer Monmouthshire recently which contains that information. It would give members more of an idea of the qualitative and quantitative data, and

further understanding of the Needs Assessment and the equality of which services we have across Gwent.

Do we have assurance that we have the right systems in place in Monmouthshire, over and above the individual strategies?

There is a national training framework that puts duties on all responsible bodies, in terms of mandatory training for everyone. It would probably be helpful for the committee to have the data on how Monmouthshire is doing in that regard too, particularly as it might demonstrate where a specific area is not achieving as expected.

On the matter of 'equality', what does this relate to specifically?

This relates to the availability of care and support across Gwent, rather than just in Monmouthshire. One of the reasons we look across the whole region is that the capital funding showed that we didn't have the specific provision within Monmouthshire for dispersed units, which is why we've gone down that project. We can certainly return to this committee to present further data once it is available. Often, someone seeking care or support might want to do so outside Monmouthshire, which is why we look across Gwent as a whole.

Concerning the pilot project of increasing awareness among young people, is it possible to increase the number of schools involved? Can the number of three be explained?

We worked with the Education Safeguarding leads on this particular project, which was only run for this year. We wrote to every safeguarding lead in Gwent asking for volunteers: only three schools took us up on that.

Is there involvement at primary level, or is that seen as too young?

The new curriculum will be helpful for that. Spectrum is also funded by Welsh Government to deliver training in primary schools. The pilot project has developed a suite of learning which we hope can be disseminated to as many schools as possible, including primary.

How can this committee be of help?

Working with members will be helpful in supporting us to roll out the pilot project.

We are about to embark on work in schools to tackle racism – Strong Communities and CYP could do some work around VAWDASV as well. Can more detail be given about how the Spectrum sessions work?

The sessions are tailored to each individual year group. It is supported by some other programs, such as Operation Encompass, which is rolled out across Gwent: when Police attend an incident at night or out of school hours, the school is notified prior to the child coming into school. This is a Gwent Police project, and involves the police linking directly with schools.

What is the regional team responsible for? What is its specific role?

The team's principal role is to support the activities of the board, to ensure it is meeting its requirements under the Act, and the guidance from Welsh Government as it continues to be updated. It is very much a guidance, advice and supporting role. Also a responsibility to appoint people to the right places, deliver the Needs Assessment, supply and explain data when it is requested, and generally give oversight.

While this is taking place, what happens to individuals who are experiencing problems?

The aforementioned is in addition to the regular daily duties of the services working together, specialist sector meetings to look at issues coming through and sharing best practice across organisations, looking at gaps in the services, etc. The national training framework is the key responsibility: making sure that anyone coming into contact with someone experiencing

VAWDASV gives the appropriate response. We report on how many people have been trained per local authority, working closely with each workforce development team. We have recently fed back that teachers are having difficulty accessing the training, so now it will be placed on Hwb. We are working with citizens to raise awareness; many male victims, for example, were not aware that they were in an abusive relationship. We have designed a brochure to that effect, which has gone out to Health Boards, community centres, etc.

What do you consider to be the major issues in Monmouthshire?

Our main priorities of work at this time are the following: refugee and migrant communities, dispersed units, covering the gap in which refuge can't be accessed by someone with teenage boys over 16 years old, work with young farmers (as rural communities are more isolated when it comes to talking to someone about an abusive relationship). We are working with Housing First to identify the number of people with domestic abuse as a marker – where are they going, where are the gaps, etc.

The labelling of 'Domestic Violence' implies it has to be a physical incident, when it can also include behavioural and financial control – which mechanism would account for that?

The legislation is clear that the correct term is 'Domestic Abuse'. We're working on a steering group around Iris for GPs, and the 'Ask and Act' training, working with Aneurin Bevan Health Board, as GPs are often the first point of contact for victims, and the best people to have conversations with them. We haven't reached every area of practice yet in our work; some of the plans for next year will be more wide reaching, to cover those other areas. There is a meeting next week with Connect Gwent and all service providers around referral pathways, particularly to streamline the responses for victims.

With funding coming to an end this month, is there funding for next year, and if not where will it come from?

The funding coming to an end is the Education Healthy Relationship funding, our funding is only annual from Welsh Government. The action plan in our report is the one that has gone to Welsh Government to hopefully receive funding for 2021. They have given an indicative agreement that we will have the funding, and we are now waiting for confirmation.

Is there still a requirement for a Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator, which the council used to have? Would a central person or team not improve efficiency and efficacy?

The Act makes VAWDASV legislation more encompassing, so that the responsibility is shared across the whole Council. The important thing is for everyone to know the right pathway when presented with a problem or victim, and that that information is communicated as widely as possible. This is one of the roles of Safer Monmouthshire.

With a multidisciplinary approach, can matters can fall through the cracks if, for example, someone is on medical leave?

The 'Perpetrator Good Practice' for everyone in public service will hopefully help: we have the NTF Framework and 'Ask and Act', also Welsh Government is keen to look at Perpetrator Journeys, and where we can intervene earlier to identify unhealthy behaviours and attitudes before they become 'perpetrating.' There are a number of task groups looking at this.

Chair's Conclusion:

We would welcome the officers returning once the Needs Assessment has been published, and full data is available. It is hard to perform effective scrutiny at this stage without it. It would be useful for the committee to have the Spectrum report and Safer Monmouthshire report, as well

as Encompass and NTF information. It is agreed that we will need to know what the PSB will enact once they have the data, and monitor more closely what the outcomes for the public are expected to be, and the evidence trail involved. Working jointly with other committees would be useful; in particular, Healthy Relationships should go to Strong Communities and CYP, and the outcomes for victims to Adults Select.

5. Scrutiny of Regional Partnership Boards

Councillor Roden noted that currently there is inadequate scrutiny of the RPB and supports co-scrutinising it with other PSBs. Councillor Taylor noted that Adults Select Committee has discussed the Intermediate Care Fund; it would be helpful to set out for members how the funding allocation for Gwent is scrutinised, and how it comes in to the county and is distributed to the delivery bodies. It would be helpful to understand what function the 1% 'top-slicing' for management, co-ordination and oversight is playing, and what part Monmouthshire Council has in the oversight function.

Councillor Treharne requested that when joint scrutiny takes place, that further information be given on the funding breakdown, as well as the bullet points that the RPBS are required to provide (Population Needs Assessment, Area Plan, Annual Report, Integrated Market Position Statement, Established Pooled funds for Care Homes and family support members).

Scrutiny Manager Hazel Ilett noted that the Population Needs Assessment and Area plan have been scrutinised previously in other committees. Caerphilly Council has invited them to attend Caerphilly sessions to present information on the points just mentioned. In the meantime, while we wait to organise joint scrutiny, it would perhaps be worthwhile for those committees to come to Public Services to present that information.

6. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th July 2019.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th July 2019 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

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

Given that Public Services is a new committee, there is an opportunity to look beyond simply scrutinising the work of the PSB. Different work streams have been considered, including scrutinising the RPBs and Shared Resource Service. There is also the opportunity to call in partners who receive public money, and the precept. Any services which are delivered jointly, which don't neatly fall into the remits of other Select Committees would merit being placed under this committee. Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy and Governance, responded to the members' questions:

Regarding organisations in receipt of the precept – the Police and Crime Commissioner, for example – could clarification be given around this?

It doesn't give us more powers to scrutinise any partners than we currently have. In reshaping the committee it's that statement of intent, that a great deal of activity happens in the footprint of Monmouthshire, which currently is not effectively scrutinised by the elected politicians who are

tasked with representing the communities and people of Monmouthshire. Historically, we have not had the powers to scrutinise all public services, and we still don't. Nonetheless, there is a lot of collaborative activity that happens on this footprint, and there are a lot of issues raised with the Members as ward representatives where, potentially, further opportunities to scrutinise would be beneficial. The other aspect is that we're increasingly seeing activity undertaken collaboratively, and through different vehicles. We're expecting an announcement fairly soon about Corporate Joint Committees as part of the new Local Government Elections bill, which could see the emergence of new delivery vehicles for certain services. This committee gives us the opportunity to ensure that those don't fall through the cracks of the other committees.

Are there concrete examples of this collaboration, and of a positive impact being achieved as a result?

The original purpose of this committee was to hold the Public Services Board to account for its activity. The first phase of that work was focused on the processes and mechanisms of undertaking the wellbeing assessments: gathering the evidence, and producing the plan. One of the challenges for that has been that scrutiny has largely been on process because the challenges the PSB was looking at are those complex issues that don't necessarily have immediate short-term solutions. If we knew exactly how to solve them, we would already be doing them within our own organisation. It's too early to speak of impacts yet, but some of the work we're starting to see emerge are collaborative endeavours such as the joint work on the promotion of the agenda around VAWDASV. There's been involvement from Aneurin Bevan Health Board on the work of the Early Help panel, which is a multi-agency partnership and one of the PSB priorities. But in terms of outcomes, we're not going to see the impact of that for many years, if not generations. We're looking at long-term issues, and there are not many measurable outcomes yet that have come before this committee.

There's still a concern though that there is rhetoric involved with the PSB – it would be good to see some metrics at some point.

Yes, that is a fair challenge. The broader remit of this committee doesn't preclude it from identifying some of those areas within the wellbeing plan, and asking for reports and updates so that metrics can be seen, and officers (not just from Monmouthshire County Council) can be held to account. In the last 12-15 months, this committee has had presentations from the lead agencies for the six areas that the PSB has prioritised in its wellbeing plan. That work continues, so the committee can add any of those matters to its work programme at any point. The terms of reference have been revised and broadened because there were a lot of matters which the PSB legally discharges the duty for, which weren't coming to this committee. Today's topic of VAWDASV is one such example.

As an example of a topic for which the PSB has responsibilities, in terms of Future Generations, where does the Climate Emergency sit? And what about other pieces which are delivered in partnership?

The Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency (back in May 2019), and the resultant action plan which was devised, sits within the remit of the Strong Communities Select Committee. Given the increase in extreme weather impacts and desire from the public for action in the three years since the wellbeing plan was published, the PSB has asked officers to escalate its work; National Resources Wales have the lead on that. That work would therefore sit very well with this committee, as that's the collaborative activity.

8. **Date and time of next meeting: To be confirmed.**

The meeting ended at **11.39 am**

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SUBJECT: Draft Public Service Board Well-being Plan Annual Report

MEETING: Public Services Select Committee

DATE: 27th July 2020

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 in 2019/20 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 prepare and publish an annual progress report each year.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The committee is invited to use the annual report to hold PSB partners to account for the delivery of collaborative approaches to improve well-being in Monmouthshire.
- 3.2 The is invited to examine the annual report to ensure it presents a clear and robust overview of progress towards objectives set in the PSB's 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 Public Service Board 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 and subsequently no later than one year after publication of that report. The report must describe the steps taken since publication to meet the objectives and can also include any other information which the Board feels appropriate. In Monmouthshire's case the first annual report on activity in 2018/19 was published by 4th July 2019.
- 4.3 This is the second annual report, reporting on progress of the PSB towards delivering the objectives set out in the Wellbeing Plan between April 2019 and March 2020. Following scrutiny by the Committee the report will be presented to the Public Service Board for approval and then be published on the PSB's webpages.
- 4.4 During the Coronavirus pandemic public services in Monmouthshire have been at the forefront of efforts to preserve life and stop the spread of the virus, while continuing to provide vital support to communities in Monmouthshire. Services in Monmouthshire continue to work in partnership to deliver and coordinate the response to the pandemic. This has led to short delay in producing the

annual report beyond the original deadline, however significant effort has been by PSB partners to ensure any delay is limited.

- 4.5 Monmouthshire's report effectively summarises the issues that the committee have been scrutinising over the past year. It also contains data for the national well-being indicators prescribed by Welsh Government.
- 4.6 This report largely looks back over the period April 2019 – March 2020, although reference will be made in relevant sections to some of the impact or latest information on the Coronavirus pandemic. The PSB in Monmouthshire will be utilising the latest evidence, learning gathered and changes to legislation and guidance to understand the impact on well-being of the pandemic in Monmouthshire. The PSB will continue to work with local and regional partners to develop its activity in response and consider adapting/developing the Board's plans accordingly. Any further updates to the PSB well-being plan, will be reported to the committee accordingly.

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 Public Service Board 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 This report presents an evaluation of progress and no implications identified as a result.

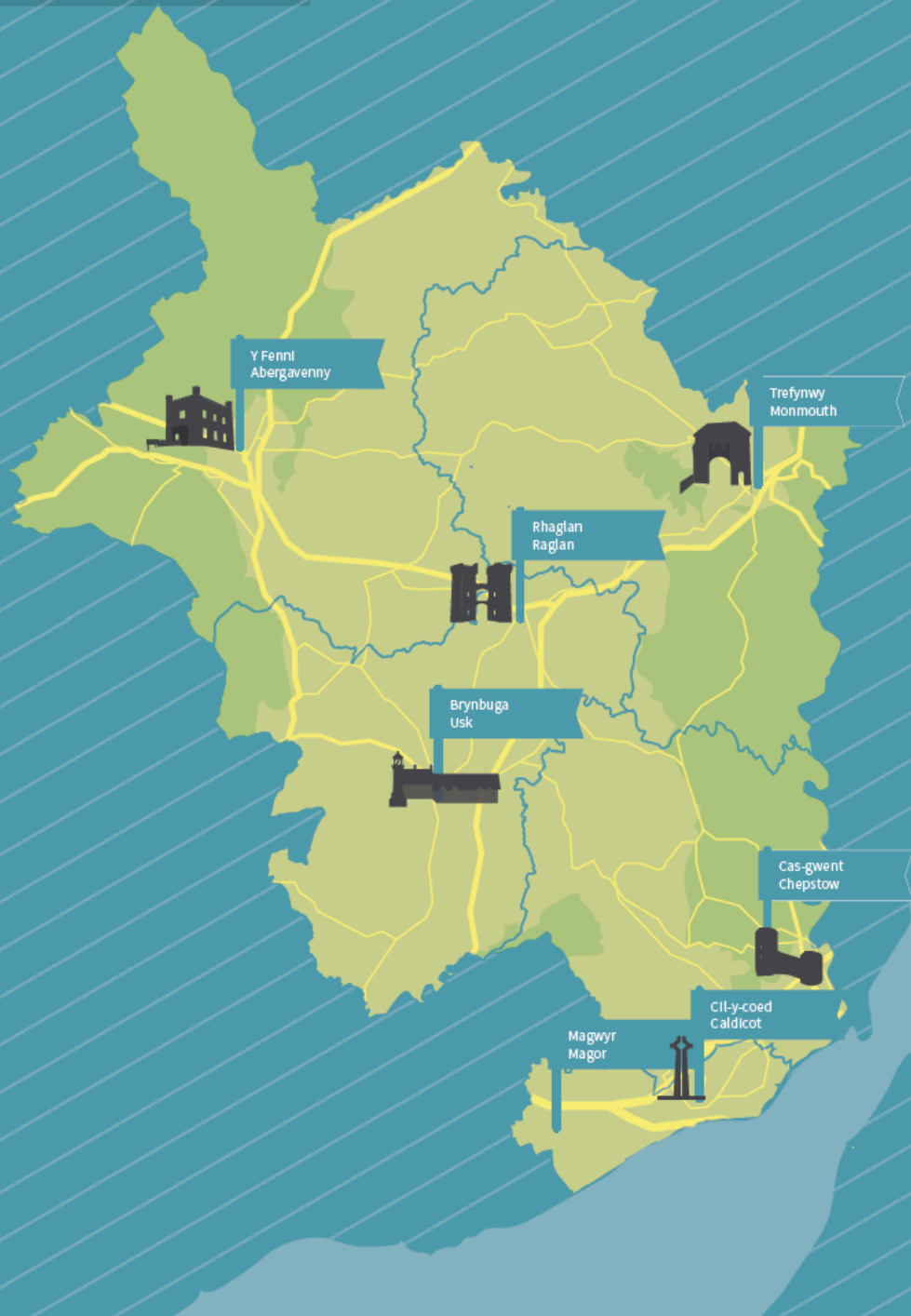
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SIR FYNWY

MONMOUTHSHIRE



Monmouthshire Public Services Board Well-being Plan- Annual Report 2020

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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.

This is the second annual report, reporting on the progress of the PSB towards delivering the objectives set out in the Well-being Plan.

From well-being steps to delivery

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.

In 2018, each of the 19 steps was allocated a lead partner organisation whose responsibility has been to explore the step further, identify more specific actions and oversee the delivery of these actions.

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.

Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Coronavirus pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to our way of life. Public services in Monmouthshire have been at the forefront of efforts to preserve life and stop the spread of the virus while continuing to provide vital support to communities in Monmouthshire.

Public Services in Monmouthshire have and continue to work in partnership to deliver and coordinate the response. This continues to operate in a dynamic and challenging environment, evolving and adapting to manage and mitigate, as far as possible, a variety of risks to the well-being of residents.

While the Covid-19 virus has a direct impact on human health, the pandemic will also impact on the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the county in the short and longer-term. There are going to be challenges and also opportunities, for example, the immense value added by hard-working volunteers and community spirit being fostered in often difficult circumstances.

It is to improve some of the most significant issues impacting on well-being to build sustainable and resilient communities; that is the purpose of PSB partners coming together to deliver the well-being plan. The PSB will be utilising the latest evidence, learning gathered, changes to legislation, and guidance to understand the impact on the well-being of Monmouthshire communities throughout the pandemic and adapting/developing the Board's plans accordingly.

This report largely looks back over the period April 2019 – March 2020, although reference will be made in relevant sections to some of the impact or latest information on the Coronavirus pandemic. Any further updates to the PSB well-being plan, on which this annual report is based, will be available on the Monmouthshire Public Services Board website www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/our-monmouthshire/

Setting the PSBs priorities

The vision set against each of these steps must display 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.

PSB prioritised six areas for particular focus since partners cannot work on all 19 steps at the same time. These were:

- 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 the 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.

In 2019/20, work on these priorities has continued, with the PSB keeping a close watching brief on the mental health of children and young people in particular during this period, as this work has been very closely aligned to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Transformation model under the Gwent Regional Partnership Board.

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. A good example of this long term thinking is the approach being taken to children's mental health. The Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership has been reviewing the current systems across health and local authority provision to understand how current provision and support for children & young people's mental health is provided – further exploration is on-going with partner organisations and is being mapped across the life course, incorporating the first 1,000 days to post 16 up to 25yrs of age. This will draw together information across different service areas/organisations to build a 'chronology' of service intervention with young people to identify where service/practice change could be altered to better, or earlier, support where necessary.

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 is the Monmouthshire Youth Forum which was held in January 2020. The forum invited young people from each of the four comprehensive schools in Monmouthshire along with other groups of young people outside of school settings to capture their thoughts and opinions on emerging issues facing young people today. A range of PSB partners was active in the days' discussions on the four priority topics chosen by young people in the Make Your Mark Campaign. These centred on Climate Change, Mental Health, Modern Sex Education and Substance Misuse.



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.

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, to aim to prevent them from occurring or to prevent escalation of the issues, 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). 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. The PSB has been spending a great deal of time understanding organisational operations and systems, which aims to give insight into where practice change can happen to maximise impact and outcomes for individuals across the county.

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 can 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																			
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																			

Well-being Objectives – Progress so far

The PSB Well-being objectives and steps are set out in the tables below 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)
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In order to secure employment and contribute to 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 positively as they become adults, helping to develop Cohesive Communities.

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

Progress Summary:

ACE's should not be looked at as an area of focus in isolation or as a 'silo' entity within the PSB. This is an issue which should remain a focus for the PSB, however, it will be a golden thread that is a cross-cutting theme across more than 1 step within the Well-being plan. The cross-cutting nature of this step creates a natural link with the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership and is at the heart of their work plan.

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 taking account of the complexity of issues involved.

To develop an 'ACE aware' approach across the county we held a workshop with all PSB partners in October 2018. This has underpinned an action plan, embedded within the CYPSP action plan, which

will ensure PSB and partner agencies have a joined-up response and resources to focus on proactive interventions and enable children and families to access fully integrated support across agencies/departments and benefit from seamless information sharing.

ACE awareness training has been delivered within Monmouthshire via the ACE Hwb and the Early Action Team throughout 2019. Alongside this, a mapping and scoping exercise have been conducted across Monmouthshire to identify the extent of youth support services and community-based provision available to young people and their families. 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, with a particular focus on children and young people's behaviour and mental well-being. These actions aim to facilitate the PSB's aspiration that every child has access to a trusted adult across Monmouthshire.

There are still gaps in public services regarding ACE awareness and trauma-informed practice. The focus has been on early years (Housing, education and youth service supported with lots of ACE training). Other sectors require training so this will require structure, governance or plans to illustrate how ACEs is embedded into existing workforce development based on needs analysis. Mapping is required to make sure that all these gaps are closed across Monmouthshire regarding training in ACEs, to allow the strategic approach required to make us an 'ACE aware Monmouthshire'.

Public Health Wales and the Early Action Team were producing a report for all public authorities to have a consistent set of measures and performance indicators, which will provide for an ACES compliant Monmouthshire, helping to shape the long term vision to have systems in place so that across Monmouthshire we have a trauma-informed and ACE aware county, within our communities, public, private and third sector.

Working to tackle physical inactivity and obesity in order to increase the health and well-being of future generations



3, 5, 6

Long Term

Progress Summary:

Our collective efforts to tackle physical inactivity and obesity during 2019/20 have been anchored in the development of national, regional and local policy stances. The consultation version of the Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales strategy formed the basis of a workshop for the Creating an Active and Healthy Monmouthshire partnership, which provided a welcome opportunity not only to contribute to national discussions but also to reflect upon the Monmouthshire approach. We welcomed the publication of the final strategy and have agreed to utilise this as an important framework with which to garner our collective efforts moving forward. At a regional level, the annual report of the Gwent Director of Public Health, 'Building a Healthier Gwent' was this year the subject of extensive public engagement including several well-attended workshops, culminating in a regional conference in November 2019.

These significant national and regional strategic developments have heavily influenced our approach in Monmouthshire and our local decision to concentrate our focus on tackling obesity through the promotion of active travel throughout the county. The Creating an Active and Healthy Monmouthshire partnership has agreed on a strategic focus for active travel in Monmouthshire geared around Education, Key Employment Sites (inc Town Centres) and Bus / Train Stations. Within Monmouthshire Council, this has been accompanied by a refreshed officer delivery structure which recognises the importance of developing behaviours as well as supporting infrastructure. Alongside the renewed focus on active travel, we have continued to deliver our existing programmes of sports development, healthy eating and health promotion in our schools, via our Flying Start and Early Years, support programmes, as well as working alongside partners to promote physical activity through play

(including the promotion of and support for closed road street play) and the summer holiday enrichment programme.

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

Progress Summary:

Three out of four of our secondary schools participated in the Guide Project, a research project from Action for Children, run by Swansea University. The Guide is a mental health literacy programme designed to aid year 9 students and their teachers to improve their mental health knowledge, reduce stigma, and increase help-seeking behaviours.

Samaritans DEAL (Developing Emotional Awareness and Listening) training has been provided to the secondary schools. This is a free teaching resource for young people aged 14+ years.

'Positively Mad' Resilience workshops for year 11 students and Face 2 Face small group and a drop-in session on managing exam anxiety and building resilience, were held in the last academic year.

All schools completed the well-being audit in 2019/20; the conclusions from the report were as follows: *'Schools mentioned over 50 different programmes/interventions/support agencies. These were all delivered to varying degrees from school to school. Schools are linking with specialist organisations to address particular issues within the schools. Schools have often spoken about having Teaching Assistants trained to deliver targeted support programmes such as ELSA, Thrive and Lego Therapy. Schools are striving to deliver a Whole School Approach to well-being and becoming ACE-Aware. The ACE Ambassador in the school is often the lead for Well-being. Schools have spoken about using programmes like Thrive, SEAL and Growth Mindset to underpin all activity within the school. Some schools are carrying out over 20 activities related to well-being and others who are focusing on two or three things that are fully embedded in the school'.*

Schools within Monmouthshire continue to work in a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary way to ensure the well-being of all children and young people, looking at crosscutting areas of work under the well-being plan.

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



3, 4

Short Term

Progress Summary:

To date, work has been undertaken to review the current systems across health and local authority provision to understand how current provision and support, for children & young people's mental health is provided – further exploration is on-going through the CYPSP with partner organisations and is being mapped across the life course, incorporating the first 1,000 days to post 16 up to 25 years of age

Partners have spent time drawing together information across different service areas/organisations to build a 'chronology' of service intervention with young people to identify where service/practice change could be altered to better, or earlier, support where necessary

This work has been aligned to the mental health and emotional resilience work to the RPBs CAMHS Transformation Model, taking this into the community through the community psychology approach.

The PSB lead partners are exploring a Caldicot pilot project, developing the first 'integrated children & families' centre, closely collaborating with health and social care partners and wider partner input is anticipated going forward.






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

Progress Summary:

Within the existing Local Development Plan (LDP) framework we have continued to deliver sustainable housing schemes. We have delivered 356 total dwelling completions in 2019-20, of which 82 (23%) were affordable dwellings.

Reviewing the previous September 2019 update we approved two additional Monmouthshire Housing Association 'innovative housing' projects in Caldicot and Chepstow which were part-funded by the Welsh Government. Monmouthshire County Council approved the allocated housing dementia-friendly development in Portskewett/ Caldicot area which provided 68 affordable housing units and a 32-bed care home. In addition to this, approval was granted for a 130 home scheme in Caldicot with 45 of these units being affordable in Caldicot and a 106 scheme with 37 units being affordable in Abergavenny with a mix of affordable units using the council's unallocated site policy, although we are unable to progress this policy further given recent decisions by Welsh Government.

In terms of next steps, there will be ongoing discussions with developers on proposed sites for the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP). As a key PSB partner, we are continuing to work on the new LDP policy framework with the primary consideration being the delivery of affordable housing, housing mix and climate change mitigation. Further RLDP development is required with a desire to engage local communities on the preferred strategy and to ensure their feedback and information is reflected in development proposals and incorporates what communities want.

It is worth noting that in light of the pandemic Monmouthshire County Council have revisited the preferred strategy and cabinet have agreed that the vision issues and objectives for the RLDP are correct. There remain certain elements that have been heightened and need addressing further, such as the economy and employment, the need for suitable housing and protecting our high streets.

We are currently developing the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) that will provide the local planning policy framework to deliver affordable housing within the County. We have developed the progression of the RLDP per the previously agreed Delivery Agreement (DA). On 9th March 2020, we commenced consultation on the council's preferred strategy which clearly outlines that the strategy of the councils which is titled a sustainable and resilient communities strategy. The strategy will deliver sustainable growth in the County of between 7,483 – 8,232 homes within Monmouthshire of which 2,155 will be affordable homes and 824 of these will be intermediate and low-cost ownership homes.

One element of the strategy is to provide affordable housing led sites that will deliver 50% affordable housing sites. This evidences the council's commitment to offering a mix of housing stock and this will be available to all demographic groups. The type of affordable housing delivered on housing sites will be outlined by the councils affordable housing officers based on the need within the area.

Within the development of the RLDP, we are also reviewing the type of dwellings that the council seeks to provide not only within the affordable housing units but also within the private market dwellings to deliver a range of housing options for all age ranges including from start homes (1 and 2 bed), family homes and bungalow-style properties. Discussions are ongoing to develop a policy framework to assist delivery of our ambitions.

Learning from good practise elsewhere to explore the potential for intergenerational living, now and for the future



4, 5









Med Term

Progress Summary:

A scoping/challenge workshop was held with partners working across Monmouthshire in several service areas both statutory and third sector. The purpose of the workshop was to explore what is meant by the term 'intergenerational'; identify the 'problem' that we were seeking to 'fix'; discover the work that was already going on, and, finally, pull together some shared areas of work to look at new approaches or solutions. Discussions at the workshop evolved 3 main strands of thinking around the challenge around which an action plan could be shaped:

- Community development: creating the conditions; people find their own solutions
- Sharing homes: pilot home-share style solutions
- Building homes for all ages: making 'bump' space, shaping the built environment.

The resultant action plan reflected this. Community development work identified the importance of challenging generational polarisation and planning activity to ensure that the cultural groundwork was in place. Some initial work from the Step Leads was channelled into discussions around Monmouthshire's local development plan and the scope within which to increase the supply of affordable housing and develop opportunities to innovate around housing development to enable mutually supportive mixed-age communities. The new work identified in the action plan is around commissioning research into 'cultural shift' to renegotiate the contract between older and younger people socially, this would include researching models of best practice with critical evaluation. The other piece of new work is to pilot a home-share style scheme in Monmouthshire testing the model in a rural setting.

Promoting active citizenship through volunteering, time-banking, person to person skill swap and corporate social responsibility	  	1, 3, 5	Short Term
<p>Progress Summary:</p> <p>2019/20 has seen a period of research, engagement and the building of a platform for targeted action in the near future. Sustained engagement with the Joining Up Volunteering partnership group has allowed the step and associated action plan to be shaped and owned by partners.</p> <p>GAVO and MCC delivered a ‘Power of Community’ event in March 2020, which brought together volunteers, community groups and organisations to focus on all aspects of the Active Citizenship well-being step. One hundred and thirty people attended the event which explored and challenged the principles of Active Citizenship in Monmouthshire. We were able to utilise the event to prioritise what matters and also mobilise people around aspects of the step that they care about. We are now able to bring together the right people who are engaged and motivated to make a difference within our communities across the county.</p> <p>After engagement with all partners and approval from the Public Services Board, we have implemented the <i>Our Monmouthshire</i> Community Networking platform. Our Monmouthshire provides the digital tools for active citizens to support each other in their communities, creating connections around purpose with the provision of a safe person to person time banking function. PSB partners are supporting the development of the platform which aims to be community-led.</p>			
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
<p>Progress Summary:</p> <p>Both the above steps have continued to work in tandem as the work has been crosscutting throughout the county. Partners have continued to collaborate around well-being resources in a given place to work with communities and individuals to discover ‘what matters to them’ moving away from “one size fits all” services towards individual solutions to enables people and build on their individual strengths.</p> <p>Our focus has been to work with the citizens of Monmouthshire to help them build networks and relationships, reducing social isolation and loneliness and creating more connected and supportive communities. We will help people to identify what they can and want to do, not focus on what they can’t do. People will have greater choice and control of the support available to meet personal well-being outcomes.</p>			

This work also aims to enable people to make decisions about well-being support as an equal partner and ensures they are linked into community support and interventions on place basis across the county.

Work is on-going to further develop better joined-up networks of care, following the successful adult model within the county. This will be done through the 'refreshing' of the Youth Support Services network on a place-based approach across the county, drawing on other well-being steps, such as active citizenship, schools well-being and applying an ACE and mental well-being lens to this work as it develops.

Early intervention for adults, children & families helps to prevent the escalation of need by ensuring that the right help is available at the right time, as close to home as possible. This is the ambition across the county of Monmouthshire.




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

Progress Summary:

Natural Resources Wales has now published the Area Statement for the South East which covers the Gwent area that encompasses Monmouthshire.

The five local authorities in Gwent have been awarded ENRaW (Enabling Natural Resources and Well-being) grant funding from the Welsh Government for a Resilient Greater Gwent regional project

The project is a partnership with all 5 Gwent LAs, NRW, Gwent Wildlife Trust, Buglife, SEWBReC, Technical Ecology and other partners across Greater Gwent.

Actions delivered 19/20:

- Progress has been made in joining up with the South East Wales Area Statement and in the Resilient Ecological Networks workstream.
- The INNS sub-project completed a full season of treatments in 2019 across Greater Gwent and the Taff catchment Local Authorities.
- The Local Wildlife Sites, Colliery Spoil, Urban Biodiversity and Rivers in Gwent sub-projects have been undertaking desk work in preparation for the 2020 season and actions.

- A Climate Ready Gwent theme linked project was submitted to the recent round of ENRaW funding, with Gwent Wildlife Trust as the lead organization, using project funds to pay for development.
- The Greater Gwent State of Nature report is being produced after a winter of focused data analysis. The next step will be the creation of the Greater Gwent Nature Recovery Action Plan 2020-2030. (Lead Partners Technical Ecology and SEWBReC).

NRW is commissioning several projects within Monmouthshire:

- Feasibility study on Natural Flood Management on the Olway Catchment in Usk. Looking at the catchment scale, currently assessing asset types and locations that will deliver multiple benefits – Flood Risk & Ecosystem delivery (biodiversity, habitat).
- River Restoration plan for R Gavenny. Multiple aims including restoring the river to Good Ecological Status (WFD), reduction in flood risk for Abergavenny town and improved ecosystem resilience. Currently undergoing a feasibility study.
- Resilient Flood Plains Gwent. Desk-based assessment to determine areas where we can restore or create flood plain habitat.

The Gwent Green Grid Partnership is made up of officers working for the five Gwent Public Services Boards. The partnership is designed to facilitate regional collaboration which makes the most of Gwent's natural assets and the wide-ranging benefits they provide to communities.

Actions delivered 19/20:

- Enabling Natural Resources and Well-being (ENRaW) Project submission. In November 2019, project partners submitted a combined ENRaW bid to WG to fund a collaborative GGGP Project. The bid includes several projects of which the following are being led by Monmouthshire:
 - Gwent Green Grid Partnership (GGGP)
 - Pollinator Friendly Gwent

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

Progress Summary:

The emphasis of on placemaking and green infrastructure is at the forefront when reviewing sites per Planning Policy Wales (ed10) (PPW) emphasis on these areas. Officers have developed a report structure that is based on PPW and fully takes into account the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015). We are developing a new planning policy framework as outlined above that will focus on delivering sustainable homes, employment (circa; 4695 jobs) and takes into account climate change. The Preferred strategy is currently out for consultation. Continued discussions with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) on how the RLDP will impact on health infrastructure to ensure development proposals are sustainable.

Developing S106 supplementary planning guidance that will ensure that the correct infrastructure is in place for development proposals. The Green Infrastructure Strategy was adopted in December 2019 and the Area Statements were published March 2020. Monmouthshire Public Services Board expressed concern over the National Development Framework that went out to consultation last year regarding the implications of the allocation of a green belt within the area and the potential lack of ambition that the policy framework has for the South East Wales region.

Monmouthshire County Council has held events with enterprise colleagues regarding employment land requirements and the council's economic ambition strategy to ensure we have the right land in the right places in the County to create jobs. This work is ongoing.

Work is complete on the Landscape study and this is to be published shortly, similarly work on renewable energy has commenced and is ongoing. Evidence work on green wedge review is to be undertaken, and work will also commence during 2020/21 on the Local Transport Plan. Monmouthshire County Council is currently scoping desired routes for active travel, with both routes to schools and employment being priority areas of focus. Work is very much on-going with wider PSB partners to progress this.

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

Progress Summary:

Some of this work is being explored by the Vale of Usk Rural Development Programme. Funding has been awarded to undertake an energy mapping and modelling study of The Vale of Usk area to identify potentially useful heating, cooling and power demand loads and potentially useful heat supply opportunities for district energy scheme development, to inform an energy master plan. Consultants have been appointed to undertake the study. Work commenced on 1st June 2020 and is expected to take three months to complete.




Monmouthshire's Estates Development team has identified multiple potential solar development sites to be promoted in the new Local Development Plan, and the Carbon Trust has drafted the initial stage of the Renewable Energy Assessment for the County to identify potential renewable energy search areas. Regional work is taking place around the potential for hydrogen-powered vehicles.

The chair of the PSB has challenged all partners to be more ambitious and to demonstrate what work is currently being done to mitigate and adapt to climate change following the declaration of a Climate and Environment emergency within Monmouthshire. NRW, as PSB leads, commissioned JBA Consulting to undertake this review, to help understand the further collective action that all PSB partners can take which will reap the most rewards to help drive activity and outcomes at a local level.

Scope of the project will focus on initiatives that will address the climate crisis, reduce carbon emissions, improve resource efficiency, minimise the organisation's/PSB's environmental footprint. We will focus in more detail on key areas of the PSB partner's internal environmental management approaches where the PSB has direct control and could add value through stronger collaboration and knowledge sharing, targeting specific areas of work, exploring the following:

- Fleet
- Buildings
- Land
- Procurement (light touch)

The above will form "Phase 1" starting in 2020 moving into 2021. A further phase(s) may follow expanding the scope to look at other areas of the organisations and exploring opportunities with external partners to the PSB.

Enabling active travel and sustainable transport to improve air quality and give other health benefits.	  	1, 5, 6, 7	Med Term
<p>Progress Summary:</p> <p>Significant progress has been made this year on Active Travel. An Active Travel Officer was appointed and a senior manager's post re-designed to take overall responsibility. A £2.5m funding application for Active Travel has been submitted to Welsh Government, and bids produced to support the re-opening of Town Centre due to Covid-19.</p> <p>Active Travel focuses on providing the correct infrastructure to improve walking and cycling to key destination points such as for Education or workplace and improved facilities such as bicycle racks. Through an annual bidding process to Welsh Government, we aim to improve the current infrastructure across the 7 settlements included within our Integrated Network Maps (Abergavenny, Monmouth, Caldicot, Chepstow, Gilwern, Usk and Magor). If Welsh Government allow, further bids will be submitted in areas surrounding these settlements. To be more successful with this key agenda Monmouthshire County Council, MonLife officers have also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Planned for a comprehensive Active Travel consultation late this summer (1st August – 31st October 2020). Deadline for submission of new INM's summer 2021. ➤ Introduced a new governance framework for the management of projects to provide clear monitoring and accountability for delivery. ➤ Increased awareness of the topic of Active Travel through reports, participation in a Climate Change group and a Member Seminar. ➤ Developed a more informative website where our four digital questionnaires will also be hosted for the INM consultation - www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/monmouthshire-active-travel ➤ Responded to Welsh Government consultation on the new Active Travel Guidance. ➤ Set our Strategic Focus for Active Travel in Monmouthshire geared around Education, Key Employment Sites (inc Town Centres) and Bus / Train Stations. ➤ Produced an Active Travel Delivery Plan written to monitor and evaluate performance, including key measures in the MonLife business plan. ➤ Progressed the draft Cycle strategy, previously published in April 2019. This will predominantly focus on Leisure and Tourism with an Active Travel strategy an aspiration for the future.' <p>Monmouthshire has also played a role in regional work around sustainable transport in the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Point Infrastructure: The five local authorities in Gwent have been awarded a share of £422,000 by the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to install a total of 65 fast charge points across up to 34 sites in the region. Work began early in the new year to install the EV Charging Infrastructure but Covid-19 has delayed completion. • Electric Vehicle (EV) Fleet: Public Sector fleet reviews have identified which vehicles could potentially be replaced with electric fleet within each Gwent Local Authority plus ABUHB, SWF&R & Gwent Police. • Hydrogen Fuel Cell (FC) Fleet and Charging Infrastructure: To ensure that the Gwent area has a complete overview of hydrogen opportunities a regional study was completed for 			

Gwent building on work undertaken with Monmouthshire County Council. This explored the potential for hydrogen-powered vehicles and infrastructure across the region with a focus on PSB fleets. Monmouthshire County Council is undertaking a hydrogen vehicle trial with Riversimple.

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

Progress Summary:

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, working with wider PSB partners, has continued to deliver work with young people through various initiatives and programmes. These programmes have continued to explore the expansion of this work by aligning with other steps under this objective to give young people the best possible start in life – work is in development stages, and will continue into 2020/21. Some of the programmes delivered in 2019/20 are as follows:

- **School Talks**

During times of grass arson initiatives or specific Fire Service, short term initiatives such as Operation Bang (Fireworks and Bonfires), our Community Safety Teams will visit schools to conduct special assemblies often working in partnership with other agencies such as the Police.

- **Phoenix Project**

5-day youth intervention using fire service-related activity aimed at addressing issues within young people (aged 11 to 25) ranging from low self-esteem and lack of confidence to antisocial behaviour and or fire-related issues – work with Pupil Referral Units, Probation Services, Alternative Education Providers etc. Young People can also achieve an Agored Qualification.

- **Crimes and Consequences Project**

1-day Firefighter for a Day or individual 1-hour workshops providing education aimed at reducing young peoples' likelihood of involvement in anti-social or offending behaviour - Work with Pupil Referral Units, Probation Services, and Alternative Education Providers etc

- **Fire Cadet Scheme**

Uniformed Youth Organisation with 1 unit of 20 Cadets per each Unitary Authority across South Wales. The main focus of Fire Cadets is to enhance key citizenship skills and build confidence whilst developing transferable, practical skills for future training or employment. This is a 2-year programme where cadets can achieve a nationally recognised BTEC Level 2 Award in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community. Cadets can apply to stay on for a 3rd year as part of our Fire Cadet Ambassador Programme for which there is a full selection process.

- **Firesetting Intervention Scheme**

The project offers services to children, young people and their families and any agency that might be involved where there is concern about a child or young person with fire setting behaviour. There are 3 levels of intervention as follows:

- Home Visit – for families of children who are setting fires or playing with matches/lighters in or near their own homes
- The Safe Programme – 4 session education programme
- The Fire Safe Programme – 10 sessions using the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy to address fire setting behaviour.

- Road Safety

Specific talks and education provision delivered to Colleges and also via alternative education providers focussing on young drivers.

- SWFRS Volunteer Scheme

A scheme that has been established to enhance service delivery and build and develop relationships in the communities in which we live and work, linking into the step around networks of care for children & families. The scheme provides individuals with the chance to make a valuable contribution to the safety and security of their community and also provides our service with additional skills, knowledge and resources. The scheme is aimed at anyone from aged 16 and upwards, and the volunteer scheme is advertised through the 'Joining up' Volunteering Partnership.

Other work undertaken by PSB partners focussing on global citizenship includes:

- a Schools Fairtrade Conference held in March 2020, which involved 60 pupils and 18 teachers from 18 schools hearing from a Ugandan coffee grower and undertaking lots of activities to learn about Fairtrade.
- Ongoing work supporting schools in their Eco-Schools and Fairtrade work.
- The One Planet Centre in Llanfoist is well used for visits to learn about climate change, by local schools and further afield, MCC new starters, groups such as Scouts and WIs and others.











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 can 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
Progress Summary:			
To be updated			
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
Progress Summary:			
To be updated			
Developing new technologies for improving rural transport	  	1, 4, 5, 7	Med Term
Progress Summary:			
The Monmouthshire GovTech challenge, funded by the Cabinet Office, was launched in July 2018 to encourage technology firms to develop and pilot solutions to loneliness and limited rural transport in our communities. 57 applications were received and from these, five companies were awarded £50,000 of funding from the Cabinet Office to research their proposed digital solutions.			





From January 2019, five projects developed concepts to tackle rural isolation. They worked with local people and organisations to co-produce their concepts, and the outcome of these pilots was presented in the spring.

A multi-disciplinary evaluation panel was convened early 2019 to review the progress of the five organisations selected for Phase 1 (research and technical feasibility phase) to understand the synergies between each proposed solution and to select options to be progressed further. Two of the five were selected to develop their solutions into viable products or services which could benefit communities in Monmouthshire and if successful could be scaled up in other parts of the UK. Box Clever Digital and the Behavioural Insights Team were each awarded up to £500,000 of funding (including VAT) from the GovTech Catalyst fund to develop their concepts.

Box Clever Digital has proposed a solution called ‘Thrive’ which is a digital platform that aims to boost skills and increase connections between people in their local community to prevent loneliness reducing referrals into health and social care services. Thrive also uses technology to unlock the potential of under-utilised transport provision including ride-sharing.

The second project being delivered by the Behavioural Insights Team sometimes referred to as the nudge unit has proposed a solution called ‘Connector’ to increase our understanding of loneliness at a local level and develop targeted approaches that will make it easier for people to get involved with and access community activities that can increase well-being and reduce loneliness. The team’s approach is powered by an understanding of behavioural science and will aim to tackle the underlying mental and physical barriers to participation irrespective of people’s digital capability.

Both projects will run for twelve months from September 2019. Together these have the potential to provide the foundations for improved connectivity and well-being in Monmouthshire’s rural communities.

Facilitate better business networking to share knowledge and access to technology and regional opportunities to enable businesses to grow		1	Short Term
Progress Summary:			
To be updated			
Exploring the potential for specialist centres of excellence in Monmouthshire e.g. food/hospitality, agriculture, tourism and technology	  	1, 2, 6	Med Term
Progress Summary:			
To be updated			

Case Study: Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership - Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life

The Challenge:

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 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.

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. Clinical interventions are only a small piece of the puzzle to supporting the mental health and emotional well-being of children and young people; the same can be said of schools. It is the wider community where meaningful connections and interventions can be made.

What did we do? Why are we doing it?

A key action has been to develop an 'ACE aware' understanding of all PSB partners and other organisations. To make this happen we previously held a 'systems thinking' workshop, in collaboration with Cymru Well Wales, ACE's Hwb, and with all PSB partners. This collaborative workshop underpinned an ACE's informed approach to ensuring that PSB partner agencies have joined-up, integrated responses 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. The long-term aim is to ensure that every child has access to a trusted adult across the whole of the county.

To help develop this aim, a mapping and scoping exercise was undertaken throughout Monmouthshire to identify the extent of youth support services and provision available to all young people across the county. Work was also undertaken to group these by the type of activity (sporting, arts, drama etc.). This has been 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 and young people's mental health and well-being. It was anticipated that through these actions we would be able to build a picture of what support exists, where it exists and how well it is delivered.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP), who are responsible for developing this work, bring together key partners to lead on the delivery plan which includes the following well-being steps;

- Tackling the causes of ACEs and the perpetuation of generational problems in families
- Working to ensure that schools and services for children focus on well-being and a more rounded approach than purely academic results.

- Supporting the resilience of children and young people in relation to their mental health and emotional well-being.
- Developing a model of care built on well-being and looking after each other rather than through formal care provision.
- Developing networks for all ages that support people's well-being in their local communities.

The CYPSP decided to apply the lens of mental health and emotional well-being in their approach. It was agreed by all partners, that to mitigate and prevent the causes of ACE's, young people required good mental health and emotional well-being. If all partners work to support young people's mental health, this would enable young people to become more resilient. To enable this to happen, the CYPSP started to review the current systems across health and local authority provision to understand how current provision and support for children & young people's mental health is provided; how does our system 'talk' to each other and where do we create 'hand-offs' in our systems, also what needs to be in our system for it to be truly effective? Further exploration of this work is on-going with partner organisations, to inform practice change as the PSB moves forward. As part of this work, the PSB has started to map service provision across the life course, incorporating the first 1000 days to post 16 up to 25ys of age, with a specific focus on transitional periods in a young person's life. This will draw together information across different service areas/organisations to help build a 'chronology' of service intervention for young people and will help us identify where service/practice change could be adapted to better support young people at the earliest point.

In addition to the extensive mapping, gapping and systems analysis work being undertaken; the PSB, through the CYPSPS, has been actively involved in aligning the mental health and emotional resilience work of the Regional Partnerships Baard's (RPB) Children & Adolescents Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Transformation Model, taking this into the community through the community psychology approach. This model aims to put clinical expertise alongside the front-facing staff who work at a grassroots level with children, young people and their families, imparting expertise and training to help those individuals, who have a trusting relationship with young people, to better understand and support them through their interactions outside of clinical or schools settings. This work will help the PSB to build integrated well-being networks and networks of care for children & families across the county. This work is again on-going and will be firmly embedded more broadly as part of the development of the Youth Support Services Offer.

The Challenges ahead:

Whilst there has been extensive work undertaken by the PSB concerning ACE's and children's mental health over the last twelve months, there is still more to do. This is indicative of the challenge of improving the mental health of our young people. It is not an easy 'fix' and is in indeed a very complex issue, with many facets that complicate how public sector bodies can work together more effectively. The PSB, through the CYPSP, is looking at the challenges associated with the criteria we work to and the thresholds and statutory duties we have as public bodies, which can make this work far more complex and challenging to solve. Adding into this is the issues of parental acceptance and willingness to accept support, the ability for children to access support

autonomously and as they grow older transitional periods where young people become independent of parents. Older young people, very often have very complex issues ingrained over time, but who often reach an age where they are viewed as adults and as such enter the realms of adult support services. This is where transitional work is crucial to providing the on-going support needed to help these young people transition into adulthood. All of these factors compound the challenges for children & young people to thrive, especially where those children are living in or have grown up in chaotic households with very chaotic lifestyles.

The Monmouthshire PSB has undertaken a great deal of work to unpick these ‘wicked’ issues over the last twelve months and has continued to keep this as a priority workstream moving into 2020/21. Work has progressed to understand the offer for children and young people, both inside and outside of the schools and settings, we have progressed the community psychology model, strengthening our early help panel and also carried our analysis of our systems and service provision. Work has been disrupted due to the pandemic, however, the strengths of the partnership approach across the PSB has meant that collaborative working during this period has continued. Partners have not lost sight of the good work that has been achieved in the months before Covid19, but rather, recognise that due to the pandemic children & young people’s vulnerability has been amplified and this presents new challenges in how this important area of work can be nuanced to ensure the right support is available at the right time in the right way.

The CYPSP will continue this work with an even stronger focus on how to continue to ‘[support Children’s Mental Health & Emotional Well-being](#)’ and ‘[mitigating and preventing ACEs](#)’ in a post-pandemic Monmouthshire. A strength that arose out of the pandemic was the value of community and our volunteers within our communities. This will be a specific area of focus for the PSB partners as we move forward, capitalising on the abundance of social capital that exists within our communities exploring how we can continue to build ‘[networks of care for all ages](#)’ and ‘[models of care built on informal as well as formal provision](#)’. Children & young people are part of the fabric that makes up a community and there must be equity of support, provision and opportunity to all children & young people across Monmouthshire to enable them ‘[to have the best possible start in life](#)’.

Scrutiny of Well-being Objectives

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 Services Board Select Committee has undertaken this role.

The Public Services Board Select Committee has agreed to a change in title, to the Public Services Select Committee, and terms of reference of the Committee, which will 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. This was endorsed by Council in October 2019, providing enhanced governance arrangements for services delivered to Monmouthshire citizens. Members welcomed the opportunity to scrutinise collaborative service delivery and partnerships.

During 2019-20, the Committee has scrutinised the 2018-19 Annual report. They have held Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to account in leading the step to support the resilience of children and young people in relation to their mental health and emotional well-being, as well as scrutinising the regional work being done on Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse. They have also considered any future scrutiny of the work of Regional Partnership Boards.

The planned training on using the Future Generations Framework for Scrutiny was not able to take place as planned. Instead, this training will be broadened to cover all Monmouthshire County Council Scrutiny members (not just Public Services Select Committee) and will take place as soon as circumstances allow.

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.

And,

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



The PSB has long recognized that the biggest assets in the county of Monmouthshire are the citizens who reside here.

Under the PSB; GAVO and Monmouthshire County Council leads delivered a 'Power of Community' event on 4th March which brought together volunteers, community groups and organisations to focus on all aspects of Active Citizenship and the role of organisations in supporting and facilitating this.

One hundred and thirty people attended the event which explored and challenged the principles of Active Citizenship in Monmouthshire and the role of organisations. A number of guest speakers and a panel of PSB leads shared their thoughts on;

1. How could we support businesses and organisations to make a bigger and more positive impact in our communities?
2. What matters to citizens that are active in their community? How might they like to be recognized?
3. Would a volunteering charter and collective policy improve conditions for people in our county?
4. How does 'doing your bit' in your community become the norm? How can we support this?
5. How can we make Volunteering more inclusive and accessible?



This event enabled the PSB to engage with community leaders, groups and organisations to prioritise what matters and also mobilise people around the things they care about. This was a big step in assisting the PSB to strengthen engagement with citizens, and to address how, as organisations, they need to respond to help facilitate and build on the wealth of social capital amongst Monmouthshire residents. The PSB now feel better equipped to bring together the right people who are engaged and motivated to make a difference.

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

Monmouthshire County Council's Community and Partnership Development team have continued to work closely with Community & Town Councils over the last year. Most recently the PSB invited Community & Town Councils, who fall under the legislation of the act, to become active members on their PSB Programme Board. Community & Town Councils agreed to have a single representative on behalf of all four Community & Town Councils, to represent them at the PSB Programme Board meetings and feedback accordingly. In-light of the strengthening relationship between Community & Town Councils and the PSB over the last twelve months it is evident that there is more that can be achieved across the county if Community & Town Councils are included in discussions and work streams at an earlier point. It has been hugely beneficial to work collaboratively with Community & Town Councils, as equal partners in our approach to delivering the aspirations of the wellbeing priorities for the county, and some excellent work has been carried out by them over the last 12 months, some examples of which are listed in the table below, however, this list is not exhaustive and is a snap shot of the excellent work of our civic partners;

Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life	
Abergavenny Town Council	<p>Invested additional funding towards the MCC led SHIFT project to increase the number of hours of support available in Abergavenny for young people experiencing emotional wellbeing issues.</p> <p>Provided a free theatre performance for all Year 6 pupils. Also financially supported the Abergavenny Youth Eisteddfod and other town based festivals which encompass free activities for young people in their Festival programme.</p>
Monmouth Town Council	<p>Invested additional funding towards the MCC SHEP project to run an accessible play scheme during summer 2019. SHEP provides good food and activities for children during school holidays, of which a reasonable proportion of these children receive free school meals during the school term.</p> <p>Plans were progressed for the relocation of Chippenham Play Park to provide a safe outdoor play area in a less polluted area of the town.</p>
Chepstow Town Council	<p>Increased the funding support towards the delivery of open access play schemes at Thornwell Primary School and Bulwark Community Centre during the school summer holidays in 2019.</p>
Caldicot Town Council	<p>Provides financial support for the operation of summer play schemes, ensuring that a facility is available for all children to develop and enhance skills</p> <p>Provides outdoor space as Trustees of King George V Playing Fields, and remains committed to the health of residents in Caldicot. Ensuring the playing fields are regularly maintained and safe, for use by the public. The playing fields encompass a children's play area, adult outdoor exercise equipment and sports associations (Caldicot Bowls Club, Caldicot Town AFC)</p>

Respond to the challenges associated with demographic change	
Abergavenny Town Council	<p>The Town Council's multi-year funding agreement with Abergavenny Community Trust contributes to staffing and running costs which enable the community centre to run a wide range of activities including subsidised lunches and coffee mornings.</p> <p>Abergavenny Town Council supports Abergavenny Community Enterprise Partnership which offers support and advice to residents, particularly those living in north Abergavenny</p>
Monmouth Town Council	<p>Awarded the Monmouth Methodist Community Hall a grant to replace their disabled elevator, allowing access for those with limited mobility to attend concerts, community festivals and family ceremonial events that they may otherwise be excluded from, bringing all generations together.</p> <p>Awarded a grant to the Monmouth Community Choir who encourage the 'coming together' of all generations to enjoy the binding power of communal singing.</p>
Chepstow Town Council	<p>Have developed a partnership agreement to commence May 2020 with MIND Monmouthshire to provide wellbeing and resilience sessions to adult individuals which will support families to build resilience and support families to cope with life's challenges</p> <p>Financially supporting the Drill Hall and Bulwark Community Centre which are seen as local hubs of community activity where people can be active and supported and come together.</p>
Caldicot Town Council	<p>Has developed a website and set up a Facebook page, the website provides key contact information and responsibilities of the Council and promotes activities of local voluntary groups and organisations. Both website and social media are used to inform and communicate with residents, publicising meeting information, events and signposting to other service providers.</p> <p>Actively supports wellbeing through use of town council building for groups and organisations within the community, such as Foodbank, AA, MIND, and Community Connections (for patients with dementia).</p>

Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment whilst mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change		
Abergavenny Council	Town	<p>A new contract for planting and upkeep of the “newer” town centre planters was awarded to a company that sources plants from a peat free nursery and planting scheme is chosen is for pollinators. In addition is encouraging other contractors who provides hanging baskets and plants to select pollinator friendly species.</p> <p>Financial support has been given to ‘Friends of Bailey Park’ and ‘Friends of Castle Meadows’ voluntary groups.</p> <p>A starter kit from WG Environment Growth fund is to be provided for young people to create a community garden by the Youth Cabin, Old Hereford Road</p>
Monmouth Town Council		<p>Has helped to fund a drinking water fountain in the town which will encourage people to refill their own drinking containers rather than purchase single-use plastic bottles. Further drinking fountains are being planned for 2020/21 and the Town Council continues to support Plastic Free Monmouth in its efforts to educate the community against the use of single-use plastics.</p> <p>Has worked with local experts to obtain Bee Friendly status from Welsh Government.</p> <p>Continues to support local groups such as Transition Monmouth, Plastic Free Monmouth, Nature isn’t Neat and MCC’s ‘no-mow’ campaign.</p>
Chepstow Town Council		<p>Has secured grant funding to access a ‘butterfly garden’ package in partnership with Keep Wales Tidy for planting at Chepstow Bus Station. It is hoped to plant this up in conjunction with local primary schools and Transition Chepstow when Covid 19 restrictions allow</p> <p>Has been investigating the costs and practicalities of installing a green barrier along a section of the A48 to provide a barrier to diesel particulates as well as increasing biodiversity opportunities and reduce water surface run off</p>
Caldicot Town Council		<p>Provides three allotment sites for use by Caldicot residents, the sites encourage and allow people to come together to cultivate their own gardens, growing produce for their own consumption.</p> <p>Are reviewing energy consumption at all premises to ensure that the best value for money is obtained when renewing utility contracts and undertaking procedures to ensure that energy is not unnecessarily used.</p>

Develop opportunities for communities and businesses to be part of an economically thriving and well-connected county

<p>Abergavenny Town Council</p>	<p>Encourages tourism through its many actions, namely financial support of the Tourist Information Centre, contributing towards the Visit Abergavenny publication, staging of free events, Christmas Lights and the associated switch on event, financial support for the various festivals held in the town.</p> <p>Also provides services which create a more pleasant and convenient town centre, namely a significant contribution to MCC to provide public toilets, street cleaning and CCTV and all year round planting and maintenance of the permanent town centre planters.</p>
<p>Monmouth Town Council</p>	<p>Continues to be a member of the local Chamber of Commerce and works closely with them and other organisations in all new town/business developments.</p> <p>Continues to own/run one set of public toilets as well funding the running costs of a second set in the town and also helps provide a safe and more pleasant town with ongoing financial contributions towards CCTV, floral displays, street cleansing and Christmas lights/events</p>
<p>Chepstow Town Council</p>	<p>Has established a good relationship with Chepstow Racecourse with a view of greater partnership working to bring visitors into Chepstow.</p> <p>Allocating grant funding to the Tourist Information Centre allowing them to remain open</p> <p>Arranges 'Bands on the Bandstand' every Summer. Continues to support the events produced by the Chepstow Events Team.</p> <p>Works in partnership with Cotyledon Markets to provide a fortnightly market between April and December on Sundays encouraging local people to have stalls</p>
<p>Caldicot Town Council</p>	<p>Is committed to ensuring that the town remains a pleasant clean and safe environment. Whilst the Town Council is not responsible for any highways or street cleaning, they have developed excellent working relationships with the responsible authority, Monmouthshire County Council to work in partnership.</p> <p>Provides public toilets, bus shelters, dog waste bins, whilst contributing to street cleaning, grass cutting and CCTV to ensure it remains a pleasant place to visit and trade</p>

The Town Councils who are under the duties of the Act have prepared more detailed annual reports, highlighting the work they have been doing to date to help achieve the aspirations of the Well-being plan. These reports can be requested from the Public Services Board support team. The reports highlight how the Community & Town Councils are embedding the 5 ways of working, remaining true to the principles of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. The Community & Partnerships Development Team will continue to work closely with Town Councils to ensure relationships remain strong and that opportunities are identified at an earlier point and maximised through true collaborative working, ensuring that local communities are at the heart of any activity. Community & Town Councils and the PSB will continue to work more closely in 20/21 and ensure effective communication, collaboration and genuine community involvement.

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

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. This learning was shared with partners of the Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment Group, along with examples from other partners. The learning from this pilot will be used to inform future work for Monmouthshire PSB, which is still developing, on updating the key issues raised in the well-being assessment and developing performance framework.

During 2019/20 Gwent PSB's have worked together to develop a forward-looking approach to identifying future risks and opportunities for our communities at a local level and, where relevant, at a regional level. Work has been commissioned to better understand what the likelihood and impact of future risks and opportunities might be and how they might be addressed by Public Services Boards (PSB).

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. After 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, a successful joint bid was made to the Office of Low Emission Vehicles to install electric vehicle charging points across Gwent, including in six Monmouthshire car parks.

Regional work

Gwent Futures

PSBs in Gwent, through the Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment Group (GSWAG), have previously 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 was 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 some 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.

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.

During 2019/20 Gwent PSB's have worked together to develop a forward-looking approach to identifying future risks and opportunities for our communities at a local level and, where relevant, at a regional level. Work has been commissioned to better understand what the likelihood and impact of future risks and opportunities might be and how they might be addressed by Public Services Boards (PSB). This is in line with the long term principle of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and aims to progress thinking further than the shorter to the medium-term focus of most risk registers.

Many future risks and opportunities are complex and therefore hard to define clearly, they are also difficult to plan for and manage. Implementing a process that will help the PSB understand the relative impact and uncertainties of each and the likely timeframe over which they will become significant is an important part of the PSB planning. This will need to be continually developed as evidence and the situation changes, the initial version of the risk register was completed before the Coronavirus pandemic and any longer-term impacts will need to factor into the risks and opportunities already identified. Some of the risks and opportunities that have been identified so far that are particularly relevant to Monmouthshire include:

- **Future Skill requirements:** There is a risk of young people being trained in the wrong, or outdated, skills. There are opportunities to build a new training and education system which develops a more flexible, creative, problem solvers.
- **Jobs lost, jobs gained:** There is a risk that some communities don't have access to the skills development to help individuals get jobs in the emerging economy. There are opportunities for business to become more efficient and to use AI to build new markets and value chains.

- Chronic ill health: People are living longer, which means society is changing and our health is changing with it. An ageing population means that the number of people with long-term health conditions has increased. There is a risk of increased morbidity - especially due to cancer, cardiovascular disease, strokes, diabetes and other conditions related to obesity. There is an opportunity to refocus healthcare towards well-being and preventive actions.
- Unequal society: There is a risk that there will be a further entrenchment of health inequalities, increased loneliness and isolation and mental health issues.
- Climate Change: There is a severe risk of rises in temperature, increase in sea levels, increased frequency of adverse weather events and increased frequency of flooding
- Loss of biodiversity: The natural environment provides us with the necessities of life - what we consume, our waste and pollution, cultural benefits and natural processes such as pollination. As a result of growing cities, industrialisation, intensive agriculture and climate change, natural habitats are threatened across the world and in the UK. There is a risk that nature no longer provides the range of system services that society relies on.
- Housing and Land pressures: Pressure on land will intensify, with competing demands - for agriculture, forestry, industry, mining, housing, recreation and amenity use. There is a risk that failing to build sufficient (and affordable) homes will increase inequality and reduce affordability and tenure choice

This work is still under development and timescales have been impacted by the response to the pandemic. Further work is required to further develop the risks and opportunities, consider suitable responses and further develop Well-being Plans and tailor delivery in consideration of the long-term risks and opportunities. This will include consideration of exploring potential collaborative responses where appropriate.

Climate Ready Gwent

Gwent-wide collaboration has continued through GSWAG's 'Climate Ready Gwent' programme of work. Through workshops held with partners as part of the South East Wales Area Statement work a Climate Ready Gwent vision has been developed, with a series of actions which partners have identified.

Collaborative work has continued around two areas: climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation.

Mitigation

1. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Point Infrastructure

Monmouthshire was one of the five local authorities in Gwent to be awarded a share of £459,000 by the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to install a total of 65 fast charge points across 34 sites across the region, with 15 in six of Monmouthshire's car parks.



New EV charging points in Trinity Terrace, Abergavenny

The installation is being undertaken by a Welsh company called Silverstone Green Energy. This company will also manage and maintain the units until 2025. Work began early in the new year to install the EV Charging Infrastructure and was due to complete in March 2020 but COVID-19 has delayed completion of the project.

2. Electric Vehicle (EV) Fleet

Public Sector fleet reviews were completed in 2018 funded by the Welsh Government and delivered through their Energy Service. This work aims to identify which vehicles could potentially be replaced with an electric fleet - essentially to undertake individual and a strategic overview fleet review for each Gwent Local Authority plus ABUHB, SWF&R & Gwent Police. As well as individual organisations having reviews, a report was also completed identifying regional opportunities where the public sector could collaborate for maximum benefit. Opportunities identified to reduce carbon emissions through collaboration include reducing grey fleet mileage and moving to an alternative fuelled fleet.

To assist with pulling together the implementation plan £16k funding was secured from the Welsh Government to undertake Phase 2 of the Fleet Review work. In February 2020 the officer working group attended a workshop facilitated by WG's Energy Service to support the development of this project.

3. Hydrogen Fuel Cell (FC) Fleet and Charging Infrastructure

To ensure that the Gwent area has a complete overview of hydrogen opportunities a regional study was completed for Gwent, which explored the potential for hydrogen FC charging points and hydrogen FC fleet amongst Gwent PSB fleet assets. This work has been supported by the Welsh Government's Smart Living Programme and builds on work already undertaken by Monmouthshire County Council (MCC).

A workshop had been organised for Jacobs and Element Energy to report back on work that was undertaken on behalf of the public bodies in Gwent looking at the potential for Hydrogen across the public sector fleet and some learnings from Monmouthshire County Council. This workshop was postponed due to COVID 19.

4. Gwent Sustainable Travel Charter

Climate Ready Gwent has been supporting the development of a sustainable travel charter for Gwent. This work led by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) aims to support and encourage staff and visitors to the sites of PSB partners to use healthy and sustainable modes of transport.

To inform the development of the charter, partner organisations asked their staff to complete a baseline questionnaire. Staff members were asked how they travel, to and from work and travel during the working day. A total of 4,373 questionnaires were completed across the Gwent. Staff will be asked to complete this survey on an annual basis to help measure progress. The original plan was to launch the Gwent Sustainable Travel Charter in June; however, this has been delayed due to COVID-19.

Adaptation

Climate Ready Gwent has continued to build upon the adaptation work undertaken in 2018 through the Adapting to Climate Change: From Lived Experience to Strategic Action project. This project produced nine case studies which provide place-based and regional recommendations for improving local climate resilience and informed the vision for the Climate Ready Gwent strategic theme.

The outputs from this project have helped inform our Climate Ready Gwent vision and deepen our understanding around the risks to communities from our changing climate as well as highlight some of the opportunities that nature-based solutions can provide when looking to increase community resilience.

Our natural resources have an import role to play in supporting our capacity to mitigate climate change by storing carbon. They can also help support our adaptation response by, for example, managing water in the landscape and reducing the impact of temperature rises. Nature-based solutions can also lead to the improved health of our habitats. To achieve this, we are working closely with Gwent Wildlife Trust to help identify opportunities for nature-based solutions to improve our climate readiness, and applying for funding to deliver a project via WG ENRAW grant.

The Climate Ready Gwent working group has identified a need to increase the understanding of climate-related matters for organisations to work better together in the region, which fits in well with Monmouthshire's PSB objectives and the Council's Climate Emergency strategy. We have had discussions with Cynnal Cymru about delivering carbon literacy training, but following the withdrawal of the PSB support grant, funding is being sought from elsewhere for this.

Linking Our Landscapes

The Linking Our Landscapes theme is about identifying local opportunities for our protected sites, natural and built environments to contribute towards the resilience of wider priority habitat networks in the region. These opportunities for improving ecosystem resilience should support ecological connectivity between sites, across boundaries and at a landscape scale.

Actions have taken place by partners working together to tackle the “nature emergency” in Gwent. The Linking Our Landscapes themed network has been working together to develop a shared vision for the region. Partners have identified a set of outcomes that we would need to meet to achieve the overall vision for improved health of our natural assets in Gwent. These outcomes relate specifically to increasing understanding, capacity building and improving ecosystem resilience and are listed here:

- Improved health and resilience of our ecosystems to maximise nature's ability to deliver several well-being benefits across Gwent
- Increased understanding of the need to safeguard and enhance core habitat networks and support ecological connectivity on and between our 'best sites' across Gwent
- Increased capacity of organisations and individuals by ensuring that they have the tools, skills and guidance necessary to safeguard and enhance our core habitat networks across Gwent

The Linking Our Landscapes Working Group have worked from these outcomes to derive a set of actions which will help deliver the vision for increased ecosystem resilience.

The five local authorities in Gwent have been awarded £1.3 million of ENRaW (Enabling Natural Resources and Well-being) grant funding from Welsh Government for a Resilient Greater Gwent regional project, which is being led by Blaenau Gwent CBC and is working in partnership with other Gwent LAs (Torfaen, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire), NRW, Gwent Wildlife Trust, Buglife, SEWBReC, Technical Ecology and other partners across Greater Gwent. Work has included joining up with the SE Wales Area Statement, deskwork in preparation for 2020 work on Local Wildlife Sites, Colliery Spoil, Urban Biodiversity and Rivers in Gwent, submitting a bid for the next round of ENRaW funding to deliver some of the Climate Ready Gwent actions and supporting the development of the Greater Gwent State of Nature report.

The Gwent Green Grid Partnership is made up of officers working for the five Gwent Public Services Boards. The partnership is designed to facilitate regional collaboration which makes the most of Gwent's natural assets and the wide-ranging benefits they provide to communities.

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, they must be 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.

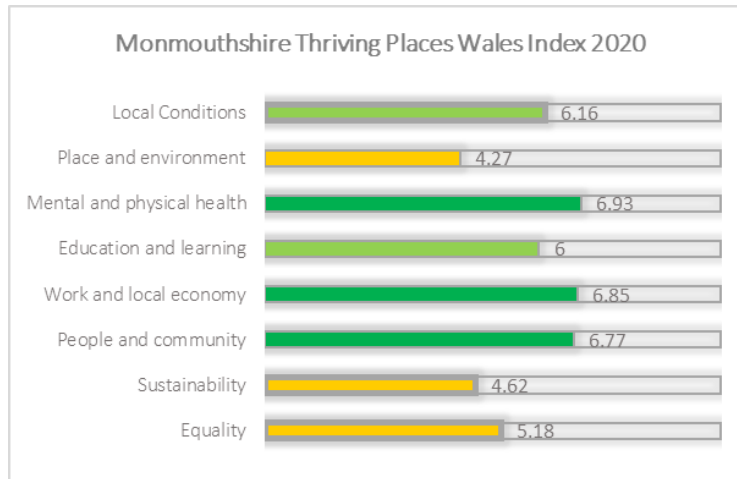
Some of the national indicators that are particularly relevant to the Monmouthshire objectives were identified in the well-being plan. The latest data for these indicators, where an update is available at a county level, is in Table 1 below. It can also be useful to compare Monmouthshire with other authorities 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 to 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.

Thriving Places Index

The five Public Services Boards within the Gwent region jointly agreed to use the Happy Communities tools in 2018 to measure and understand the well-being of their populations. One of the tools the Thriving Places Index which measures the local conditions for community well-being continues to be used in Wales.

The Thriving Places Index draws on many 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 and the most recent release was published in April 2020. 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 2020 index for the domains in Monmouthshire.

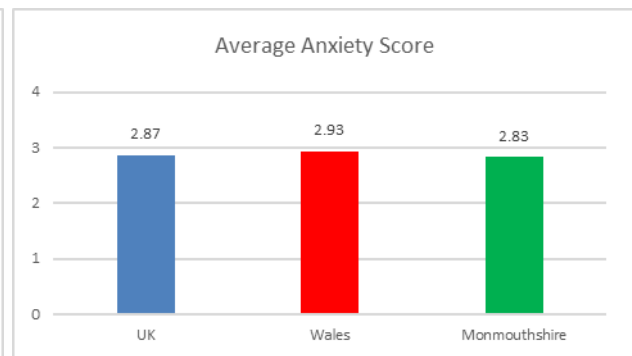
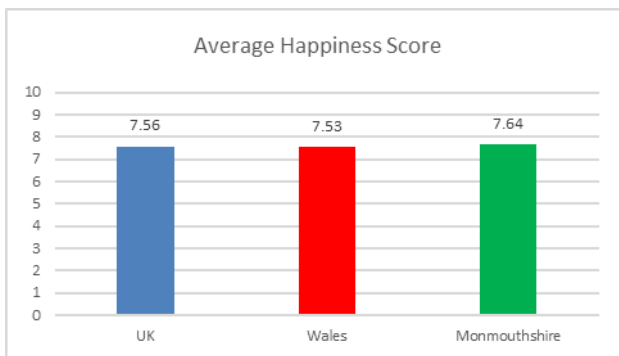
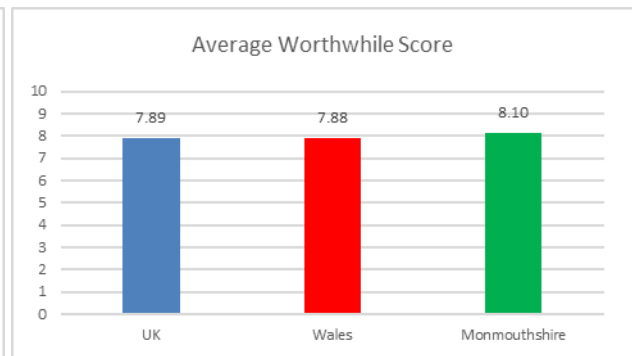
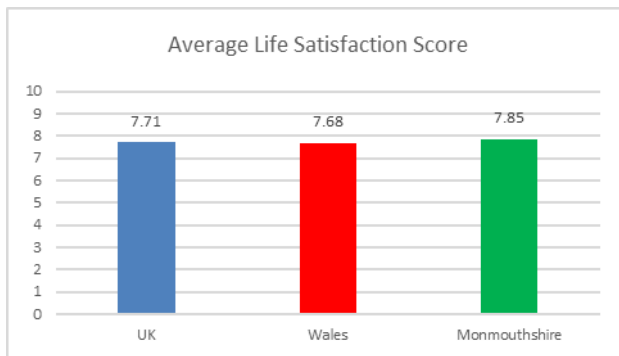


ONS Measuring National Well-being

The Office of National Statistics's (ONS) Measuring National Well-being programme also assesses personal well-being as part of the Annual Population Survey. The survey asks the questions:

- Life Satisfaction - Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?
- Worthwhile - Overall, to what extent do you feel that the things you do in your life are worthwhile?
- Happiness - Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- Anxiety - on a scale where 0 is “not at all anxious” and 10 is “completely anxious”, overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?

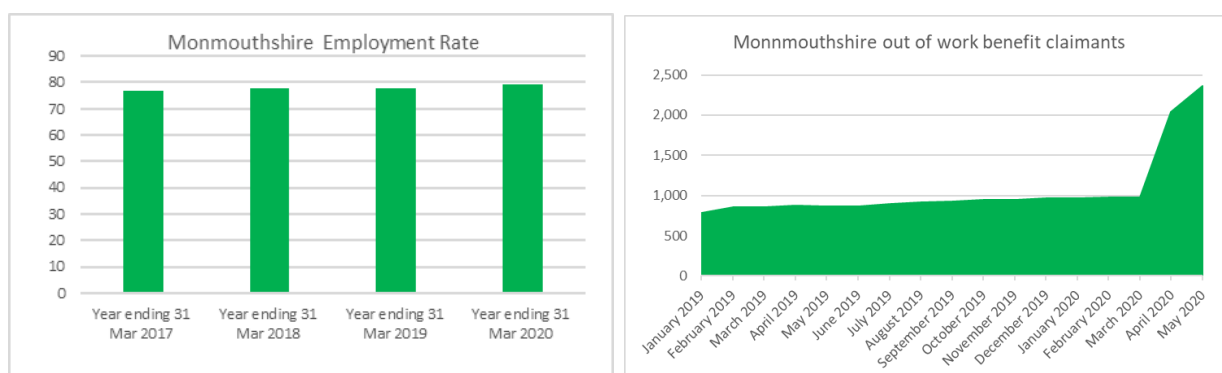
The latest results for Monmouthshire (from 2018/19) for these questions are shown in the graphs below alongside the UK and Wales averages. This shows that Monmouthshire residents' responses are very similar or slightly higher than both the UK and Wales.



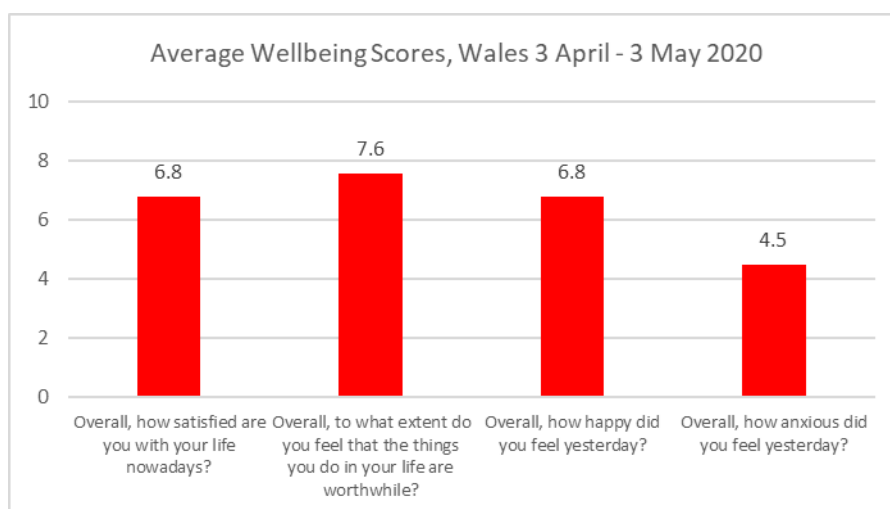
COVID- 19 Pandemic and Well-being

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound effect on our way of life and our well-being. The PSB will be utilising the latest evidence to understand the impact on the well-being of the pandemic in Monmouthshire. In the annual report, we predominantly report information up to or before March 2020. Emerging information is already showing some of the impacts of the pandemic, below are just some examples.

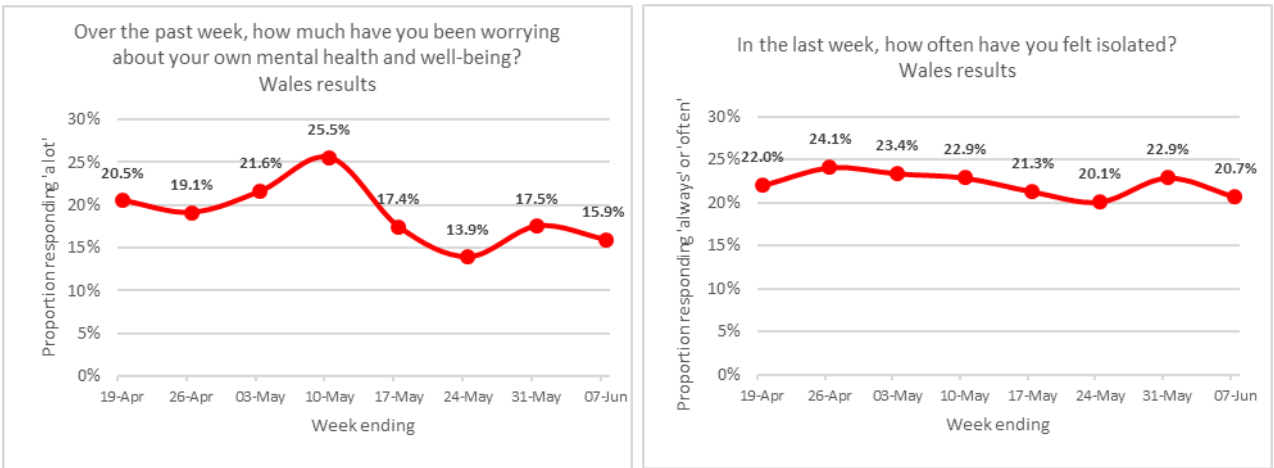
A number of the national indicators are produced on an annual basis and most will not yet cover any impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. For example, the national indicator on the percentage of people in employment is an annual figure, the most recent is from March 2020, which shows a slight increase in the employment rate in Monmouthshire in 2019/20¹. A more frequently available monthly published metric on out of work benefit claimants² shows a significant increase in claimants in Monmouthshire during the Coronavirus pandemic in April and May 2020.



An example of peoples views being captured on individual well-being as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is the ONS have carried out a weekly survey to collect data on the impact of the coronavirus on day-to-day life in Great Britain. It begins to show a snapshot of the impact of the pandemic on well-being, although caution is needed when using the results further and comparing at this stage as the sample size is small. Results for the four ONS measures of personal well-being for the most recently available at a Wales level (April 2020)³ have been included in the graph below as an example. This shows there was a noticeable decrease in satisfaction and happiness scores and an increase in anxiety at this point.



Another example is Public Health Wales is conducting a public engagement survey ask members of the public in Wales how coronavirus and related control measures are affecting their health and well-being. Some of the questions particularly related to personal well-being in Wales are shown below, up until week ending 7th June 2020⁴. Public Health Wales recognise longer-term monitoring is required to establish trends. Public Health Wales has launched a new well-being campaign to address the negative impact of COVID-19 on the mental, physical and social well-being of people in Wales [www. phw.nhs.wales/news/public-health-wales-launches-new-covid-19-wellbeing-campaign/](http://www.phw.nhs.wales/news/public-health-wales-launches-new-covid-19-wellbeing-campaign/)



While further work will be needed to understand the impact on well-being in the County in both the short and long term, these are some examples of evidence of the impact so far on personal well-being in 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 and Public Health Wales to assess changes over time.

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% (2017/18 & 2018/19)	9% (Ceredigion) 11% (Gwynedd) 9% (Wrexham)	7% (2016/17 & 2017/18)	6% (2017/18 & 2018/19)
Average capped 9 points score of pupils (interim) (This interim measure was introduced in 2019, and supersedes the old measure of capped 8 points score)	Welsh Examination database	Obj 1 & 4	354.4 (2019)	362.4 (Gwynedd) 382.5 (Ceredigion) 358.8 (Powys)	unavailable	367.4 (2019)
Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked (relative to the UK average)	ONS Regional Economic Analysis: Sub-regional productivity indicators	Obj 4	83.3 (2018)	96.2 (Vale of Glamorgan & Cardiff)	87.1 (2017 - Monmouthshire and Newport)	86.2 (2018 - Monmouthshire and Newport)
Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked (£) (Not a national indicator, included as further context to the “relative to the UK average” national indicator)	ONS Regional Economic Analysis: Sub-regional productivity indicators	Obj 4	£29.2 (2018)	£33.7 (Vale of Glamorgan & Cardiff)	£29.9 (2017 – Monmouthshire and Newport)	£30.2 (2018 – Monmouthshire and Newport)
Gross Disposable Household Income per head	ONS, gross disposable household income per head	Obj 4	£17,100 (2018)	£19,331 (Vale of Glamorgan) £18,295 (Powys) £16,249 (Gwynedd)	£20,761 (2017)	£21,707 (2018)

Table 1: National indicators	Source	Link to Objective	Wales	Similar comparable areas	Monmouthshire Previous	Monmouthshire Current
Percentage of people in employment.	ONS, Annual Population Survey	Obj 4	73.7% (2020)	74.6% (Vale of Glamorgan) 77.6% (Powys) 75.4% (Gwynedd)	77.7% (2019)	79.5% (2020)
Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation.	National Survey for Wales	Obj 1, 2 & 4	14% (2018/19)	13% (Vale Of Glamorgan) 10% (Powys) 12% (Gwynedd)	14% (2017/18)	9% (2018/19)
Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) pollution in the air.	Department for Environment, food and rural affairs	Obj 3	9 (2018)	6 (Denbighshire) 5 (Ceredigion) 6 (Conwy)	8 (2017)	8 (2018)
Capacity (in MW) of renewable energy equipment installed	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	Obj 2 & 3	3345.0 (2018)	148.3 (Denbighshire) 187.3 (Ceredigion) 754.6 (Conwy)	84.9 (2017)	85.2 (2018)

Table 1: National indicators	Source	Link to Objective	Wales	Similar comparable areas	Monmouthshire Previous	Monmouthshire Current
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)
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 are integral mechanisms for the Public Services Board to work towards this.

As the plan continues to be delivered, we know that many issues within the Well-being Plan are complex, and in many cases, will need continued detailed analysis to make sure that the PSB understand the key issues and are responding in the best way.

The Covid-19 pandemic will impact on the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County in the short and longer-term. The PSB will be utilising the latest evidence, learning gathered and changes to legislation and guidance to understand the impact on the well-being of the pandemic in Monmouthshire. The PSB will continue to work with local and regional partners to develop its activity in response and will adapt/develop the Boards plans accordingly. Any further updates to the PSB well-being plan will be available on the Monmouthshire Public Services Board website - www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/our-monmouthshire/

Detailed action plans and programme management arrangements are being further developed to capture the activity that is being delivered by the range of partners, organisations, people and networks. 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 accordingly.

Partnership working via the Gwent PSBs will continue, and the Community & Partnerships Development team will be further developing their work with PSB partners, Community and Town 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.

¹ONS, Annual Population Survey <https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Business-Economy-and-Labour-Market/People-and-Work/Employment/Persons-Employed/employmentrate-by-welshlocalarea-year>

² ONS, Claimant count, <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

³ ONS, Coronavirus and the social impacts on the countries and regions of Britain: April 2020, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/coronavirusandthesocialimpactsoneuropeanregionsapril2020>

⁴ Public Health Wales, How are we doing in Wales? Public Engagement Survey on Health and Well-being during Coronavirus Measures, <https://phw.nhs.wales/>

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SUBJECT: COVID-19 Risks and Public Service Emergency Response Structure

MEETING: Public Services Select Committee

DATE: 27th July 2020

DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide members with the opportunity to consider the risks related to the coronavirus pandemic in Monmouthshire and the extent to which these may require a whole public service response in addition to those mitigating actions put in place by the local authority.
- 1.2 To provide members with an overview of the regional multi-agency structure for emergency response and recovery.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The committee is invited to use the risk assessment to ensure that key risks have been identified, that risk levels are proportionate and mitigating actions are in place.
- 2.2 That any amendments requiring collaborative action across partners are shared with the Public Service Board while any suggested amendments that impact on Monmouthshire County Council are presented to Cabinet.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 The Coronavirus pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to our way of life and the way in which we provide services. The need to preserve life and stop the spread of the virus, while continuing to support communities, has meant the need to redirect capacity towards the emergency response effort.
- 3.2 The Council has continued to maintain and adapt the structures and mechanisms in place to co-ordinate the emergency response whilst also tracking progress and ensuring we remain focussed on our purpose. Our risk management arrangements have also been maintained and adapted through this period.
- 3.3 The Council's Emergency Management Plan is operating and business continuity arrangements remain in place to deliver and coordinate the response, working across Council services along with our external partners such as the emergency services, neighbouring local authorities and Welsh Government. These continue to operate in a dynamic rapidly changing environment, evolving and adapting to manage and mitigate, as far as possible, a variety of risks to Council service delivery and the well-being of our staff and residents.

- 3.4 As the Council transitions from response to recovery the Council has also adapted the internal response structures that link into wider formal Gwent structures and directly into regional, Welsh and Central Government. A diagram of the structure and arrangements in place can be seen in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 3.5 In the immediate response phase this was co-ordinated internally via the Emergency Response Team (ERT). The ERT was formally stood down on the 29th May 2020 and the Council's Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) took on the ongoing responsibility to oversee the ongoing response. SLT continues to meet twice a week currently.
- 3.6 A COVID-19 Coordinating Group has also been established, chaired by the Chief Officer for Resources, and that comprises the Head of People Services (as Vice Chair of the Gwent Local Resilience Forum) and the Council's Emergency Planning Manager. The Group meets on a weekly basis. The role of this group is to maintain oversight of the ongoing emergency response including receiving updates from the Gwent Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) and determining any matters needing to be reported on weekly Welsh Government returns.
- 3.7 The Emergency Response Team was guided by an established risk register. Subsequent to the ERT being stood down COVID-19 related risks are being assessed by the COVID-19 Coordinating Group. The residual risks have now either transferred to the Council's strategic risk register or where risks are operational in nature they have been transferred into service business plans. There is clear and identified accountability and ownership of these risks and they are being monitored on an ongoing basis. An overview of the key risks related to Coronavirus is shown as appendix 4.
- 3.8 The Council's other established risk management arrangements continue to manage a range of strategic risks across service areas. The strategic risk register continues to be reviewed and updated and resulting from an assessment of potential COVID related impacts on the Authority, the wider Monmouthshire economy and its communities.
- 3.9 The ERT and any sub-groups can quickly be reconvened if the situation arises and will remain under constant review. However, the 'battle rhythm' has naturally slowed as we transition towards the recovery phase.
- 3.10 The Council has a long-standing purpose of building sustainable and resilient communities. The nature of the pandemic meant a need to adjust our focus and accordingly cabinet has established a clear purpose and strategic aims to respond to the challenges posed by the pandemic. In the first phase this was to protect life and support our communities to be sustainable and resilient in these challenging times. As the nature of the pandemic changed, pupils returned to schools and non-essential retail began to re-open this was revised to reflect the need to re-establish community confidence. The purpose became 'we want everyone in our community to feel safe, to support each other and to reach out to those who need help'. Appendix 2 shows the two iterations of the Council's strategic aims.

- 3.11 Monmouthshire links with external responding organisations via the Gwent Strategic Co-ordinating group (SCG). The SCG is chaired by Gwent Police and covers their geographic footprint. Representatives from the Emergency Services, local authorities, health organisations, military, Natural Resources Wales, utilities and Welsh Government sit on this group. Monmouthshire's representative is the Head of People Services. The SCG are responsible for setting the strategic objectives and coordination of the partner agency response to COVID-19.
- 3.12 There are specific sub groups that sit beneath the Gwent Strategic Coordinating Group that support this strategic group. The Council are represented on these groups as necessary. The Council now provides a weekly situation report to the SCG and these are collated and sent weekly to the Emergency Coordination Centre Wales (ECCW). The ECCW reports to Welsh Government (WG) who then report to COBR – the Cabinet Office Briefing Room. The SCG can also escalate concerns directly to Welsh Government through the formal meetings in addition to the weekly situation reporting mechanism.
- 3.13 In addition to the above, the Leader of the Council also meets with other council leaders and Welsh Government ministers to discuss the response on a weekly basis.
- 3.14 SCG are now only needing to meet on a weekly basis, again resulting from the change in battle rhythm and as we see the move and transition towards recovery. The focus of SCG now is to both plan ahead and to ensure that robust arrangements are in place to respond to any further outbreak or second wave, and to ensure that all necessary criteria have met before it stands down. These criteria comprise:
- A Recovery Coordination Group being fully established with TOR and subgroups
 - SCG risks being either mitigated, accepted or transferred
 - An Outbreak Control Plan and protocols with SCG being in place
 - SCG stand-up triggers being agreed, to determine when the SCG might have to reconvene
 - SCG being satisfied that mitigation plans for risks to vulnerable groups are in hand
 - SCG having been de-briefed and lessons have been captured for the LRF to take forward
 - The SCG cost recovery plan having been discussed and implemented
 - A hand-over certificate being completed between SCG/RCG
- 3.15 The number of COVID-19 cases and deaths continues to decline in Wales and Gwent enabling Welsh Government to continue easing the lockdown restrictions that have been in place since March. The risk now concerns any resultant resurgence of COVID-19 cases, whether it be through a local outbreak or a second wave as we move towards the Autumn and flu season where the capacity of the NHS will be reduced.
- 3.16 In order to respond to these risks, the following measures continue to be essential to maintain a reduced level of transmission and avoid resurgence of COVID-19 cases and deaths:

- A robust monitoring framework to closely monitor the situation, rapidly detect increased transmission, assess the impact of the interventions in place and avoid a resurgence of COVID-19.
- An expanded testing strategy aimed at comprehensive testing of all individuals displaying symptoms compatible with COVID-19
- A framework for contact tracing, based on extensive testing, active case finding, early detection of cases, isolation of cases, quarantine and follow-up of contacts.
- Prompt identification and investigation of clusters/outbreaks associated with specific settings, with implementation of tailored control and prevention measures to minimise onward spread to others in the setting and to the wider community.
- Long-term sustainable implementation of essential NPIs (non-pharmaceutical interventions), irrespective of transmission rates, and the ability to amend strategies rapidly in response to indications of increased transmission, if appropriate, only restricting those to local areas.
- A strong risk communication strategy reminding citizens that the pandemic is not over

3.17 Welsh Government and the Gwent SCG and its partners are co-ordinating this aspect of the response. The Council continues to play an active role on SCG and in ensuring that all necessary arrangements are put in place.

3.18 Attached to this report as appendix 3 is a letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government, Julie James MS sent to chairs of Public Service Boards. It highlights the important role of the Board in considering and co-ordinating the longer term response to the impacts of Covid-19 on communities. This presents an opportunity to reflect on whether the current well-being objectives and priorities set Monmouthshire's Well-being Plan remain the right areas of focus. The collaborative effort to address the virus and the impact on the work of the PSB will be considered at its next meeting later this month.

4 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

4.1 The risk management arrangements aim to identify and assess risks robustly, drawing on a range of evidence both internally across all service areas as well as well as externally through the Gwent SCG and other sources.

4.2 These arrangements form part of the emergency response and the aim is to put in place risk controls that are appropriate and proportionate to the issues they are mitigating. The legislation and the council's responsibilities in all these areas continue to remain an important part of our response and as it continues transition through to recovery.

4.3 The Council's other established risk management arrangements continue to manage a range of strategic risks across service areas. The strategic risk register continues to be reviewed and updated and resulting from an assessment of potential COVID related impacts on the Authority, the wider Monmouthshire economy and its communities.

5 EVALUATION CRITERIA

5.1 The strategic risk register remains a live document that undergoes ongoing and frequent review by the Council's Strategic Leadership Team. Audit Committee also maintains

oversight and review of the Council's risk management arrangements and an update of the strategic risk register is being considered at its meeting on 30th July.

- 5.2 Operational risks are managed at a directorate and departmental level. Where risks are contained within service business plans these plans are updated on a quarterly basis and monitored through Directorate Management Teams and the Council's performance team.
- 5.3 COVID related risks are assessed on a weekly basis and as required by the Council's officer led COVID-19 Co-ordinating Group and reported into, considered and acted upon by the Strategic Leadership Team.

6 REASONS:

- 6.1 To ensure delivery of the Council's restated strategic purpose and strategic aims as the county transitions towards recovery.

We want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.

- 6.2 There remains significant ongoing challenges that must be responded to. The arrangements ensure that risks are identified and assessed robustly by the authority, that accountability for risks are clearly understood and that risk controls are put in place that are appropriate and proportionate to ensure, as far as possible, risk reduction/risk management.

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 Specific activity to mitigate/manage risks continues to have significant resource implications that includes:
- Increased costs to maintain current service delivery and demands in setting up new or amended services.
 - Significant reduction in income generation as a result of the COVID-19 emergency response and where services have been reduced or closed entirely.
 - An inevitable delay in budget savings plans in some areas and that adds to the financial challenges that were already being faced by the Council before the COVID-19 pandemic impacted.
 - As the county transitions to recovery the impact that a sharp recession has on Monmouthshire communities and which in turn places increased demands on services that look to support those most vulnerable groups.
- 7.2 A specific risk on the financial impacts to the Council has already been identified and continues to be managed. A specific strategic aim has been identified to ensure the Council remains financially sustainable as an organisation.

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

- 8.1 The risk management arrangements aim to identify and assess risks robustly, drawing on a range of evidence. These arrangements form part of the emergency response and the aim is to put in place risk controls that are appropriate and proportionate to the issues they are mitigating. The legislation and the council's responsibilities in all these areas will remain an important part in our response now and as it continues to transition through to the recovery phase.

9 CONSULTTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

11 AUTHORS:

Peter Davies, Chief Officer for Resources
Richard Jones, Performance Manager

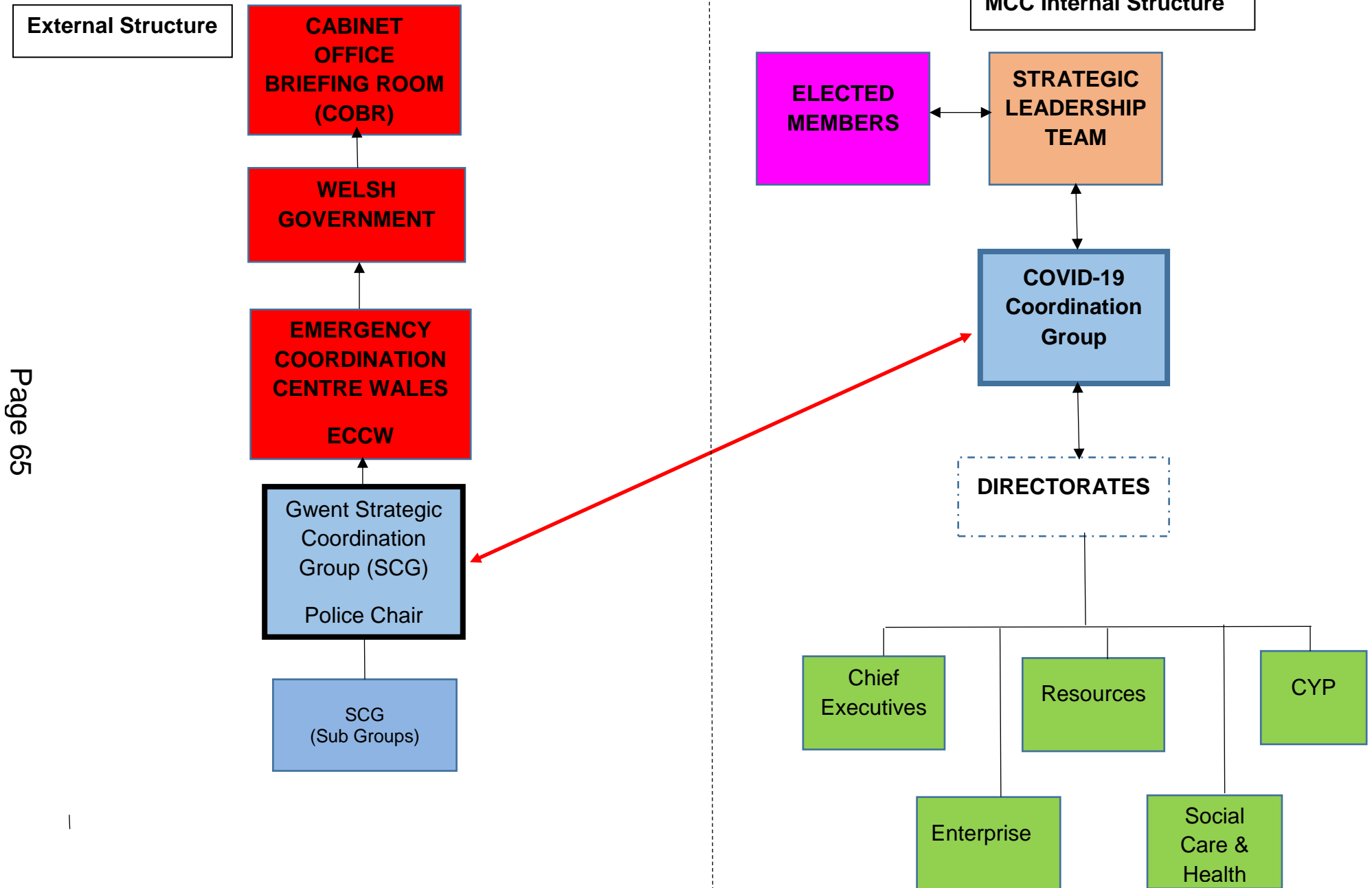
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CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY RESPONSE STRUCTURE

Appendix 1



Coronavirus Purpose and Strategic Aims

OUR CORONAVIRUS STRATEGY

The Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to our way of life. By clearly setting our strategic aims we will focus on the things that matter most to our residents and businesses, shaping our immediate response and our transition into a re-launch.



OUR PURPOSE

To protect life and support our communities to be sustainable and resilient in these challenging times

OUR VALUES

OPENNESS

We are open and honest. People have the chance to be involved and tell us what matters.

FAIRNESS

We provide opportunities for people and communities to thrive. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently.

FLEXIBILITY

We are flexible, enabling 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. We'll make the best of the ideas and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

OUR DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Working with and alongside local communities
- Being innovative and creative
- Learning and adjusting in real time
- Considerate of short-term response and medium-term recovery

OUR STRATEGIC AIMS

- Provide clear purposeful civic leadership
- Provide childcare for children of key workers and ensure continuation of learning for all young people
- Help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support
- Help local businesses to survive
- Keep our neighbourhoods clean and tidy whilst managing waste as sustainably as we can
- Be a trusted partner for other agencies / organisations
- Sustain a safe, healthy and productive workforce
- Ensure we remain financially sustainable as an organisation

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Ensure that every person or family in crisis that we're aware of receives support
- Provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child protection, care at home and residential care, 24/7
- Deliver our part in COVID contact testing, tracing and community surveillance
- Provide hub schools enabling childcare for key workers' children
- Provide digital technology and connectivity so all pupils can access learning, minimising any potential digital 'gap'
- Ensure all our staff who have the need can access the right Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Provide access to emergency food parcels for shielded people who cannot leave home
- Coordinate community volunteering and support local food banks
- Support local businesses wherever possible and specifically through timely payment of COVID-19 grants
- Reconfigure our services so we can continue domestic waste and recycling collections
- Keep our roads and cemeteries safe by maintaining our levels of grounds maintenance
- Maximise our use of technology so our organisation can keep delivering the things that matter
- Influence and inform legislation changes so we can work effectively in our new context

OUR CORONAVIRUS 'TRANSITION' STRATEGY

The Coronavirus pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to our way of life and the way we provide services. We are transitioning out of the first wave now and this plan sets our actions to re-build community confidence. This is not our Recovery Plan – that will follow when we are confident that COVID19 is manageable into the medium term.

OUR PURPOSE

We want everyone to feel safe in their community, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help

OUR VALUES

OPENNESS

We are open and honest. People have the chance to be involved and tell us what matters.

FAIRNESS

We provide opportunities for people and communities to thrive. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently.

FLEXIBILITY

We are flexible, enabling 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. We'll make the best of the ideas and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

OUR DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Working with and alongside local communities
- Being innovative and creative
- Learning and adjusting in real time
- Considerate of short-term response and medium-term recovery

OUR STRATEGIC AIMS

- Provide clear purposeful civic leadership
- Maximise the time children can safely spend in school and have consistent, high quality distance learning in place when they can't be in school
- Help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support
- Assist local businesses to reopen and ensure our towns are safe places for traders and visitors
- Keep our neighbourhoods clean and tidy whilst managing waste as sustainably as we can
- Be a trusted partner for other agencies / organisations
- Keep a safe, healthy and productive workforce
- Ensure we remain financially sustainable
- Continuing to provide vital social care services, including child protection, care at home and residential care, 7 days a week
- Remodelling our town centres and encourage people to shop safely and shop local
- Supporting our hospitality and tourism sectors to re-open as soon as possible
- Maximising the time that learners can safely spend in school from September onwards;
- Ensuring that consistent, high quality distance learning is in place to support children when they are not in school
- Delivering with partner agencies an effective Test Track and Protect system so we can identify virus outbreaks quickly and contain them
- Preparing to provide services which support individuals and families that lose their job / income
- Preparing those services that support vulnerable / high risk groups for an increase in demand as 'lockdown' eases
- Ensuring our staff working in all services are safe
- Providing a full waste management service and continue to develop our approaches to enhance the biodiversity and ecology of our open spaces
- Digitising services where possible to make them readily available to citizens
- Preparing for the re-opening of all leisure / cultural services as soon as guidelines allow
- Supporting our community volunteering network to provide long-term benefit to our communities
- Beginning our financial recovery programme



WHAT WE ARE DOING

Letter from Julie James MS, Minister for Housing and Local Government

Included as a separate attachment.

COVID-19 Related Risks

Appendix 4

Appendix 4 to follow. The detail is still being updated at time of agenda despatch

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To: Chairs of Public Services Boards

8th June 2020

Dear Chairs

I am writing to you regarding the vital role I see Public Services Boards playing over the coming months as we enter the recovery phase of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for all the hard work you and your colleagues have been doing during this pandemic. I have been speaking to many of you regularly over recent weeks and I know the efforts you have been putting into the response to Covid-19. I appreciate for many the normal work of PSBs has been put on hold while you focus on the immediate response.

However, in all parts of Wales, public sector organisations are now looking ahead to the recovery phase of the pandemic and it is important that this recovery is approached as a shared endeavour – building on the way public services have come together and worked together in the immediate response to Covid-19.

Covid-19 and its effects on communities in Wales has revealed some stark contrasts and public services will need to consider the social, economic, environmental and cultural impact of the pandemic which in many places could be felt for years to come.

You and your Boards will have an important role to play in considering, and co-ordinating, this longer term response to the impacts of Covid-19 on communities, and I know that many of you are already reflecting on this. This should be seen as an opportunity to drive transformation in how services are delivered, seeking to achieve environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits in the new ways of working that responding to Covid-19 has required. For example, considering collaborative decisions on digital transformation, safe active travel, housing infrastructure and place-making. The response will require increased collaboration and sharing of resources; as well as recognising that in many service areas there has needed to be a fundamental change in how they operate.

It must be emphasised that this should not be considered as a new or additional role for PSBs. This is a continuation of your core work in improving the well-being of your areas; but done in a way that recognises the positive and negative impacts of and responses to Covid-19.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

With this in mind, it would make sense to reflect on whether the well-being objectives and priorities set in your Local Well-being Plan are still the right focus for your Board or need to be refocused. Our view is that, unless there are significant changes in the overarching objectives, there would be no need to formally review your plans and consult on them at this time.

Whilst we want to be clear about our vision for the role we see for PSBs during the recovery phase, I should add that it is not Welsh Government's intention to be prescriptive about the aspects of recovery planning you should focus on, other than to say that it is our expectation that PSBs should step into this space.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act should be at the heart of all recovery work. The Future Generations Commissioner's recently published Future Generations Report sets out her recommendations on how you can apply the Act to your work including: in setting and meeting well-being objectives, in providing advice, case studies and 'Big Ideas' from Wales and across the world on new and innovative ways of working. This will assist you in how you approach recovery. I have shared this letter with the Commissioner, who is supportive of this approach, and is keen to collect positive or negative stories emerging from the crisis in order to share practice and would like to support you as you refocus your collaborative work.

There will be some areas of the recovery that would not sit with PSBs and would be picked up by, for example, those dealing with health and social care issues (where Regional Partnership Boards would lead) and economic recovery (which would largely be the focus of the city and growth deals). PSBs should work in collaboration with these partnerships and involve other stakeholders to enhance integration, avoid any gaps or indeed to avoid duplication in the recovery effort.

I would encourage you to consider doing this work on wider regional/sub-regional levels rather than working individually. The immediate response has been co-ordinated, to good effect, on a Local Resilience Forum footprint and you will be aware that Strategic Coordination Groups are keen to move onto the next phase of recovery and are already talking about establishing Recovery Coordinating Groups on the same footprint. It would make sense for PSBs to consider how you engage with these structures to ensure that your work aligns with the wider recovery planning underway.

I would welcome your views on how your board intends to approach its work over the coming months.

Yours sincerely



Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local Government

Monmouthshire County Council Whole Authority Strategic Risk Assessment – Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic updates overview, July 2020 (Appendix 4)

The Council's Strategic Risk Assessment has continued to be reviewed and updated based on the latest evidence and assessment of potential impacts related to the coronavirus pandemic on the Authority and wider well-being impacts on the County. Due to its purpose the risk assessment is a detailed document, there have been a number of amendments and additions to the strategic risk register to ensure it accurately manages the current strategic risks facing the Council. The table below provides an overview of the updates made to the strategic risk register in relation to the coronavirus pandemic. The risk assessment is a living document and will continue to evolve as new information comes to light, the latest full version of the Risk Register continues to be available to members to use at any time on the Council's intranet, The Hub.

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
1	Potential Risk that: The authority does not remain relevant and viable for future generations due to not having a sustainable delivery model.	2020/21 – Medium	2020/21 – Low	<p>There has been a lessened focus on some of the priorities in the Corporate Plan to re-direct capacity towards the Coronavirus response effort. To provide clarity and ensure accountability through this time Cabinet has set a COVID-19 purpose and set of strategic aims which have been updated to guide activity during the transition phase.</p> <p>The Coronavirus pandemic is likely to impact on economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County. There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.</p> <p>The Council's medium term financial planning has been severely disrupted by the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the Council's finances.</p>
		2021/22 – Medium	2021/22 – Low	
		2022/23 – Medium	2022/23 – Low	
2	Potential Risk that: Without appropriate and effective governance infrastructure, the Council may not deliver its objectives.	2020/21 – Medium	2020/21 – Low	<p>The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force in April 2020 in response to the impact of the pandemic, the limitations of the lockdown and existing legal requirements applicable to local authorities. They aim to overcome those limitations to allow democratic processes and decision making to continue.</p> <p>During the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been significant changes to the way in which the Council operates. Governance mechanisms have been developed and established digitally. These will continue to be reviewed to identify ways of working that have improved efficiency, any remaining risks and identify where these can be developed going forward.</p>
		2021/22 – Medium	2021/22 – Low	
		2022/23 – Medium	2022/23 – Low	

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
3	Potential Risk that: The Council and partners do not make sufficient progress in delivering through regional and partnership working.	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Low 2022/23 – Low	The Coronavirus pandemic is likely to impact on economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County. There is a need to continue to work with partners to understand the impact and adapt/develop partnership working accordingly.
4a	Potential Risk that: Some services may become financially unsustainable in the short to medium term due to increasing demand and continuing financial pressures	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>The Council was already facing financial challenges following shortly after the flood response and recovery resulting from Storms Ciara and Dennis in February 2020. The pandemic has accentuated the challenge.</p> <p>Uncertainty remains as to whether Welsh Government funding and flexibilities will be sufficient to mitigate the additional costs and significant shortfall in income the Council is suffering.</p> <p>Financial Forecasts are being prepared on assumptions that are uncertain. The forecasts will be supplemented by sensitivity analysis and risk assessments. In order to highlight the extent of the financial challenge, the range is anywhere between a £3.5 million and £10.4m over-spend for 2020/21, depending on the level of Welsh Government compensating funding forthcoming.</p> <p>A budgetary recovery plan and further budget savings proposals is being produced for consideration by Council in September/October. This will subsequently inform the budget setting process for 2021/22 and the medium-term financial plan.</p>
4b	Potential Risk that: The authority is unable to deliver its political priorities or maintain key infrastructure and meet other identified pressures due to insufficient capital funding availability.	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>The Council finalised its draft accounts for 19/20 with useable capital receipts of only £3.2m, a Council Fund balance of £8.5m and useable earmarked reserves of £6.4m (of which there is planned use that will reduce earmarked reserves to £5.4m at the end of 2020/21).</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic is likely to have a future impact on the availability of capital resources as the Council will have limited capacity to draw on useable capital receipts or to impact further the revenue account with further borrowing. In addition Welsh Government is also having to prioritise its funding to respond to the pandemic though this could introduce further capital funding opportunities.</p>

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
				As part of the budget recovery plan the Council's reserves policy is being reviewed and the S151 officer will need to assess the adequacy of reserves to respond to the financial challenges faced in the current year and over the medium term.
5	Potential Risk that: Reduced organisational capacity, including skills and knowledge, recruitment and retention issues, and reduced staff wellbeing, will impact on our ability to deliver organisational aims and objectives	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Low	There is a potential risk of a detrimental impact on staff well-being from a range of factors linked to the coronavirus pandemic and delivering the Council's response. The impact on staff well-being will need to continue to be monitored to determine implications and to ensure staff are supported. Support mechanisms in the short term and development of arrangements in the medium term continue to support staff on the potential impacts on staff wellbeing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Page 75	Potential Risk of: Significant harm to vulnerable children or adults due to failure of arrangements or factors outside the Council's control	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	A number of potential risks have been identified due to the Coronavirus pandemic that will need to be managed and monitored as far as possible. Potential risks include: Child welfare concerns could not be recognised or referred in to Children Services; Adult harm could not be seen/reported; Harmful behaviours, abuse and neglect, including domestic abuse, can remain hidden as a result of the lock-down There has been a significant volunteer response to COVID-19 pandemic, work will be required to continue to support an increased volunteer network and ensure longer term arrangements are in place including support on their safeguarding responsibilities. Through the Coronavirus pandemic safeguarding remains an essential part of our delivery, supporting adults and children in Monmouthshire. The process for receiving and responding to referrals has not changed. This includes referrals regarding allegations or concerns against adults who work with children and adults at risk. Arrangements have been adjusted, where required, different solutions have been needed to deal with situations during the pandemic. The volume, type and source of referrals continue to be monitored

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
7	Potential Risk to: The robust delivery of the Council's corporate parenting responsibility and services related to safeguarding vulnerable children as a result of an increase in demand and complexity in cases in Children's services.	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>A number of potential risks have been identified due to the Coronavirus pandemic. These will need to be managed and monitored as far as possible including: operational changes in the way that services are delivered as a result of COVID-19 with a reduction in 'direct' (physical) contact; possible increase in referrals and impact of any delays in operations affecting capacity issues; Increase in some spend areas to support certain areas of risk; Possible disruption to Foster placements and/or carer recruitment.</p> <p>Children's services are priority services and remain fully operational. Risk assessments will be undertaken where any direct working / home visiting is required to follow up on child protection concerns, or to provide interim safeguards as part of a care and support plan. Some direct work may be undertaken virtually or using social distancing methods</p> <p>The potential risk that child welfare concerns are not recognised or referred in to Children Services continues to be monitored.</p>
	Potential Risk of: Failing to meet the needs of learners, including-vulnerable learners, and failing to promote pupil well-being within Monmouthshire's schools, which may result in children and young people not achieving their full potential. Failing to adapt to changes in the new curriculum and examination requirements	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>A number of potential risks have been identified due to the Coronavirus pandemic that will need to be managed and mitigated as far as possible including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children who require additional support or are vulnerable not being able to access support in a known and supportive environment; - The ability of all our learners to keep learning and developing, disadvantaged pupils are likely to be impacted upon more significantly - Planning for learners' transition back into school and onto the next phase of their learning - Physical and mental health and well-being impact of all our learners could be a continuing risk factor <p>Schools reopened on 29 June 2020, offering a reduced timetable as part of Check in, Catch up and Prepare for all pupils who wished to attend for three weeks.</p> <p>Informed by guidance from Welsh Government, plans are now underway to prepare for the reopening of schools in September.</p>

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
9	Potential Risk of: Loss or corruption of data due to cyber-attack or data mismanagement which will compromise the delivery of essential council services.	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the reliance on and use of digital technology and communication. Infrastructure has been set up and practice changed rapidly. This will need to be closely monitored to ensure robust systems are in place to protect data and to ensure all staff and systems are equipped to manage this.</p> <p>The Cyber Security Service has operated throughout the pandemic. A separate operational risk register has been opened during the pandemic to mitigate against Coronavirus-related threats, which has been monitored by the security service on a monthly basis.</p>
10a	Potential Risk of: A lack of appropriate infrastructure, including affordable housing, in the County to meet future needs arising due to the County's changing demography and weak economic base, external changes such as removal of the Severn Bridge tolls, and as a result of the growth of the County as set out in the emerging new Local Development Plan.	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – Low	<p>Public consultation and engagement on the Preferred Strategy, along with the second call for candidate sites, has commenced but engagement events have been postponed. The Revised Delivery Agreement will set out an updated timetable for future key stages of plan preparation, including the consultation events and closing date for the second call for candidate sites.</p> <p>A review of the RLDP issues, vision and objectives, in light of COVID-19, was undertaken and endorsed by Cabinet, and demonstrated that the plan's strategic direction of travel remained relevant. However, the Minister for Housing and Local Government has requested that all local planning authorities undertake an assessment of the RLDP evidence base, strategy and policies to assess the consequences the current pandemic before progressing with plan preparation.</p> <p>Liaison is being undertaken with Welsh Government/Minister for Housing and Local Government on reviewing and removing the LDP expiry date prescribed in the legislation in light of the delays that COVID-19 has put on the preparation of Replacement LDPs. If this remains in place there is a risk it could mean that council is without a local planning policy framework for a period of time.</p>
10b	Potential Risk that: Insufficient broadband infrastructure and a lack of digital skills in the county have the potential to lead to social and economic disadvantages	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Low	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has seen a wide scale increase in the use of digital technology. In areas where broadband infrastructure is insufficient, or for people who do not have digital skills, this may amplify the potential social and economic impact of the pandemic.</p>

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
				<p>The pandemic has amplified the need for good quality digital infrastructure and connectivity, including for the council, with many services moving to an on-line digital platform.</p> <p>Due to the pandemic and the preceding flooding that took place in November 2019 and February 2020, digital infrastructure works have been slow to move forward in the county and the digital deprivation rate still stands at 12.5%. Whilst progress to date has been slow, future planned activity will start to reduce the county's digital deprivation rate.</p>
Page 78	11	Potential Risk of: Political, legislative and financial uncertainty for council services and local businesses as a result of the UK leaving the European Union	2020/21 – High	<p>The UK Government has stated that the transition period for the negotiation of the future UK-EU relationship will not be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The risks identified will need to continue to be monitored.</p>
			2021/22 – High	
			2022/23 – Medium	
		Potential risk that: The authority cannot deliver its services due to potential internal/external factors resulting in service disruption due to lack of Business Continuity planning.	2020/21 – Medium	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has seen many areas of the council adopting their Business Continuity Plans as part of the Council's response; the learning from the response will need to be reviewed in light of the pandemic to determine where improvements can be made.</p>
			2021/22 – Medium	
			2022/23 – Medium	
13	Potential risk to: Communities and public service delivery in Monmouthshire due to Global climate changes could impact on the future social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being in the County	2020/21 – High	2020/21 – High	<p>The pandemic has caused some delays to progressing some of the Council's Climate Emergency aspirations, and created some uncertainty over funding.</p> <p>The pandemic is likely to impact on economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County. There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop the Council's climate emergency strategy accordingly. For example there have been changes to the way we work, the amount we travel, how we manage greenspaces and promote active travel.</p>
		2021/22 – High	2021/22 – High	
		2022/23 – High	2022/23 – High	
14	Potential risk that: Declining recycling rates will prevent achievement of the Welsh Government target of 70% recycling rates throughout Wales.	2020/21 – Medium	2020/21 – Medium	<p>Changes to services and social distancing restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic may have an impact on recycling rates for the county. Garden waste collections were cancelled, Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) were closed, and there have been some missed collections due to staff shortages. The impact on fly tipping has also been monitored both during and through the easing of lockdown.</p>
		2021/22 – Medium	2021/22 – Low	
		2022/23 – Medium	2022/23 – Low	

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
				Data will continue to be reviewed to establish the impact of the pandemic on recycling rates, and to determine if any learning can be taken from recent months to improve recycling figures going forward.
15. New	Potential risk that: The spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak will impact on staff and residents health and cause delays or reductions in the Council's service delivery	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>The pandemic has posed a significant and unprecedented challenge to our way of life and how the Council continues to provide a range of vital services. The need to preserve life and stop the spread of the virus, while continuing to support communities, has meant that a lot of our usual work has been re-purposed or paused.</p> <p>The number of COVID-19 cases and deaths has declined in Wales and Gwent. Welsh Government has continued to ease the lockdown restrictions that have been in place since March. Covid-19 remains an active threat. There is risk concerning any resultant resurgence of COVID-19 cases, whether it be through a local outbreak or a second wave.</p> <p>Alongside Gwent partners, the council is contributing to the operation of the COVID-19 Test, Trace and Protect scheme. Staff and systems are in place to ensure the prompt identification and investigation of clusters/outbreaks and appropriate control/prevention measures if/where required.</p> <p>The impact of the coronavirus pandemic could lead to an increase in staff absence due to illness or self-isolation which continues to be monitored.</p> <p>A shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies could also put the health and wellbeing of front line staff at risk. Work continues to ensure all our staff, who have the need, can access the right equipment.</p>
16. New	Potential risks that: Care Homes could be hit by an outbreak of Covid-19, affecting some of our most vulnerable residents.	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	Evidence has shown that older age and certain underlying health conditions, as well as other factors, are associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.

Ref	Risk	Risk Level – Pre mitigation	Risk Level – Post mitigation	Overview of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic related updates
				<p>Care homes have particularly been affected by COVID-19 with many homes suffering outbreaks. Patients being discharged from hospital and new residents admitted from the community could increase the risk of the virus entering the home.</p> <p>There is strengthened provision and support for care homes including on testing, Personal Protective Equipment and infection control</p>
17. New	Potential risk that: The coronavirus pandemic could have a considerable economic impact resulting in business closures and job losses, significantly impacting on the economy in Monmouthshire and financial situation of some Monmouthshire residents	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>The relaxation of lockdown measures could result in the removal of financial safeguards such as the furlough scheme and the availability of grants, making it harder for local businesses to survive.</p> <p>The negative impact the pandemic could have on the local economy may result in the loss of local businesses, subsequent local job losses and increased unemployment.</p> <p>The wider impact this may have on families could result in financial hardship, and related issues such as food poverty and homelessness. The authority will monitor this situation closely and consider allocating additional resources to support those most significantly impacted.</p>
18. New	Potential risk that: The coronavirus and lockdown measures could have a disproportionately negative impact on the well-being of some sections of our communities, resulting in increased poverty and inequality	2020/21 – High 2021/22 – High 2022/23 – High	2020/21 – Medium 2021/22 – Medium 2022/23 – Medium	<p>There is evidence that the pandemic has a bigger impact on the well-being of those in more deprived communities. Analysis has shown the association between deprivation and the risk of COVID-19.</p> <p>Evidence has shown age, underlying health conditions and ethnicity, along with other factors, is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19. There is evidence that the economic impact of the virus disproportionately affects those working in lower-paid sectors, which can exacerbate issues of poverty and inequality</p> <p>There is a risk that those already facing poverty and inequality will face a worsening situation due to increased financial hardship, health deterioration and a decline in educational attainment. As part of the Council's continued commitment to Social Justice, evidence is being reviewed and activity planned related to poverty in Monmouthshire.</p>

SUBJECT: Regional Public Service Board
MEETING: Public Services Select Committee
DATE: 27th July 2020
DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Select Committee with an update about discussions on the feasibility and desirability of moving to a Gwent-wide Public Service Board.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The PSB brings together public service leadership and decision-makers across Monmouthshire to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the county Cardiff by strengthening joint working. Boards are established under the Well-being of Future Generations Act and are a statutory requirement.
- 2.2 Monmouthshire has worked in collaboration with the other PSBs in Gwent over a number of years on a wide-range of projects as part of the Gwent Strategic Well-being Action Group.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 This item is for information only.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 came into force in April 2016. The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It established a statutory board known as the Public Services Board (PSB) in each LA area. In Gwent this resulted in five new PSBs.
- 4.2 Leaders of public services in Gwent have asked officers to begin developing options for a regional PSB. This is seen as a natural evolution of the informal collaborate arrangement known G10 made up of the ten statutory public bodies in Gwent.
- 4.3 A regional approach would strengthen collaboration while generating economies of scale. There would be clear benefits for regional partners such as Gwent Police and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board who presently sit on five separate PSBs in the preserved county of Gwent. It will offer opportunities to aligning the focus of both the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and PSB that will reduce duplication of activity, align strategic priorities and enable much closer collaboration over assessment and planning processes. It would also provide a clearer focus on regional projects capitalising on a number of joint projects that have been successful in securing funding from Welsh Government.
- 4.4 Any move towards a joint PSB would provide the catalyst for a regional well-being assessment and well-being plan. There are associated risks of loss of local accountability and a lessened reduced focus on projects which are Monmouthshire specific. To mitigate this any proposals would need to be accompanied by a refresh of local partnerships arrangements. The Programme Board, which presently reports to Monmouthshire PSB, assuming a local leadership role.

- 4.5 At this stage there are no detailed proposals. This report is provided to give context to a verbal update that will be provided to the committee to ensure that members are sighted at the earliest opportunity and are able to engage in the development of proposals.

5. REASONS:

- 5.1 To improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Monmouthshire through effective collaboration with partners throughout our region.

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report is for information. At this stage discussions are at an early stage

7. EQUALITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This report presents an evaluation of progress and no implications identified as a result.

8. AUTHORS:

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