

Agenda



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: Thursday, 21 June 2018

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Committee Room 1 - Civic Centre

To: Councillors J Guy (Chair), M Al-Nuaimi, C Evans, M Evans, C Ferris, J Hughes, L Lacey, M Spencer and K Thomas

Item	Wards Affected
1	<u>Agenda yn Gymraeg / Agenda in Welsh</u> (Pages 3 - 4)
2	<u>Apologies</u>
3	<u>Declaration of Interest</u>
4	<u>Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 April 2018</u> (Pages 5 - 16)
5	<u>Corporate Safeguarding (2017 - 18) Executive Summary</u> (Pages 17 - 46)
6	<u>Economic Regeneration - Recommendations Monitoring</u> (Pages 47 - 66)
7	<u>Conclusion of Committee Reports</u> Following the completion of the Committee reports, the Committee will be asked to formalise its conclusions, recommendations and comments on previous items for actioning.
8	<u>Draft Annual Forward Work Programme</u> (Pages 67 - 76)

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Date of Issue: Thursday, 14 June 2018

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Agenda

Pwyllgor Rheoli Trosolwg a Chraffu

Dyddiad: Dydd Iau, 21 Mehefin 2018

Amser: 10 y.b.

Lleoliad: Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 - Canolfan Ddinesig

Y Cyngorwyr: J Guy (Cadeirydd), M Al-Nuaimi, C Evans, M Evans, C Ferris, J Hughes, L Lacey, M Spencer and K Thomas

Eitem

Rhan 1

1. Agenda yn Gymraeg
2. Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb
3. Datganiadau o Fuddiant
4. Cofnodion y Cyfarfod a 26 Ebrill 2018
5. Diogelu Corfforaethol
6. Monitro Argymhellion – Adfywio Economaidd
7. Casgliadau
8. Blaenraglen Waith Flynyddol

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Minutes



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: 26 April 2018

Time: 10.00 am

Present: Councillors J Guy (Chair), M Al-Nuaimi, C Evans, M Evans, C Ferris, P Hourahine, J Hughes, L Lacey and M Spencer

In Attendance: D Cooke (Overview & Scrutiny Officer), J Keen (Regulatory Services Manager Environment and Community), S Rose (Housing Needs Manager) and B Allan (Youth Worker), K Ward (Newport BID Manager), A Edwards (Newport BID Chairman), G Jones (Area Manager – The Wallich) and J Davies (City Centre Inspector – Gwent Police)

1 Declarations of Interest

None.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 22nd March 2018

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a **true** and **accurate** record subject to the following amendment for 22nd March 2018:

The Committee requested that their discussion surrounding the Corporate Safeguarding item was outlined in the minutes.

3 Review of the City Centre PSPO

Item 5 - Review of the City Centre PSPO

Attendees;

Jonathan Keen	Newport City Council	Regulatory Services Manager - Environment and Community
Gareth Davies	Newport City Council	Monitoring Officer
John Davies	Gwent Police	City Centre Inspector
Bethan Allan	Newport City Council	City Youth Worker
Kevin Ward	Newport BID	Manager
Alan Edwards	Newport BID	Chairman
Simon Rose	Newport City Council	Housing Needs Manager
Gareth Jones	The Wallich	Area Manager for South East Wales

The Chair and Committee Members introduced themselves and the report author, Environment Services Manager - Environment and Community was invited to provide a brief introduction to their report.

One Member of the Committee drew attention to the fact that Cycling was not mentioned in any of the Orders restrictions, and had not been consulted on even though they had sought assurances from the Officers that it would in the January meeting. The Chair noted this.

A Member of the Committee raised concerns around how they felt the invitees would not present a balanced opinion and their evidence could create a bias. The Member expressed their view that Shelter Cymru and Liberty should have been invited. The Chair noted this.

Regulatory Services Manager – Environment and Community

The Chair invited the Officer to introduce their report. The Officer explained to the Committee that they had inherited the review of the City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) after the consultation had been completed. The Officer continued to outline what the PSPO was and its uses and its background in the City Centre. The Officer reminded the Committee of its previous meeting on January 8th, where they agreed the consultation strategy and how the Officers would complete the review.

The Officer talked the Committee through the strategy undertaken and how any other responses that were not completed on the online questionnaire were incorporated at a later date. The Officer then introduced the possible revised Order, explaining the omitted, reworded and new restrictions.

The Chair opened questioning to the Members.

The Committee were disappointed with the response rate to the consultation. They felt that 61 was too small a sample to base changes on. In January the Committee had asked that there would be more than one option for the public to comment on the consultation. They had discussed people in the city centre asking people in the day but this had not been carried out. The Committee also pointed out that nothing had been done to consult with those people who would be affected by the changes, in particular the people who were begging and groups of young people who use the City Centre.

The Committee continued by stating that they felt the consultation questions were leading and closed, and were to solicit the answers the Officers felt were required to implement changes. This, the Member claimed, was supported by how only two respondees said about begging near cash machines was an issue and yet the restriction had been changed.

A Member said that they understood the complex areas which were consulted on and that the question needed to be very straight forward. The Member went onto say that the consultation could have been more effective in eliciting responses from the public.

The Officer accepted that more could have been done to ensure that the consultation reached those people who would have been affected by the changes and those that used the City Centre on a daily basis.

City Centre Inspector

The Inspector introduced himself and took the opportunity during the introduction to run through Gwent Police's opinion of the possible revised PSPO.

Street Drinking had been successful and this was supported by another consultation that the Police have undertaken recently. The Police would have liked this restriction remain in the PSPO with the same wording.

Touting for Services / Donations was not something the Police deal with and of the small number of complaints that had been received were all passed to the Council.

Begging in an Anti-Social Manner would allow the Police to address any problems in the City Centre. The previous restriction, Aggressive Begging, was largely unenforceable due to its wording and required the act to be witnessed by a Police Officer or for the effected party to complete a witness statement.

Groups / Individuals Causing Anti-Social Behaviour was covered by Section 35 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This Act allows any Inspector to force someone to leave an area if their behaviour was or was likely to become anti-social. The problem was that by only having Inspectors with these powers there would be a chance that things could escalate before an Inspector could respond. In the Officers opinion it was better to allow other Police Officers to issue directions to the groups and individuals. Cycling in an anti-social manner could be addressed with this restriction.

Intoxicating / Psychoactive Substances the Police had seen an increase in Class A and B drugs in the City Centre and were seeing an increase in Psychoactive substances being used across the City.

Dogs to be on a Lead issues had not been reported to Police as a problem but this did not mean it was not a problem. The Police supported it being left in the possible revised Order.

In response to the Committees questions;

- There were large amounts of work being carried out to support and divert people from the streets into services. The Housing Needs Manager would be able to provide more information on this.
- The Inspector was aware of the rights bestowed on the citizens of Newport by the Human Rights Act and the PSPO would not be used to infringe on these.
- The Inspector explained that in June the City Centre would have received 12 new Officers and 3 Community Support Officers which provided more cover at all times of the day and night.
- The Inspector claimed that it was not his experience of Police Officers 'laughing and joking' with the people who break the law. Especially if they had seen members of the public injecting or using Class A and B drugs in the City Centre.
- The distance from cash machines and pay machines that was set in the *Begging in an Anti-Social Manner* restriction was decided upon after discussing the matter with numerous partners. The question we asked ourselves was how far someone needed to be from a member of the public using a machine and for that individual to not feel intimidated.
- The Inspector felt it was unfair to answer the Members question on whether or not the young people riding bikes through the city centre were running drugs.
- The Inspector clarified that the PSPO's restrictions was not to target beggars but to make people feel safer when handling their money around cash machines and pay machines. Beggars who do not respect the distance from cash machines will be moved on, and arrested if they refuse.
- Blanket bans had been used in Kettering, Swindon and Derby but the Inspector queried if this had been sustained by courts at a higher level. The Monitoring Officer explained that he could not comment on the three other PSPOs as he had not seen the evidence base they had to create the no begging restriction. To create a restriction you must prove it was a necessity. There was no evidence that a blanket ban on begging was necessary in Newport, but there was evidence to support an area around cash and pay machines. In addition the Monitoring Officer explained that the PSPO was in response to anti-social behaviour and begging was not anti-social

behaviour. The PSPO was creating a balance between the rights of all the people using the City Centre.

- The PSPO restrictions ensured people who use legal highs and drink in the streets were fearful of the Police confiscating their substances. This fear moves the problem individuals from the City Centre into other areas.
- The Monitoring Officer explained that the new restrictions were more enforceable as the Courts understood anti-social behaviour as there was a legal definition. This was not the case with aggressive as it was subjective.
- The Regulatory Services Manager – Environment and Community explained to the Committee that the exclusion area applied to all cash and pay machines in a public space inside the City Centre.

The Chair thanked the Inspector for his time and information.

City Centre Youth Worker

The Chair invited the Youth Worker to provide an introduction and to provide an opening statement. The Youth Worker first gave her apologies for her colleague who had been required to leave for an emergency. The Youth Worker then explained some of the problem areas that they had identified when analysing the possible revised Order, these included; the young people who used bus routes before and after schools naturally congregate together in the City Centre each day and this was something that would not change, and how the young people who used the City Centre were important revenue source for a number of the retailers in the City Centre and Friars Walk.

The Youth Worker went onto raise concerns about how forcing young people to leave the City Centre into more high risk areas. The Youth Service had services in the City Centre that supported young people who were at risk of, or were being exploited, which would not be available outside of the City Centre. The types of exploitation included sexually and criminally.

The Youth Worker stated that alternative options that could reduce ASB in the City Centre could include diversionary and preventative work, as well as information and guidance available to young people and parents on the changes to the possible revised PSPO. The Youth Service had Youth Workers in each secondary school and could disseminate information around the PSPO.

The Youth Worker gave the following answers to the Committees questions;

- The Officer agreed with the Committee that some groups of young people who used the City Centre and had no intention of causing ASB would have benefited from the PSPO as the City Centre would be a safer place.
- There was currently the MP20 project which had good engagement levels with the young people in the City Centre.
- The Youth Service had reported three or four serious instances to the Police over the last four months. The young people who had been involved were those that were the most at risk individuals. There were very small numbers of young people engaging in ASB in the City Centre. If the Youth Service had more resources then they would be better placed to deliver services to these young people.

- The Youth Service delivered services three times a week. Two evenings and a Saturday day in the City Centre.
- The relationship between security staff and the Youth Service was very good. The Youth Service were looking to deliver Level 2 Youth Worker training to the Security Staff to give them the tools to better engage with the young people they came into contact with.
- The Police referred young people to one of the Youth Service's programmes in an effort to keep them from receiving a criminal record. The young person was then supported to get help and change their behaviour before they reach a point where a criminal record was the only course of action.

The Chair thanked the invitee for their responses and information.

The Committee enquired if the PSPO could be put in place for a shorter period, of a year, the Monitoring Officer explained that legislations states that the PSPOs last for three years. The Scrutiny and Governance Officer explained that the Committee could request a report on the implementation and success of the revised Order after a year in order to monitor the effect of the PSB.

Newport BID Manager and Chairman

The Newport BID manager read a statement to the Committee, outlining the Boards views of the revised PSPO.

(NOTE: The Newport BID Managers statement is attached for information.)

The attendees provided the following responses to the Committees questions;

- The Diverted Giving scheme was being used across the Country and schemes work better than others. The money raised from the Diverted Giving scheme would be used to provide front line services to those most in need. There was evidence to support that claim that the money raised in a Diverted Giving scheme would benefit the most in need and not the 'career beggars'.
- The Chairman was hopeful that there would be a visible decrease in people begging if the revised PSPO is enforced. The Chairman claimed that there had been an increase in the amount of people asking for money since the existing PSPO had been implemented. The beggars were reacting to the footfall of the public and moving themselves to areas where there were more people. The Chair said that he would present the Council Officers with information from the Ambassador Service regarding the increase in problems over the last three years.
- Both attendees believe their responses to the Committees questions were representative of the majority of their levy payers. This is supported by the survey responses from an Open Meeting and Business Against Crime Meeting undertaken recently.
- The Diverted Giving scheme start-up was funded by the Newport BID, with the hope that it would become self-sufficient at a later date.
- The Chairman explained to the Committee that they take into account the feedback from the levy members and their customers. When the BID took over from the Chambers of Trade there was a big push to improve the perception of the City Centre.

- The 500 BID Members were based primarily inside the City Centre area. With only around 30 being outside the city centre.
- Cwmbran shopping centre was different and saw less issues because it was privately owned land, and because of which the Security were able to remove any people who were causing ASB.

The Chair thanked them for their time and answering the Members questions.

Housing Needs Manager

The attendee introduced himself and outlined his professional views on the revised PSPO. There had been an increase in household debt across the country and this was well documented and well publicised. This, the Officer claimed, was a direct result of central Government welfare reform. The increase in food bank usage and people seeking charitable donations was also evidence to the fact that parts of the population were struggling. The Manager believes that at the most acute end of this scale people were forced into begging. It was made clear to the Committee that Begging and Homelessness were distinctly different and must be treated as such. The impact the possible revised Order would change the approach taken, but it will unlikely solve the problem of begging in an anti-social manner. The Order might have an impact, but it was unlikely that that it would have been seen immediately. It was hoped that more individuals engaging in a more positive manner with services and the infrastructure in Newport reflecting this.

The Committee received the following responses to their questions;

- The Officer informed the Committee that they would look into what had been put in place in Manchester and the work done by the Streetwise team in Bristol to combat begging in an anti-social manner and homelessness.
- It was important to keep in mind that what someone perceived to be anti-social behaviour might not actually be so, like aggressive behaviour in the previous Order what one person finds intimidating another might not. Regarding the size of the exclusion areas around cashpoints, whatever distance made the majority of the public feel safer while using a cash or pay machine would have been the best option.
- Individuals who resorted to begging on the streets did so for a multitude of reasons, but they all felt the need to beg. There were a growing number of people begging with co-occurring issues. These people were more and more likely to be in unsuitable and unsustainable accommodation due to changes to their financial situations and have been caught up in the complex systems for housing and benefits.
- The number of people who receive housing support per year is around 2000 and just under half of these were supported to stop them becoming homeless. This, the Officer stated was just the tip of the iceberg and did not include the number of people who were sofa surfing and living with friends and family. The Wallich were vital in reaching the people most in need that do not make them known to the Council.
- There was a very high demand for hostel beds in Newport and we needed to develop more variety of provisions, like Housing First. There was a waiting list for beds in hostels. To increase the number of beds we were working with Eden Gate to create a year round service and other buildings for hostel use. The increase in demand seen has been a result of legislative changes in Wales according to the Officer.
- The Supporting People programme, and other schemes being created to support people to move into sustainable accommodation. This included partnership working

with Llamau to provide 'move on' units for young people, as well as increasing the amount of supported living housing available.

- Newport would be taking a lead on the Homeless Network, which is made up of Managers from each LA in Wales to tackle homelessness and improve supporting accommodation. The Homeless Network directed a lot of work done by Welsh Government. On a regional level a strategy had been developed to manage homelessness and housing stock. There were also local Newport only groups that meet to address the problems of Newport. Which were very different to those problems in Monmouthshire or Blaenau Gwent.
- There might be individuals using the lifestyle to illicit financial gain, but as no survey had been completed to find out the numbers of these individuals, the Officer felt unable to provide an answer. The PSPO will hopefully ensure that those people who were begging due to financial need are pushed to seek support to change their lifestyle.
- The Officer informed the Committee of the cyclical lifestyle led by some individuals. This the Officer stated was when an individual was moved from supported housing or a hostel into other accommodation without wrap around support, they were more likely to relapse and lose their accommodation.

The Chair thanked the Housing Needs Officer for his responses and insight into the areas around the PSPO.

South East Wales Area Manager - The Wallich

The Area Manager introduced himself and explained what services The Wallich ran in Newport. The Rough Sleeper Intervention Team delivered a service 5 mornings a week, this service checked on the welfare of the rough sleepers, offered basic humanitarian aid and aimed to create trusting relationships to support them off the streets. The day prior to the meeting the Rough Sleeper Intervention team found 20 individuals in the City Centre. This the Area Manager claimed was not a definitive number as some people liked to remain well hidden for safety reasons and others were reluctant to engage with any services. Rough sleepers choose to use the City Centre due to the protection offered to the weather by the building, the safety offered by the CCTV camera and the generosity and kindness of the people of Newport.

The Area Manager introduced some research to the Committee and stated that 75% of rough sleepers have been physically and verbally abused, spat on and even urinated on. Rough sleepers were 17 times more likely to be a victim of abuse than a general member of the public. The Wallich wanted all city centre spaces to be safe places for all, and they felt that no one should be threatened, bullied or intimidated.

The Wallich felt that the key to the PSPO was sensible enforcement and questioned if the Police had the resources to enforce it. The Manager continued to say that Newport had received some very good publicity after the period of bad weather with how local night clubs had opened its doors and allowed rough sleepers in. Cardiff in comparison has had some very negative publicity for the way the Police have been moving people away from the City Centre.

Some of the concerns of the Charity were that the activity could become dispersed to areas outside of the City Centre, and effectively the reach of some services. This could marginalise the homeless further by them not being welcome in the City Centre, where a lot of services they require were based. This could make The Wallich and other support agencies jobs of supporting these people to get the help and support they need even more difficult.

Around 80% of the people who were engaging with the Wallich in the morning were heroin users. This, the attendee stated, was what drove some people to beg.

The Area Manager gave the following responses to the Committees questions;

- The money raised from the diverted giving scheme would go to fund frontline services. It could also be used to provide grants for services users to access essentials when moving into accommodation from the streets.
- The attendee stood by The Wallich's statement from January where it stated that any ban on begging would further stigmatise homeless people and further exclude them. They also reinforced an earlier comment around the sensible enforcement required by the Police.
- The humanitarian aid included sleeping bags, food and clothing. The Wallich also provided sharp bins and cleaning supplies for the service users to ensure that the areas they used in the City Centre were kept tidy. The majority of service users were dual dependant on alcohol and drugs. This would not allow them to have used night shelters run by the Church, but other night shelters would have been available to them.
- The Area Manager invited any of the Committee Members to visit the Cardiff Wet House run by the Wallich, to see how it worked and to discuss further the impact the Wet House had had on street drinking in Cardiff.
- People who rough sleep were able to claim benefits. The Area Manager would not be able to confirm out of the 20 in Newport, the day before the meeting, how many were in receipt of benefits. The Wallich representative had concerns about how the Universal Credit benefit system had to be completed online. This would have been a barrier for homeless people and if they are pushed out of the City Centre away from places they would be able to access computers and support to use the benefit system they might be at risk of losing their benefits, which might push the individuals to look for alternative income sources like begging and criminal behaviour.
- The Diverted Giving scheme would hopefully make more people feel comfortable supporting homeless people. Some members of the public were unwilling to give money to the homeless because they feared their money would be used to buy drugs. The Diverted Giving scheme eliminates these concerns because the money goes straight to front line services.

The Chair thanked the Area Manager for their time and gave a ten minute adjournment.

The Chair outlined the role of the Committee in providing its comments on the revised order within agenda. The areas for the Committee to comment on where:

1. Flyposting

It was suggested within the report that this be removed from the PSPO within the revised order. The Committee discussed the merits of this remaining within the order, and the suggestion from the Officer that this was no longer an issue within the City Centre and as such should be removed. The Committee were advised that to be included within the PSPO there should be evidence that the associated behaviour was a problem for Newport and that the PSPO was the most effective method of addressing. Flyposting had not been raised as an issue within the consultation responses, and there had been no instances of the PSPO being used since its implementation for flyposting.

The Scrutiny and Governance Manager advised that Committee that if a consensus could not be reached on what the Committee wished to recommend to the Council, that the Committee could agree to present both arguments to the Council for determination. The Committee decided to vote on this matter to confirm the Committee's majority view to present to the Council.

Councillor Guy **moved** that the Committee recommend that the Council remove flyposting from the order, on the basis that the review of effect of the revised order would take place within a year. This was seconded by Councillor Al-Nuaimi. When put to the meeting the motion was declared **carried** by 4 votes to 2, 1 abstention.

2. Street drinking

The Committee **agreed** to recommend to the Council that this measure remain within the revised PSPO:

'No person shall within the restricted area refuse to stop drinking alcohol or hand over any containers (sealed or unsealed) which are believed to contain alcohol, when required to do so by an authorised officer.'

3. Touting for Services/donations

The Committee **agreed** to recommend to the Council that this measure remain within the PSPO within the revised order, but that the wording revised to expand the current PSPO restriction to cover the street trading of services:

'Within the restricted area no street trading including peddling, charity collecting or touting for services, subscriptions or donations unless covered by an existing Police or Council-issued or Council-recognised Street Trading/Charity Collection/ promotions consent, licence or written permission.'

4. Intoxicating /Psychoactive substances

The Committee **agreed** to recommend to the Council that this measure be added to the PSPO:

'Within the restricted area no person shall ingest, inhale, inject, smoke, possess or otherwise use intoxicating substances or sell or supply them. Persons who breach this prohibition shall surrender any such intoxicating substance, or a substance believed to be intoxicating, in his/her possession when asked to do so by an authorised officer.'

Intoxicating substances (psychoactive substances) = substances with the capacity to stimulate or depress the central nervous system. Exceptions: alcohol, tobacco, food & drink, and where substances are for used for valid and demonstrable medical use.'

5. Dogs to be on a lead

The Committee **agreed** to recommend to the Council that this measure remain within the revised PSPO:

'Any person in charge of a dog within the restricted area shall be in breach of this Order if he/she fails to keep the dog on a lead (of no more than 1.5 metres in length).'

6. Groups/ individuals causing anti-social behaviour

The Committee **agreed** to recommend to the Council that this measure be added to the PSPO:

'Within the restricted area no person shall behave (either individually or in a group) in a manner that has caused or is likely to cause a member of the public to suffer harassment, alarm or distress by that behaviour. Persons who breach the above shall, when ordered to do so by an authorised person, disperse either immediately or by such time as may be specified and in such a manner as may be specified.'

7. Begging in an anti-social manner

It was suggested within the report that the wording for this measure within the PSPO be revised to make it easier to enforce on begging related ASB and set an exclusion zone around cash points. The Committee discussed the merits of this rewording, and whether it would be remain difficult to enforce in its original form. One Member expressed a view that that begging in any form should be removed from the order as it does not solve the underlying issues around begging. Another Member expressed the view that it would be better to have a blanket ban on begging to make it easier to enforce, without what was could still be perceived as subjective wording of 'antisocial behaviour.'

Councillor Al-Nuaimi **moved** that the Committee recommend to the Council that the order be revised to the following wording (as suggested within the report):

'Within the restricted area no person shall beg within 10 metres of a cash or payment machine, nor beg in a manner that has caused or is likely to cause a member of the public to suffer harassment, alarm or distress by that behaviour.'

This was seconded by Councillor Ferris. When put to the meeting, the motion was declared **carried** by 5 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Cllr C Evans asked that it be noted that in his opinion the PSPO was not working, and had not been effective at addressing the antisocial behaviour as it was intended, and as such he had abstained from voting on the recommendations to Council.

The Committee discussed the need to ensure the ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the PSPO within the City Centre. The Committee **agreed** to include a review and monitoring of the implementation of the PSPO on the Scrutiny Work Programme 12 months after its adoption.

As part of this review, the Committee will consider how the PSPO has been used and enforced by the Council and the Police, and how effective this has been in addressing and reducing anti-social behaviour in the city centre.

Following on from the consideration of this report, the Committee agreed to request a report on consultation and engagement within the Council, outlining the corporate approach to consultation and any planned actions to improve the level and quality of engagement for public consultations. This should include:

- Length of the questionnaires:
- Closed / leading questioning:
- Methods in which the public are engaged – website, face to face, social media, focus groups, public meeting etc:
- Methods of increasing response rates and what is done to ensure cross section representative of the public respond:

It should also reference the examples and issues that have been raised by the Committee in relation to the consultation undertaken on City Centre PSPO, and previously raised by the Committee in relation to the Annual Budget Proposals.

4 **Forward Work Programme**

The Committee discussed the forward work programme, in particular the items on the next two Committee meetings.

The Members discussed how the Newport Transport AGM was at the same date as the next meeting. The Committee decided to look for alternative dates and postpone the meeting if possible.

Actions

The Committee **agreed** to note the items scheduled for the next two meetings.

The meeting terminated at 2.30 pm

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Scrutiny Report

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 21 June 2018

Subject Corporate Safeguarding (2017 -18) Executive Summary

Author Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee	Title
Mary Ryan	Corporate Safeguarding Manager
Sally Ann Jenkins	Head of Children and Young Peoples Services

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to

1. Consider the Annual Corporate Safeguarding Executive Summary report, to scrutinise and review the progress of the key priority work plans for both corporate safeguarding arrangements and the safeguarding specific teams.
2. Determine if it wishes to make any comment / recommendations to Cabinet regarding the report and the how the Council is managing corporate safeguarding.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 Safeguarding, whether concerning children or adults is of paramount importance and accordingly occupies a high priority within the Council's services.
- 2.2 Hitherto, reports on aspects of safeguarding responsibilities of the Council have been reported in the past to a joint Committee or individual Committees whom the relevant safeguarding matters relate to. This has been programmed for scrutiny on a regular basis annually.

- 2.3 Safeguarding is a complex topic in so far as safeguarding responsibilities are present in all aspects of Council Services and external life activities. The theme of safeguarding is therefore present in all aspects of Council Services, functions and duties. Due to the overarching corporate significant the Corporate Safeguarding and relating Individual Teams Key Priority Plans are being brought to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.
- 2.4 This report combines the relevant portfolio areas for Committees with scrutiny safeguarding roles and enables the topic of safeguarding across the spectrum to be addressed at the same time.
- 2.5 The report firstly seeks to make Members aware of the scope and detail of the Council's safeguarding services and role of the Committees at the Joint Meeting will be to monitor the performance of each element of the services provided and to comment on planned activity for the coming period.in order to plan for the theme of "safeguarding" becoming fundamentally embedded within all aspects of council services.,
- 2.6 In order to maintain and improve understanding of the services provided and roles associated with safeguarding, as Councillors and Scrutiny Members specifically, Members are also asked to endorse the planning and future provision of suitable training through a range of opportunities.

Previous Consideration of Corporate Safeguarding

- 2.7 In the previous term, the issue of Corporate Safeguarding was considered through a joint meeting of the Learning, Caring and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Community, Planning and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.8 The Scrutiny Committee's had a Joint meeting in November 2016, which was to present the Annual report on Corporate Safeguarding, covering safeguarding and Corporate safeguarding arrangements and an update on the Safeguarding Unit Team plans. At this meeting the Committee agreed to monitor on an annual basis.
- 2.9 The annual update on Safeguarding is scheduled on the work programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for March this year. As Scrutiny is not a decision making forum, the Scrutiny Committee's review and subsequent comments / recommendations on this matter will be reported to the Cabinet for consideration and action.
- 2.10 As Elected Members, and Scrutiny Members, the Committee has an important role in considering the arrangements that the Council has in place for Safeguarding, Corporately and for those in direct contact with vulnerable groups.
- 2.11 The Committee received this report at the previous meeting but the Officers were unavailable for questioning. The Committee requested that the Officers provide additional information and present the information in a different way to increase their access to the most important information. The minutes from this meeting can be found [here](#).

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 Attached at **Appendix 1** is the Annual Corporate Safeguarding Executive Summary update. This report provides key information on the topic of "safeguarding" for members, provides information on how well the council is achieving on its safeguarding arrangements, and provides a specific focus on the areas in which the performance is AMBER or RED.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Establish whether associated key priorities and themes are appropriately addressed within the Action Plan (2018/2019) and planned actions are geared to meet the objectives within the timescale concerned.
- Determine whether there are any perceived areas of practice where objectives are not effectively addressed or met (both Corporate or within specific work plans of the Safeguarding Unit)
- Consider whether the structure for the Newport Safeguarding Unit Structure and Individual Teams Key Priority Plans is appropriate to meet the Council's responsibilities for safeguarding matters.
- Consider whether an adequate monitoring and performance management framework and measures are in place to ensure an appropriate level of management on an ongoing basis and to consider possible arrangements for the Committee to implement.
- Consider the level of planning and future provision of suitable training through a range of opportunities for Members in their roles as Councillors and Members of Scrutiny Committees.

4.1 Suggested Lines of Enquiry

The following broad lines of enquiry have been adapted from the Centre for Public Scrutiny / Improvement and Development Agency 'Safeguarding Children Scrutiny Guide' as areas to consider when thinking about safeguarding both children and adults:

4.1.1 Partnership Working:

- Is the relationship between the Council and the Regional Safeguarding Boards (SEWSCB; GWASB; VAWDASVB) clear and working effectively to improve outcomes for children and adults?
- Scrutiny arrangements - Is the Scrutiny Committee for Partnerships aware of all relevant partnerships and are they included on their Forward Work Programme?

4.1.2 Quality and Performance:

- Is there evidence that learning from the regional boards leads to service improvement at system and frontline practitioner level? For example, how embedded and integrated is the learning following Child Practice Reviews/ Adult Practice Reviews to local practice within Newport Social Services?
- How is the Council and the Regional Safeguarding Boards gathering and using the experiences of children, young people and families to inform improvements to safeguarding arrangements?
- Is there a robust assessment process in place for both children and adults who may have care and support needs and are outcomes well understood?

4.1.3 **Practice:**

- Are universal services supporting vulnerable children well and are there adequate and effective early intervention or prevention services in place for children and families? What safeguards are there to protect children and families from inappropriate child protection interventions?
- Are services reaching the most vulnerable groups e.g. children with disabilities, children in families affected by substance misuse, domestic violence or parental mental illness and children from refugee and asylum seeking communities?
- Do all Care and Support Plans contain specific, achievable, focussed outcomes intended to safeguard and promote the well-being of the person?
- Are these plans measureable and are those care and support plans for children identified in need of protection independently reviewed?
- What is the quality and frequency of supervision and training given to frontline staff? Does supervision routinely address safeguarding practice and performance?
- Role of Members – is the role for Members clear, and accountable?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

5.1 The Corporate Safeguarding report included a number of attachments for information purposes; these have been included as a supplementary document online and can be found (here):

1. 'Overview of Safeguarding' Members training
2. Newport City Council Safeguarding Statement (October 2017)
3. Newport City Council Safeguarding Child Protection Policy and Procedure (October 2017)
4. Newport City Council Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy and Procedure (October 2017)
5. Newport City Council Safeguarding in Education Child Protection Policy (2017)
6. Safeguarding Champion Briefing (2017)

6. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Well-being Objectives	Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment	Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities	Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient	Build cohesive & sustainable communities
Corporate Plan Commitments	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
Supporting Function	Modernised Council			

7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

7.1 General questions

- What evidence is provided to demonstrate WFGA has been / is being considered?
- Is there evidence of links to Wellbeing Plan?
- How are the Wellbeing goals reflected in the policy / proposal / action?
 - *A prosperous Wales*
 - *A resilient Wales*
 - *A healthier Wales*
 - *A more equal Wales*
 - *A Wales of cohesive communities*
 - *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language*
 - *A globally responsible Wales*
- Does the update on Corporate Safeguarding demonstrate how as an authority we are working in accordance with the sustainable development principles from the act when planning services?
 - Long Term -** *The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs*
 - Prevention -** *How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives*
 - Integration -** *Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies*
 - Collaboration -** *Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives*
 - Involvement -** *The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.*

8. Background Papers

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)
- [Centre for Public Scrutiny \(CfPS\) Practice Guide – Safeguarding Children](#)
- Learning, Caring and Leisure Scrutiny Committee (15 April 2015)
- Joint meeting of the Learning Caring and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Community Planning and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee – November 2016.

Report Completed: 12th June 2018

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

Authors: Safeguarding Service Manager
Consultant Social Worker- Safeguarding
Date: February 2018

Purpose: To establish an annual corporate safeguarding report which monitors, scrutinises and plans on the theme of “safeguarding” becoming fundamentally embedded within all aspects of Council services, functions and duties.

To provide Scrutiny with essential and key information to build their understanding and knowledge on the topic of “safeguarding” in order to allow them to effectively scrutinise the Council’s safeguarding practice.

To update Cabinet members on the work that has been undertaken to improve arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults who require specific Council services and to ensure that these arrangements are effective.

The Committee is asked to scrutinise and review the progress of key priority work plans for both Corporate Safeguarding arrangements and the safeguarding specific teams.

Summary: The amalgamation of Adult, Children and Education safeguarding services in Newport council is now embedded and effective communication between all three sectors is established. The inclusion of the VAWDASV legislation is also interwoven with each service area as the Ask and Act requirements dictate.

This is the first review of the annual corporate safeguarding report. The original report was established in November 2016 and sought to synthesise the various safeguarding reporting strands into one Corporate Safeguarding report which provides scrutiny information on how well the council is achieving on its safeguarding arrangements. Since the development of this report there have been significant changes in the quality assurance measures which are required to be reported on within the Director’s report for Social Services (formerly the annual council reporting format – ACRF), this has meant that there has been some change in the required key performance indicators for “safeguarding” specifically. Although it will remain the principal objective of the annual Director’s Report for Social Services to report on these performance measures the safeguarding specific indicators have been extrapolated and have been provided as performance measures for scrutiny purposes within this report for members to be aware of. The full report is extensive to ensure members are fully aware of the Corporate responsibilities and also the specific service delivery performance reporting and action plans for continuous improvement.

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

The report is therefore presented in two parts:

Part one:

Provides members with the corporate over view in terms of safeguarding requirements and arrangements based upon the Welsh Audit Office “Review of Corporate Arrangements in Welsh Councils” (October 2014), used to form the basis of the reporting format and structure, and additionally provides the “safeguarding” specific quality measures as defined within the Director’s report for Social Services.

It is important for members to recognise that safeguarding is a statutory function within the Social Services and Well-being Act (2014) and since the implementation of the Act processes for national reporting and local safeguarding boards are a requirement. The full report enables members to view the National and Local safeguarding arrangements with hyper-links attached.

Part two:

Presents the key priority work plans for each team incorporated within the Safeguarding Unit for Newport City Council and allows members to scrutinise and reflect upon the work being undertaken to ensure effective safeguarding arrangements are in place for children and adults in Newport.

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

1. Background

The full report covers in more detail the following:

- **What is safeguarding?**

Members are provided with a full definition of safeguarding for both children and adults. The legislative context is explained and the expectations of all staff when they join Newport City Council and training that is available and mandatory.

- **Safeguarding in a Legislative and Policy Context**

VAWDASV legislation and safeguarding The Violence against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2014 is part of wider safeguarding that the council have responsibilities to understand and complete. The inclusion of the hyper-linked clips is to enable members to increase awareness and role within the council on this agenda.

- **What are our Corporate responsibilities regarding safeguarding?**

Quantitative data The duty on the council to produce measures for Welsh Government are limited within safeguarding currently but we have included a narrative column explaining the data. This will be bench marked against identified for reporting purposes within the Directors report for social services and reported to Welsh National measures next year. As a local authority we also record and monitor our own local safeguarding performance measures to quality assure our performance and planning, this data is recorded within the team specific action plans in part 2 of the report

Qualitative data The brief table regarding 'People reporting that they feel safe' is a Welsh Government requirement that was introduced last year.

- **Planned developments to enhance safeguarding within Newport?**

The Part 1 corporate safeguarding action plan (Welsh Audit Office template) is evidence of the work completed and what we continue to address in the forthcoming year. Future challenges for the Council in discharging the legal duty are itemised.

- **Elected Members 'Safeguarding' training** Safeguarding training events and plans for further awareness raising topics to be available to all members during the next year.

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

- **E-Learning and training** VAWDASV required eLearning for the whole council is reported to Welsh Government and the first table identifies the numbers of staff that have to complete the training, the second table (graph) evidenced what each service area have completed the required e-learning.
- **Relaunch 'Safeguarding Involves us All' campaign** Reviewed and refreshed new suite of policy documents to be approved and then relaunched across the council, website, specific teams and the development of the safeguarding champions role within each service area.
- **Corporate Safeguarding Action Plan**

The following is an extract from the full table within the report, containing the red and amber measures:

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

2. Key Priorities/ Themes for Corporate Safeguarding (RED AND AMBER ONLY) (2017/2018)

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
<p>Review the Corporate Safeguarding Policies and Procedures developed in 2014 to ensure they are Act Compliant and relaunch the suite of documents across all service areas to ensure that all Council employees are aware of their responsibilities.</p>	<p>Safeguarding documents to be reviewed by lead authors (education/ adults/ children) to ensure they are compliant with the SSWB Act.</p> <p>Work with HR/ Legal to establish a process for recognising “failure to act” in safeguarding circumstances as a potential disciplinary matter and reflect this within the corporate mission statement of safeguarding.</p> <p>Documents to be re-launched utilising the intranet resource and notification via the staff e-bulletin to ensure all employees know where to access the information.</p>	<p>Education Policy Completed (September 2017) Children’s Policy review by end of November 2017</p> <p>Adult’s Policy review by end of November 2017 Completed, ratified by CSMT, need to be relaunched</p> <p>Proposal of process to be submitted to Heads of Service for preliminary discussion by March 2017 Outstanding-18/19</p> <p>Policy relaunch and dissemination Outstanding-March 18</p>	<p>All Employees will know basic safeguarding information and their responsibilities regarding safeguarding as an employee will be clearly communicated and understood.</p>	<p>Green Policies have been updated in line with new Act</p> <p>Where we are currently: Amber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policies need to be relaunched as part of safeguarding awareness campaign - Need to work with legal and HR re. “failure to act”

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
To meet the WAO recommendations the council should confirm the "senior lead officer who is accountable for safeguarding and protecting children and young people with corporate responsibilities for planning improvements"; and the "appointment of a lead member for safeguarding"	Heads of adult and children services raise at corporate level and agree appropriate representation highlighting importance of the role	Within forthcoming quarter for 2018	All Staff will be aware of the following identified persons identified with Safeguarding responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Senior Lead Officer: James Harris (Strategic Director- People) - Lead Member for Safeguarding: Councillor Paul Cockeram (Cabinet Member for Social Services) 	Amber This information will be publicised within the Safeguarding Awareness Campaign and via the safeguarding champions network; wider staff news information; intranet "safeguarding" section
Agree designated corporate safeguarding champions within all Council Service Areas who will be responsible for championing "safeguarding" within their service area and providing advice and direction for staff within the service area should a query/ concern arise.	Nominations for champions for each service area to be requested by Heads of Service/ Safeguarding Service Manager. Identified Champions Register to be created by the Safeguarding Unit. The register should be held centrally by Human Resources and updated should an identified champion no longer hold that position. Champions' names and contact details to be published on the intranet safeguarding tab and communicated via e- bulletin. Champions to be briefed/ supported in respect of their role by	March 2018 All information prepared and ready for nominations from each service area. Schedule of meetings to be agreed for the year to establish the safeguarding champions network Register to be held in HR and reviewed at each	Every service area reflects that "safeguarding" is a key priority/ theme embedded within all services being delivered by the Council. All employees will feel that they know who and how to contact the right person within the organisation should they have a query or concern. Improvement in how information on safeguarding is shared across the organisation collectively.	Amber "Safeguarding Champions" briefing and requirements have been ratified by CEO and will now require to be presented to Heads of Service Areas to identify an appropriate employee (Document attached as appendices for Members to view- attachment 6) Clear strategy for taking forward in18/19 will be evidenced through staff news and as part of all service areas information.

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
	<p>the Safeguarding Unit (QA/ Service Manager) ensuring they are aware of the safeguarding policies and processes of who to contact/ where to direct and access information on safeguarding generally and in specific circumstances.</p> <p>Review with service leads if the Action plan in each service area reviewed by People Portfolio Board outlines safeguarding training as a key priority</p>	<p>network meeting to ensure correct officers in post.</p>		
<p>Develop a system to identify, track and monitor compliance with attendance at safeguarding training in all council departments, elected members, schools, governors and volunteers and to identify and prompt those staff members who require refresher safeguarding training as part of their role.</p>	<p>Corporate e-learning induction regarding safeguarding information to be reviewed by Quality Assurance (Safeguarding Unit) with People and Business Change (Jane Westwood- Gover). Amendments to the e-learning module to be ratified through Heads of Service and Cabinet.</p> <p>Work with People and Business Change to identify all those staff/ positions which require additional/ refresher safeguarding training and then devise a register and monitoring process.</p> <p>General Safeguarding” training provided to all Members (Nov 2017) and an offer extended to members to provide a rolling programme of safeguarding</p>	<p>August 2017</p> <p>August 2017</p> <p>November 2017</p>	<p>There is a corporate safeguarding register which identifies those staff members who require additional/ refresher safeguarding training beyond the corporate induction process. Those identified employees will be notified and can be monitored through the system to ensure that they have attended the required safeguarding training proportionate to their role.</p> <p>The council will be able to demonstrate via evidence (data) that those employees who require refresher/ additional safeguarding training are compliant.</p> <p>All council members have awareness in respect of their</p>	<p>Amber Page Tiger will be used as the new corporate induction- will work with Business Change to further this once established, new induction occurring from March 2018</p> <p>Amber Need to meet with HR and training department to track additional refresher training processes and to monitor and track the e-learning completion requirements for VAWDASV</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
	awareness training sessions on specific issues (ie. CSE, DOLS)		safeguarding duties and responsibilities	<p>Green Overarching safeguarding delivered to Members.</p> <p>Amber Agree ongoing Member specific safeguarding training/awareness to be timetabled throughout the year.</p>
<p>Improve how “safeguarding” information is communicated externally to the citizens of Newport in order to ensure that our citizens know who to contact if they need information, advice or assistance and to promote the Council's commitment to safeguarding by communicating essential information and highlighting where changes have or will be made (ie. Legislation/ Policy/ Council Procedures).</p>	<p>Remove the former Safeguarding Children in Newport (SCIN) website as this is redundant due to the regional board establishment.</p> <p>Update the “safeguarding” information on the external website to ensure it reflects the new SSWB Act and include useful information (ie. definitions of “adult at risk” and the new duty to enquire); links to regional safeguarding boards (adults and children).</p> <p>Future development on this section of the website to include links to endorsed partner agencies videos/ resources/ information for young people/ parents/ carers on specific safeguarding topics</p>	<p>January 2017</p> <p>January 2017</p> <p>August 2017</p>	<p>Citizens of Newport will be provided with essential and relevant information on “safeguarding” with the anticipated outcome that they feel that their health, well-being, human rights and opportunity to live in a community free from harm, abuse and neglect is being promoted and supported by the local authority.</p>	<p>Amber Established that Gwent Police communication and digital team maintain the site, request has been made for the site to be taken down. Links to Gwent Safeguarding Board available instead- need to check this is on Council internet page</p> <p>Need to update the safeguarding intranet page with new policies, safeguarding champions details, add safeguarding links on the intranet page for safeguarding topics (ie. CSE) once re- launch campaign completed</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status

Part 2- Safeguarding Unit Individual Teams Key Priority Plans

Individual Teams Key Priority Plans

The full reports presents the key priority work plans for each team incorporated within the Safeguarding Unit for Newport City Council and allows members to scrutinise and reflect upon the work being undertaken to ensure effective safeguarding arrangements are in place for children and adults in Newport.

1. **Child Sexual Exploitation 2017/18 Team**
2. **Independent Reviewing Officers/ Safeguarding Administration**
3. **Safeguarding in Education**
4. **Quality Assurance (Children's Services)**
5. **Local Authority Designated Officer**
6. **Adult at Risk**
7. **Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence**

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

1. Child Sexual Exploitation - Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
<p>Protect: Measures in place to ensure children are protected from CSE and that agencies are acting appropriately to reduce risks and protect children.</p> <p>Agencies to work together to ensure effective safety planning and disruption tactics are employed to tackle CSE in Newport.</p> <p>Agencies to work together to develop services that are appropriate and effective in meeting identified needs.</p>	<p>7) Weekly CCM report detailing CSE strategy meetings held and outcomes agreed</p> <p>8) Review of strategy meetings and agreed actions to ensure processes are followed and actions are appropriate to safeguard</p> <p>9) Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation Meeting (MASE) trial in Newport</p> <p>10) Development of Forest Lodge Residential Unit</p>	<p>7) Ongoing</p> <p>8) Ongoing</p> <p>9) Commenced October 2016 and following trial, agreed to continue and to be rolled out across Gwent.</p> <p>10) Partially completed and some changes are ongoing</p>	<p>Robust system where inappropriate decision making can be quickly identified and challenged.</p> <p>Robust system to ensure effective multi-agency planning to safeguard the child/ren.</p> <p>Annual case audit identifies improved outcomes for children</p> <p>Reduction in SERAF score</p> <p>Reduction in numbers of children at high risk of CSE in Newport</p>	<p>Amber – work is underway, but not fully completed.</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

2. Independent Reviewing Officers/ Safeguarding Administration Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
To maintain current levels of performance for LAC reviews and Adoption Reviews	Monthly report from CCM Develop different ways to review cases utilising technology when required	Ongoing March 2018	Annual Performance Indicator Annual performance Indicators and increase in compliance for LAC reviews	Green Monthly reports in place Amber ; technology being identified and liaison with front line teams ongoing.
Develop a Monitoring System to increase service user participation in Lac reviews.	Recording and reporting system to be developed in Liaison with Performance Information Team. Develop different methods for consultation with young people utilising modern technology where appropriate	March 2018 March 2018	When there are clear indicators that service user participation is increasing. Increase in service user participation and feedback from them via consultation process	Amber Different approaches are being looked at and service users will be consulted in due course. Amber Service user participation is sporadic at present.
System to raise legitimate concerns in regard to Looked after children by their IRO which clearly holds people to account and helps to raise concerns and drive up standards of care.	Utilise IRO concerns via children's case management system. Develop clear monitoring and recording system to capture this information over time.	March 2018	Positive feedback from service users and their carers as well as other professionals. Feedback forms to be developed.	Amber System currently in place but has not been monitored over time or feedback sought.
System and Guidance to be produced to ensure that the IROs are kept updated in regard to Looked After Children in line with The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015	Guidance to be produced for all front line social workers to ensure compliance with the current regulations.	March 2018	Positive feedback from IROs and service users that all relevant information and consultation has taken place.	Amber System is currently sporadic and has not been monitored over time.

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

3. Safeguarding in Education Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
To develop more robust education safeguarding monitoring systems, including self-evaluation tools *ESMT priority 4	Termly monitoring of all school SG policies Monitoring of schools' safeguarding training: whole-school, SG Leads, governors. Collating audit action plans Audit visits to schools (min. 4 per term)	Data base in place Sept 2017 Half-termly monitoring/reviewed in Supervision. From Oct 2017 Ongoing	100% of schools with current policies in place. 100% of schools with current training in place. 100% of schools completed audits. Audit visits demonstrate effective safeguarding practice in place.	Amber 94% of schools have completed
To develop the training programme for designated safeguarding leads in schools.	Develop the half day training provision for Designated Leads and offer this on a termly basis. Put in place termly network meetings for DSPs, ensuring current safeguarding priorities are shared. Engage other professionals, particularly Duty & Assessment team. Ensure consistency of whole-school Safeguarding training	Termly from June 2017 Termly for May 2017 From May 2017 (train the trainer event)	Positive evaluations from training Positive Evaluations from meetings School safeguarding audit records/school audit visits	Amber Train the trainer to be implemented

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

4. Quality Assurance (Children's Services) - Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
To develop a quality assurance framework to audit and scrutinise the practice occurring within social work teams in order to inform practice improvements and areas of risk for the organisation.	Review the process of Team Manager Audits.	June 2018	Robust quality assurance framework will be in place which informs senior managers of current practice and any areas for improvement. Evidence of progress in regional development of action plans and practice as developed by the regional boards.	Amber There has been a delay in reintroducing the team manager audit cycle due to the Principal Officer and CSW requiring completing projects in addition to their main workstreams in addition to covering redaction work and SGO case management whilst awaiting recruitment to the vacant SWA post.
	Implement a process for the use of Independent Reviewing Officer Monitoring documents.	June 2018		
	Complete bespoke audits as required.	On-going		
	Work collaboratively with regional safeguarding boards on multi-agency quality assurance.	On-going		
	Support and Facilitation of Multi-Agency Supervision Sessions regionally.	On-going		
Support and facilitation of Regional Practice Reviews (including Learning Events; Child Practice Reviews) and implementation of learning.	On-going			

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
<p>To develop and implement a process for “safeguarding” as a key theme to be incorporated and embedded within the duties and functions throughout all Council Service Areas.</p>	<p>Developing the corporate safeguarding report for annual scrutiny</p> <p>Reviewing the corporate safeguarding requirements against the WAO report (2014) for members to be informed of how well the council is achieving in its safeguarding duties and functions in addition to the national measures</p> <p>Revising the “Safeguarding” information shared currently within new starter induction processes</p> <p>Establishing a “safeguarding” refresher training module for ALL staff members to access at specific points within their employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 2016 (completed) • November 2016 (Completed) • March 2018 • March 2018 	<p>An annual corporate safeguarding report established and data/ narrative evidences that the council is effectively meeting its safeguarding responsibilities.</p> <p>All staff members and elected members will feel that they know the right level of information about safeguarding and understand their duties both corporately and individually.</p>	<p>Amber</p> <p>As identified within the corporate safeguarding action plan (part 1) there is outstanding work in relation to the development of e-learning and the safeguarding information provided at the point of induction. This work in addition to the identified work of developing a system to track and monitor employee safeguarding training (as identified in part 1 action plan) will continue throughout 18/19</p>

5. Local Authority Designated Officer - Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

No red or Amber Measures.

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

6. Adult at Risk - Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
Evaluate the model of adult protection in Newport to include consideration to manage the increasing demands of the service	Review process in line with the new Social Services and Well Being ACT requirements. Training to assist staff in the implementation of the Act both internal and external services.	Working in partnership with the first contact team is in progress. GWASB regional training packages have been updated and ratified. These training packages are available through the Newport City Council training resource.	Safeguarding becomes a standing item on supervision policies and processes. Timely reporting of adults at risk and performance measure of duty to enquire completed within timescales.	GREEN
	Safeguarding Hub pilot project will provide opportunities to re model the adult Safeguarding initial screening and evaluation process. Multi agency decisions provide a robust response to initial concerns.	Regular reviews of the Hub to include collection of agreed data. A pathway and workflow is also under development across adult services.	Performance improves due to clear pathway and workflow for practitioners. Specific date to measure the success if the Safeguarding Hub.	AMBER
	Consider re-introducing a rota of Designated Lead Managers (DLM) across Adult Services to offer resilience to the adult safeguarding team.	Previous discussions and training of staff failed to produce a robust contingency plan due to other adult service pressures.	Agreed process and rota in place.	AMBER
	Practitioners to be skilled in recognising and responding to concerns of Human	Maintain links with relevant agencies and ensuring that practitioners understand legal requirements and	Data collection through workforce development to quantify training needs and attendance.	AMBER

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
	<p>Trafficking, modern day slavery and Radicalisation.</p> <p>Develop links with Human trafficking MARAC process and regional modern day slavery and human trafficking delivery group.</p>	<p>reporting mechanisms.</p> <p>Agreed process for referral and awareness raising across adult services.</p>	<p>Dissemination of NRM requirements.</p> <p>Clear audit trail of referrals for internal quality assurance.</p>	<p>RED</p>
<p>Support and Empower vulnerable adults through the adult protection process and develop improvements to practice within Newport</p>	<p>The implementation of the Social Services Well Being (Wales) Act has placed emphasis on delivering person centred practices which is being adopted across Adult Services,</p> <p>Practitioners are actively obtaining the wishes of adults at risk through "what matters" conversations.</p> <p>Monitor citizen inclusion/attendance at meetings and voice clearly recorded throughout the process.</p> <p>Advocacy has a direct link with the Safeguarding Hub Pilot Project, advocacy involvement is considered at the start of the</p>	<p>Citizen inclusion throughout the process increases and improves each year, (this includes include family/advocacy), Referrals to advocacy are increasing.</p> <p>Weekly/ fortnightly meetings with advocacy service to consider referrals.</p>	<p>Improved attendance and citizen voice recorded throughout the process.</p> <p>Half yearly reporting on progress and continued development to ensure performance is measured.</p> <p>Data captured within the safeguarding hub.</p>	<p>AMBER</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
	<p>Safeguarding process.</p> <p>The Team is supporting a Task and Finish group to raise awareness of Advocacy Services</p>	<p>GWASB sub group May 2018</p>	<p>Completed and evidenced in practice.</p>	<p>AMBER</p>
<p>The development of an effective information system</p>	<p>March 2018 will bring the implementation of WCCIS.</p> <p>This new system, Eventually adopted across Wales will bring greater sharing of information and a robust process for capturing and recording essential data. Not just for local performance measures but Welsh Government requirements and regional Developments.</p>	<p>March 2018</p>	<p>Improved accurate and accessible data will be provided.</p> <p>The continual improvement of services can be based on the data collected.</p>	<p>AMBER</p>
<p>To raise general public and professional awareness of 'adults at risk' everybody's responsibility</p>	<p>Continue to support the work of the Communication and Engagement Sub group, (GWASB) which includes raising awareness to the public and professionals.</p> <p>Support the development of a new Gwent Safeguarding web site that will provide information in</p>	<p>The Communication and Engagement Group have a detailed work plan for the next 12 months.</p> <p>Launch date in May 2018.</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>Early identification and referral to the safeguarding team will enable an expedient service to prevent further abuse and the need for protections services/ safeguarding plans.</p> <p>Web development completed. Finishing information pages to be added.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>AMBER</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
	<p>respect of Adults, Children and VAWDASV.</p> <p>Newport City Council web based information is accurate and updated regularly (for internal and external access).</p> <p>Task and Finish group is in progress to review and amend literature and leaflets.</p> <p>Arrange meetings and forums with multi-cultural groups within the City to raise awareness of abuse.</p>	<p>July 2018</p> <p>September 2018</p>	<p>As part of the relaunch of the safeguarding policy and process's within NCC, and to be included in the development of the Safeguarding Champions in NCC.</p> <p>Communication and Engagement subgroup in GWASB.</p> <p>Attend the Mosque Forum and community based events to raise awareness of safeguarding in the community.</p>	<p>GREEN</p> <p>AMBER</p> <p>AMBER</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

7. Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence - Team Priorities (Red and Amber only) 2017/2018

What outcomes do we want to achieve? (Objectives to achieve)	How will we make this happen?	When will we achieve this?	How will we know it's making a difference? (Performance measures)	RAG status
<p>Staff trained to Ask and Act, NTF Groups 2 & 3</p> <p>Establishment of VAWDASV 'champions' (trained as Group 3 Ask & Act) across key roles within NCC.</p> <p>'Champions' support staff 'asking and acting'</p>	<p>Test the Train the Trainer model as part of phase 2 early adoption of Ask and Act.</p> <p>In line with NCC's submitted NTF training plan 2017, implementation will start with Education, Adult Services (initially first contact and homecare staff, giving priority to senior staff and 'champions'), then Community Development staff (total 270 staff for Group 2 in 2017 - 18, total 27 staff for Group 3 in 2017 - 18)</p> <p>Group 3 'champions' to be trained first</p> <p>Recruit local authority staff to become trainers and undertake Train the Trainer</p>	<p>End of March 2018</p>	<p>Adult services and community development staff - increased confidence amongst these staff to 'Ask and Act'.</p> <p>Group 3 'Champions' established to support staff that are 'asking and acting'.</p> <p>Data recorded on staff completing 'Ask and Act' enquiries.</p> <p>Rise in referrals to Adult safeguarding determining VAWDASV as a factor.</p>	<p>Red</p> <p>Due to delays with modifying Group 2 and 3 training following phase 1 early adoption (modifying was the responsibility of Welsh Government and WWA), at the end of quarter 2 (2017 – 18) phase 2 Ask and Act training has not recommenced. It is hoped training for Group 2 will commence before the end of quarter 3 and Newport's aim will be to train a total of 135 staff to Group 2 (this represents half the number identified in Newport's training plan 2017 – 18)</p> <p>Gwent is still awaiting confirmation of changes to Group 3 delivery from Welsh Government.</p> <p>The remaining 135 staff</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

				<p>identified for Group 2 Ask and Act training in 2017 – 18, will be trained during 2018 – 19, along with a further 210 staff (if there is the capacity to do so) in line with NCC's submitted NTF training plan for 2018 - 19.</p> <p>The plan is to train 27 Newport staff each year to Group 3 Ask and Act ('Champions') once this training is available.</p>
E-learning for all Council staff	<p>Promotion and staff newsletter and enabling safeguarding champions to be aware of what is required.</p> <p>E learning is under development with Welsh Government and we also need to develop face to face training where e-learning not appropriate.</p>	April 2018 in line with statutory requirement	<p>All staff will have received a basic awareness training and there will be raised awareness across the organisation on aspects of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence</p> <p>Data available on staff completions for NTF Group 1.</p>	<p>Amber</p> <p>At the end of quarter two (end of Sept 2017) 9.9% of Newport CC 's workforce has completed NTF Group 1 learning – this includes e-learning and alternative face to face training.</p>
Member awareness training	E-learning/workshops to be provided	April 2018	Completion by Members. Performance data to evidence completion	Amber

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

At its meeting on 21 February 2018, the Committee received the full Annual Report on Corporate Safeguarding, and made the following comments and requested that the Officers provide the additional information when the item returned;

Committee Comment	Officer response
<p>The Corporate Safeguarding report had been difficult to read and contained vast amounts of information. The information was not easily accessible and understandable to the Committee.</p>	<p>The Officers have provided an Executive Summary for the Committee, summarising the key areas for consideration within the Team Plans. This document pulls together the individual action plans, and highlights all of the red and Amber Measures for the Committee's consideration.</p>
<p>The information included in the report could have been presented in a different manner making the information more useful. One example of this was '4.4 – E Learning and Training' where numbers of staff are provided when percentages would be more effective.</p>	<p>The detail of the full report is necessary to provide the comprehensive Annual update on Corporate Safeguarding to ensure that the Council is meeting its statutory obligations. However officers agree that the formatting of the report of the Annual Corporate Safeguarding could be improved to make this information easier to read and more accessible.</p>
<p>The Committee requested that the Officers complete an 'Executive Summary' of the Corporate Safeguarding report which introduced the report and highlighted its key points. They requested that it contained a table outlining just the AMBER and RED Key Priorities / Themes and associated plans to turn them GREEN with timescales. This they believed would allow them to focus on the most important sections of the report without having to work through the rest of the document.</p>	<p>In light of the concerns raised by the Committee, the Officer will look to refine the report for the 2018/19 update and will ensure that a more cohesive and readable report is produced as part of this update next year to make the information more accessible.</p>
<p>The Members asked if there had been an opportunity to include more statistics. Including comparative statistics from other Local Authorities.</p>	<p>Officers will consider how comparable data will be included when the format is revised for next year. Whilst the Officers agree that National positions Local Authority comparisons would be a useful addition to the report. However, it is noted that since the changes were introduced based on the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, these continue to make benchmarking in this area more difficult.</p> <p>Where the data exists, this will be included in future reporting.</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

Committee Comment	Officer response
<p>The Members asked if the Officers could provide information on the Councils Triage system, if it had one</p>	<p>Across Children's and Adults, there are comprehensive systems to assess all safeguarding work that comes before the Council, there is not one single council triage system.</p>
<p>The Members were interested in the cost effectiveness of the partnerships that Newport takes a lead on. The Members wanted to know if other partners had paid equal amounts</p>	<p>There is limited available information on which to comment on the cost effectiveness of the partnerships. The Partners are contributing financially in accordance with their agreed commitment.</p> <p>The effectiveness of the various partnerships is a matter for consideration by the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships.</p> <p>For example, the Draft Violence Against Women and Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy was presented to the Partnerships Committee in February 2018 before it was adopted. As part of this, the Committee agreed to monitor the implementation of the strategy and specific mention was made to its measurability and how the resources would be utilised from all partners to implement.</p> <p>https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=447&MIId=6969</p> <p>Also on the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships work programme are the following plans / arrangements for implementation relevant to Safeguarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Area Plan • Regional Adoption • Regional Fostering • Regional Youth Offending <p>The Officers agree that a full and meaningful contribution by all partners does need to be an ongoing consideration. As such, the relevant partnerships are looked at when assessing the work programme for the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnership on an ongoing basis and implementation monitored by the Committee.</p>
<p>The Committee wanted to know if the recent budget savings had had an impact on the ability carry out the safeguarding obligations. The Members referenced the Adult Safeguarding Plan in particular, which stated that there was already an increasing demand and service delivery was</p>	<p>Whilst the position with budget savings is challenging, The Council was ensuring that Safeguarding remained a priority and remained secure. However, the resilience was lower as the Committee has noted. This was being closely monitored and reported.</p> <p>The achievement of the Council's agreed savings is on the Performance Scrutiny Committee – People for this year and the Committee will be asking how effectively the Council was achieving the savings within the budget. As part of this. The Overview and</p>

Corporate Safeguarding (2017-18) - Executive Summary

Committee Comment	Officer response
challenging. This was lowering the resilience especially in times of sickness, training and annual leave	Scrutiny Management Committee could recommend that Safeguarding reliance is covered when this is reported back to the PSC – People in October 2018.

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Scrutiny Report

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 21 June 2018

Subject Recommendations Monitoring - Economic Regeneration

Author Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Beverly Owen	Strategic Director - Place
Keir Duffin	Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing
Tracey Brooks	Development and Regeneration Manager

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked

1. Consider the update on the progress made with regard to the Economic Regeneration Strategy (**Appendix 1**) and consider how effectively the strategy has been implemented;
2. Determine if it wishes to make comments to the Cabinet Member in relation to the progress made with the implementation of the Economic Regeneration Strategy.
3. Determine whether it wishes to continue monitoring this matter, or whether it is satisfied that the strategy has been implemented effectively with the desired outcomes.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 A review was undertaken by a Scrutiny Policy Review Group in April 2015 to consider a future Economic Development Strategy for Newport. The process was supported by officers from Regeneration Investment and Housing, and Overview and Scrutiny.

The final Strategy, renamed Newport’s Economic Growth Strategy provided a ten-year vision for the Council, taking into account the needs of Newport in relation to both local and regional vision.

Previous Consideration of this item

- 2.2 Following endorsement by Scrutiny Committee, the Strategy underwent a 6 week consultation period, was reported to the Cabinet in October 2015 and was subsequently adopted by Council at its meeting in November 2015.

A six month progress report was submitted to Scrutiny in July 2016 as an information report. The following details progress up to December 2016. Where data is provided, this is cumulative from January through to December 2016.

Attached at Appendix 1 is an update of the Council's Economic Growth Strategy following its development through Scrutiny Committee in 2015, and its subsequent adoption by Council in November 2015. This report covers the period July-December 2016, and considers next steps for the forthcoming review period of January-June 2017.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 The following information is provided to the Committee:

Appendix 1 - Update on The Council's Economic Growth Strategy.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Suggested Lines of Enquiry

- 4.1 Once a scrutiny review is completed, it is important for the Committee to ensure that the recommendations are followed up and the outcomes reported back. This report is being presented as part of this monitoring process.
- 4.2 The attachment is split into progress on the three priorities in the strategy:
1. *Deliver Shared prosperity - growth should benefit all Newport's citizens.*
 2. *Provide an excellent economic environment - modern cities' economic success relies on aligning physical (including infrastructure), cultural and social improvements to support innovation and growth.*
 3. *Move Newport up the 'value chain' - successful cities need to become more specialised, innovative, connected and productive.*
- 4.3 The Committee may wish to consider the following:
- In relation to the three priorities:
 - How effective has progress been towards these priorities?
 - Are the next steps outlined for the priorities sufficient to drive forward progress in the next 12 months?
 - Is there any additional information required to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of this strategy?
 - How does the Committee want to monitor progress of the implementation of this strategy going forward?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any comments to the Cabinet Member or lead officers?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

Outcomes Monitoring Process

- 5.1 Once a scrutiny review is completed, it is important for the Committee to ensure that the recommendations are followed up and the outcomes reported back. This report is being presented as part of this monitoring process.
- 5.2 The following process is in place for recommendations / outcomes monitoring activity:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations made by Committee and presented to Cabinet / Cabinet Member. • Recommendations monitoring report prepared and presented to next Chair’s briefing after the Cabinet / CM decision. • Chair considers the draft report and determines the next steps from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Satisfied with Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Propose no further action / no action at present but request a report back (within a specified timescale). ○ Electronic copy of the report forwarded to the Committee for information. ○ If any Committee Member objects to the proposed action, they have 5 working days to raise this with the Chair. ○ Unsatisfied with Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Propose the report is presented to Committee meeting / request attendance by CM to discuss. ○ RM report finalised and presented to the Committee in the normal way. ○ Committee determines any further monitoring, including the timescale. • In either case, if a further report is requested the process starts again e.g. draft report to Chair’s briefing to consider progress and determine next steps.
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6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- How does the Officers report work towards achieving the Councils Wellbeing Goals and Corporate Plan Commitments:

Well-being Objectives	Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment	Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities	Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient	Build cohesive & sustainable communities
Corporate Plan Commitments	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
Supporting Function	Modernised Council			

7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

7.1 General questions

- How is this area / policy affected by the new legislation?
- How will this decision / policy / proposal impact upon future generations? What is the long term impact?
- What evidence is provided to demonstrate WFGA has been / is being considered?
- Evidence from Community Profiles / other data?
- (When published:) Evidence of links to Wellbeing Assessment / Objectives / Plan?

7.2 Wellbeing Goals

- How are the Wellbeing goals reflected in the policy / proposal / action?
 - *A prosperous Wales*
 - *A resilient Wales*
 - *A healthier Wales*
 - *A more equal Wales*
 - *A Wales of cohesive communities*
 - *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language*
 - *A globally responsible Wales*

7.3 Sustainable Development Principles

- Does the report / proposal demonstrate how as an authority we are working in accordance with the sustainable development principles from the act when planning services?
 - **Long Term**
The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
 - **Prevention**
How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives
 - **Integration**
Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies
 - **Collaboration**
Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives
 - **Involvement**
The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

8. Background Papers

[Report of the Street Scene, Regeneration and Safety Scrutiny Committee – 30 July 2015](#)
[Minutes of Street Scene, Regeneration and Safety Scrutiny Committee – 30 July 2015](#)
[Minutes of Cabinet 19 October 2015](#)
[Minutes of Council 24 November 2015](#)

Report Completed: May 2018

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Report



Place and Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Part 1

Date: April 2018

Subject Economic Growth Strategy Review

Purpose This report provides monitoring information of the Council's Economic Growth Strategy following its adoption in November 2015.

Author Regeneration Manager

Ward General

Summary This report provides the Committee with an update of the Council's Economic Growth Strategy following its development through Scrutiny Committee in 2015, and its subsequent adoption by Council in November 2015.

Proposal To note the contents and recommendations contained within the update

Action by Scrutiny Committee

Timetable Immediate

Background

- 1 Once a scrutiny review is completed, it is important for the Committee to ensure that the recommendations are followed up and the outcomes reported back. This report is being presented as part of this monitoring process.

Outcomes Monitoring Process

- 2 The following process is in place for recommendations / outcomes monitoring activity:

- Recommendations made by Committee and presented to Cabinet / Cabinet Member.
- Recommendations monitoring report prepared and presented to next Chair's briefing after the Cabinet / CM decision.
- Chair considers the draft report and determines the next steps from the following options:
 - Satisfied with Response:**
 - Propose no further action / no action at present but request a report back (within a specified timescale).
 - Electronic copy of the report forwarded to the Committee for information.
 - If any Committee Member objects to the proposed action, they have 5 working days to raise this with the Chair.
 - Unsatisfied with Response:**
 - Propose the report is presented to Committee meeting / request attendance by CM to discuss.
 - RM report finalised and presented to the Committee in the normal way.
 - Committee determines any further monitoring, including the timescale.
- In either case, if a further report is requested the process starts again e.g. draft report to Chair's briefing to consider progress and determine next steps.

Recommendations Update

- 3 An update on progress against the Economic Growth Strategy priorities appears in Appendix 1.

Proposal

The Committee is asked to consider the progress made as indicated in Appendix 1 of the report and to decide an appropriate course of action in accordance with the outcomes monitoring process outlined earlier in this report.

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

This is a monitoring report. The legal, financial and human resources implications of the Committee's recommendations were addressed in the original reports to Committee / Cabinet. No additional implications arise from the production of this report.

Scrutiny Outcomes Monitoring: Economic Development Strategy Review

Background and Recommendations

A review was undertaken by a cross party Policy Review Group in April 2015 to consider a future Economic Development Strategy for Newport. The process was supported by officers from Regeneration Investment and Housing, and Overview and Scrutiny.

The final Strategy, renamed Newport's Economic Growth Strategy provided a ten-year vision for the Council, taking into account the needs of Newport in relation to both local and regional vision.

Following endorsement by Scrutiny Committee, the Strategy underwent a 6 week consultation period, was reported to the Cabinet in October 2015 and was subsequently adopted by Council at its meeting in November 2015.

A six month progress report was submitted to Scrutiny in April 2017. The following details progress up to the end of December 2017.

Given changes to the economic climate since 2015, including the removal of the Severn Bridge tolls, introduction of flexible funding and the forthcoming City Centre Master Plan refresh, it is recommended that a full review of the Strategy be undertaken.

Next Steps

The Committee is invited to consider the progress made against the priorities summarised in Appendix 1 of the report and to decide an appropriate course of action in accordance with the outcomes monitoring process outlined earlier in this report.

Newport City Council Economic Growth Strategy 2015-2025

The Economic Growth Strategy was adopted by Council in November 2015.

The Strategy has three priorities:

- Deliver Shared prosperity - growth should benefit all Newport's citizens.
- Provide an excellent economic environment - modern cities' economic success relies on aligning physical (including infrastructure), cultural and social improvements to support innovation and growth.
- Move Newport up the 'value chain' - successful cities need to become more specialised, innovative, connected and productive.

Within the Strategy, a Delivery Plan with actions across a three year period was developed. These actions each related to one or more of the three priorities contained within the Strategy. A report has previously been taken to Scrutiny in April 2017.

The following provides an update to December 2017, against a summary of each of the Strategies three priorities, detailing progress and key achievements, and looks at actions that will be taken forward through the next 12 months. Where data is provided, this is based on the period April - December 2017 unless otherwise noted in the text.

Priority 1: Deliver Shared Prosperity

The aim of Priority 1 is to consider how the Council can align physical, social and economic programmes more efficiently, to ensure a more joined up approach to delivery across the Council. Regeneration activities need to work with other council services to maximise opportunities such as community benefit clauses within contracts, and to ensure we are producing a future workforce that are able to meet the needs and expectations of employers.

It is also important both as a Council and a region, that we're able to provide adequate skills to meet future demand, not only for identified regional growth sectors, but also those skills to support other demand sectors such as construction to meet Newport's long term regeneration plans. The strategy identifies the need to work with employers, schools and training providers to ensure adequate opportunities exist to meet this, and other identified demand.

The priority also identifies the risk of polarisation within Newport's neighbourhoods and the need to prevent or slow down the rate by which this is occurring through introducing measures that will have impact in our local communities.

Since the adoption of the Economic Growth Strategy, the Council's Well Being Objectives and Well-being Statement have been published. The Well-being Statement identifies the "Steps" the Council will take to meet its well-being objectives. There is close correlation between these steps and activity within the Economic Growth Strategy, ensuring alignment across Council Policy.

Progress to Date**1. Young People:**

- 1.1. In the first year of delivery the Inspire 2 Achieve Operation supported 1036 young people across the South East Wales region deemed at risk of becoming NEET. Within this period NCC engaged 139 young people aged 11—18 highlighted as "RED" through the Early Identification Tool and most at risk of becoming NEET.
- 1.2. 823 additional individuals at risk of disengaging from education were registered with the project, and provided with 1:1 support (at Quarter 3 of 2017).
- 1.3. 287 young people in NCC secondary schools were referred for school support and are reporting improved attendance at school as a result.
- 1.4. 45 individuals participated in accreditation on the Qualifications

Next Steps**1. Young People:**

- 1.1. WEFO have approved a grant extension in principle for Inspire 2 Achieve up to December 2022 with an additional £2.5 million ESF grant awarded. Grant offer is expected in Summer 2018. Funding will be used to engage a further 640 eligible participants and increase the number of qualifications achieved by participants
- 1.2. Inspire 2 Achieve will continue to support those at greatest risk of leaving education.
- 1.3. Inspire 2 Achieve will continue to receive referrals from the Education Service and target support at improving attendance.
- 1.4. Community regeneration will continue to support those wishing to

Certifications Framework that have accessed further learning, training or employment as a result of participating in the project.

2. Work and Skills

2.1. The Inspire 2 Work WEFO Grant Offer letter confirming approval of the operation to be delivered from the 1st February 2017 was received in April 2017. To date 172 NEET young people aged 16-24 have been supported across the South East Wales region with Newport engaging 19 young people.

2.2. The Journey 2 Work Business Plan was approved in October 2017 with the WEFO Grant Offer Letter confirming delivery for 3 years from the 1st November 2017. The operation was approved to be delivered across Newport, Monmouthshire and Cardiff by Newport City Homes, Monmouthshire Housing Association and Cardiff City Council.

2.3. The Skill@Work Development Group has been meeting regularly to develop its Business Plan for this regional intervention. Partners in the operation were originally Newport City Council, Cardiff City Council, Monmouthshire County Council, Vale of Glamorgan Council and Monmouthshire Housing Association.

3. Community Regeneration:

3.1. Gained approval from SLT to develop a business case for a pilot Neighbourhood Hub in the East of the city. Working with Business Improvement colleagues, Norse, finance, IT and HR to develop structures and infrastructure to deliver the concept.

3.2. £1.2m per annum additional Legacy Fund secured as a result of Communities First and Communities For Work decommissioning. Funding to be deployed to support local people to improve skills and develop employability.

access the framework.

2. Work and Skills

2.1. Approval from WEFO for an extension of the project up to December 2022 has been sought with an additional £1.3 million ESF grant requested. Grant award letter expected Summer 2018.

2.2. To successfully implement and deliver the first year of the Journey to Work operation.

2.3. To gain approval from WEFO for the Skills@Work project to deliver up until December 2022, approval is hoped to be achieved by early Summer 2018

3. Community Regeneration:

3.1. Present the business case to council for approval. Once approval is provided, community consultation and development of works will commence. Additional capital funding will be sought to facilitate development.

3.2. Implement the new programmes from April 1st, ensuring all relevant staff have been transferred, activities are designed to achieve outcomes and deliver services in a manner consistent and complementary to the proposed Neighbourhood Hub model. Implementation of new 'Flexible Funding' model, working with all fund managers and service areas to review activities/ services throughout 2019/20 in order to ensure delivery of joined up

<p>4. Housing Provision:</p> <p>4.1. Figures taken from the 2017 Joint Housing Land Availability Study show numbers of completed dwellings for the year April 2016 March 2017 at 952 dwellings. This represents the highest housing completion rate in Newport for over 25 years and was the highest reported across the South East Wales region for the 12 month period. Affordable housing (TAN 2 definition) accounted for 175 of the 952 units.</p> <p>4.2. For the 2 year period since the adoption of the Economic Growth Strategy, the Housing land Availability Study has recorded 1860 completions, which again is a record level of housing completions for Newport and the S E Region for the 2 year period.</p>	<p>efficient services via the proposed Neighbourhood Hubs.</p> <p>4. Housing Provision:</p> <p>4.1. The Joint Housing Land Availability Study is a process that involves Local Planning Authorities, land owners, developers and planning agents reviewing the amount of land available for housing building over the next 5 years. The 2017 Study estimates that 1,074 new homes will be completed between April 2017 and March 2018, and 698 in the same period for the following year. The 2018 Study will commence in April 2018 and is anticipated to be published during the summer 2018.</p> <p>4.2. Rate of completion to be monitored over the forthcoming year.</p>
<p><u>Priority 2: Create an excellent economic environment</u></p> <p>Priority 2 focuses on the economic environment of Newport, which is well placed to maximise its own growth in addition to its contribution to the South East Wales region, ensuring the city can compete on a wider regional base. There is a need to ensure that the social and economic environment is appealing enough to promote to inward investors and to attract a growing workforce, and that the infrastructure both physical and through services is strong enough to meet the demand of the city's growing and diversifying population.</p> <p>Key to the regeneration of any City Centre is the availability of a strong offer, with contraction of the retail sector balanced by an increased quality of provision along with increased leisure and employment opportunities. The promotion of a 24 hour economy is key to Newport's City Centre regeneration programme, ensuring it is a place people want to work, visit and live in. To achieve this it is essential that visitors and residents perceive a city that is both safer and more attractive.</p> <p>Priority 2 also explores opportunities across the county boundary of Newport, making good, sustainable use of our natural resources so as to ensure the city's growth also minimises its environmental impact, and builds the resilience of businesses, communities, and residents.</p>	
<p><u>Progress to Date</u></p> <p>1. Destination Management</p>	<p><u>Next Steps</u></p> <p>1. Destination Management</p>

- 1.1. A Newport Destination Management Partnership has now been established.
- 1.2. The Newport consumer guide has proven to be extremely popular. Over 14,000 guides have been specifically requested by individuals, with a smaller number downloading. This is a high conversion rate of over 78%.
- 1.3. Whilst the Newport Food Festival continues to gain momentum, a new programme of high-profile events for Newport has been developed in collaboration with partners including the AIBA Boxing WSB France vs Wales series, the first ABP Newport Wales Marathon, The British Transplant Games 2019, the Tour of Britain and Velothon.

2. Rural Development

- 2.1. The Vale of Usk LEADER (Rural Development Programme) and NCC digital team are currently exploring ideas for digital projects in rural Newport including the TV White space project, a newly available broadband technology which will enable rural communities to enjoy the same digital connectivity as in urban areas
- 2.2. RDP projects which have been secured for Newport include research into Visitor Information provision, coach tourism, and support, research into appropriate accommodation development on the Gwent Levels
- 2.3. The bid for the HLF Landscape Partnership has now been approved. Over £2.5 million of grant has been approved to explore opportunities to support communities and businesses along the Gwent Levels. NCC has led on the Visitor Economy Destination management proposals.

- 1.1. To develop a new Newport Destination Management Plan
- 1.2. To progress more RPD projects for NCC rural areas if possible – such as the Green Volunteers programme and support to the Living Levels
- 1.3. To continue delivery of a programme of events that maximise community, health and economic benefits whilst improving visitor numbers and helping to put Newport on the map.

2. Rural Development

- 2.1. To deliver project proposals for improvements to digital connectivity in rural areas.
- 2.2. To conduct research exercises and analysis of findings.
- 2.3. To deploy funding towards opportunities to support rural communities, including an Access and Signage Plan, Interpretation Plan and Marketing Plan. NCC councillors are represented on the Living Levels Board. Whilst much of the match funding has been secured, some match funding is still being sought to deliver these proposals.

3. Development & Regeneration

- 3.1. During the 2 year period since the adoption of the Economic Growth Strategy, Newport has developed 6.98ha of land on new employment land allocations identified in the Local Development Plan. Of this 6.9ha of land was during the period 2015/16 on Newport Docks and Phase 1 of Celtic Business Park. An additional 0.08ha was delivered during the financial year 2016/17 at Newport Docks. A further 3.65ha of land currently has planning permission in place, including 2.5ha for Phase 2 of Celtic Business Park.
- 3.2. Newport City Council has developed a draft masterplan for future development of the City Centre, released for public consultation in January 2018. This document includes major development proposals that will form the focus of funding bids to the Cardiff Capital Region and Welsh Government's Targeted Regeneration Investment fund from April 2018.
- 3.3. Vacant property has reduced from 26.7% at end of December 2016 to 25.8% at the end of December 2017 as a result of a combination of interventions including VVP grants and targeted business support.
- 3.4. Regeneration, Investment and Housing were successful in securing a Townscape Heritage development grant of £177,300 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards the refurbishment of the Market Arcade. Additional funding of £1.1m has been ring-fenced for the delivery of the refurbishment proposals subject to a successful application. Application for Stage II funds submitted in March 2018.
- 3.5. NCC has now submitted a stage 1 bid for HLF to secure funding for the restoration of the Newport Transporter Bridge, and to develop a new visitor centre. HLF have already made a visit to the bridge and had a meeting with stakeholders regarding any

3. Development & Regeneration

- 3.1. Development progress to be monitored and delivered in accordance with the planning process.
- 3.2. Further consultation proceeding in Spring 2018. Details to be summarised by Summer 2018 along with formal launch of Masterplan. Newport City Council will seek to secure future regeneration funding via the Welsh Government's successor programme to Vibrant and Viable Places, the Targeted Regeneration Investment fund (TRI).
- 3.3. Vacant commercial property will continue to be targeted through a range of initiatives, including capital regeneration proposals such as the refurbishment of Market Arcade in addition to the continuation of targeted business support grants encouraging the take-up of empty property. Major private sector investment to be delivered at the former Sorting Office and Chartist Tower.
- 3.4. Stage II £1.1m funding application for Market Arcade refurbishment submitted March 2018; decision from HLF due in June 2018 and refurbishment of the historic arcade expected to commence Autumn 2018
- 3.5. Stage 1 submitted. Trustees meet at the end of April 2018 to determine the next stage.

queries about the proposal. NCC is requesting about £10 million pounds of funding.

4. Community Safety

4.1. The City Centre night time economy showed an improvement against “Purple Flag” criteria: (2014 – 43%; 2015 – 45%; 2016 – 63%) with late night bar/club issues being tackled by the NCC Licensing Team working with the Police.

4.2. Anti-social behaviour is being addressed by partnership working through Public Service Board. Actions include a proactive policing and partnership approach, enforcement and injunctions and the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order for the city centre and for Pill.

5. Future Skills

5.1. The creation of the new Employability and Skills strategy group will coordinate the approach to skills and employment in the city. The commissioning of the skills audit by the group will bring local employers to the agenda ensuring a closer working relationship

6. Infrastructure & Connectivity

6.1. The City Centre Newport Explorer digital system was upgraded with new Smart systems building on the Super connected City status. New Public Realm infrastructure has been delivered.

4. Community Safety

4.1. The Council continues to work towards seeking Purple Flag status for the city centre night-time economy. Partnership assessments against PF criteria showed an improvement in 2016 against previous years: 2014 – 43%; 2015 – 45%; 2016 – 63%. We will be looking to apply for Purple Flag accreditation in Oct 2018 now that a decision has been taken by the Council to take on parking enforcement and the City Centre Public Space Protection Order is being revised with new/amended measures to reduce any anti-social behaviour. The revised PSPO should be approved by Council in July 2018.

5. Future Skills

5.1. The Employability and Skills group recently appointed Wavehill Limited to undertake a Business Skills Analysis to establish current and future needs of employment learning and or training provision within Newport. This study established any skills and or learning gaps within the area and within key sectors of industry as it currently stands and how Newport City Council can look to fill those gaps through increasing the skill set and remodelling learning provisions relating to skills development and for those working within the sectors and those seeking to work within the sectors. All interviews and data collection has now been completed, Wavehill have stated that they received a very positive response to their communications and will have a draft available shortly.

6. Infrastructure & Connectivity

6.1. Additional public realm investment to be delivered at Devon Place as part of refurbishment of the IAC building. Further investment into broadband speed to be delivered in 2018.

Priority 3: Move Newport up the 'value chain': Increased value of economic output

A key element of the Economic Growth Strategy is to look at growing Newport's economic output. Whilst previous priorities have focussed on the Council Services, skills and infrastructure that support the economy, Priority 3 specifically focuses on the need to further develop our support to encourage high value business growth and entrepreneurship across Newport. The priority had two key aims of 'Specialising in high value business growth' and to 'Support indigenous development' through innovative actions that support and promote entrepreneurship.

Progress**1. Inward Investment**

- 1.1. The Economic Regeneration Team maintains strong links with Welsh Government Inward Investment Teams and Business Development Teams and were involved in early stage discussions with Welsh Government on CAF, IQE, and CARPEO. CAF were introduced to Coleg Gwent by the team and a 'meet the employer' event they ran attracted 671 people. CAF, IQE & CARPEO have announced the creation of 2,600 Jobs in Newport over the next few years
- 1.2. Newport has been shortlisted as one of the Heathrow Hubs, with the potential to secure significant manufacturing jobs supporting the provision of materials for the new runway at Heathrow Airport.
- 1.3. The Economic Regeneration Team continue to attend a number of events to promote the services of the Council: events attended to date include Digital Tuesday and Digital 2017 events, Introbiz exhibition, Cardiff LDC Retail event, and the ONS Economic forum
- 1.4. Social media is being used to promote the business support service, grants and to promote Newport as a place to do business. A NCC Business Support Facebook page, and Twitter feed was established and is regularly updated.
- 1.5. Commitment to set up an 'Its Local' business directory, linked to

Next Steps**1. Inward Investment**

- 1.1. The Economic Regeneration Team will continue working with business support agencies (Banks, Development Bank for Wales -- formerly Finance Wales, Business In Focus, Welsh Government) to deliver funding packages and support to Newport based businesses. Increasing links will be made via CCR to develop more regionally-focused packages to support investment in the wider region.
- 1.2. The team will continue working with partners to secure the Heathrow Hub project.
- 1.3. Economic Regeneration Team to continue promotion at events throughout 2018.
- 1.4. New Invest in Newport web presence in development.
- 1.5. To deliver business directory and Newport Business Map

the Newport Business Map. This will promote local businesses and provide supply chain information for inward investors and businesses.

2. Support for SMEs

- 2.1. The Commercial Street/High Street Shop Rent Subsidy was updated to the Vacant Commercial Floor Space Grant to include the wider city centre area and offers up to £6,000 towards 1st year rental costs of vacant shop premises in the city centre. £31,740 in grants was been awarded between April and December 2017
- 2.2. A General Business Development Grant has been created offering upto £4,500 towards Newport businesses looking to grow. £12,866 in grants were awarded between April and December 2017.
- 2.3. NCC had secured further funding in 2017 to deliver the UK Steel Enterprise small business grants scheme. £2,911 was awarded in total UKSE grants between April and December 2017.
- 2.4. In all, a total of 406 businesses were supported April – December 2017 between the three grant streams. 171 jobs were created / supported as a direct result of business support provided.
- 2.5. A One Stop Shop facility has been set up for Newport businesses and provides a single point of contact for Council issues. The team maintains regular contact with other departments within the Council to maintain strong links and to facilitate the service
- 2.6. Collaborative working with a number of organisations including Development Bank for Wales, Natwest and Business Wales to provide business support. Events supported to date include Newport Velodrome Development Bank for Wales Event funding drop in day and Business Clinics run at Newport Indoor Market with providers such as Charter Housing, Business Wales, Business in Focus, Monmouthshire Housing Association.

proposals.

2. Support for SMEs

- 2.1. Vacant Commercial Floor Space grant to continue in 2018/19 and will be targeted at the City Centre area.
- 2.2. General Business Development Grant to continue in 2018/19 focus on supporting existing Newport businesses looking to expand and take on more employees.
- 2.3. UKSE grant support will continue for 2018.
- 2.4. As above, targeted business support grant funding will continue in 2018 to local SMEs.
- 2.5. Business Support officers to continue provision of service.
- 2.6. To continue to deliver a programme of relevant events which support the development of the local business community.

2.7. Two Pop-Up business schools have been sponsored in conjunction with various partner organisations including Business Wales, Charter Housing, Newport City Homes, Monmouthshire Housing and Newport BID resulting in a total of 66 new businesses being created.

2.8. Hosting a table at the M4 Business Breakfast networking event. The quarterly events provide an opportunity to network with local businesses and business support organisations.

2.9. A second Bitesize business event held at The POD in March 2018 and offered local businesses advice on the forthcoming changes to the General Data Protection Regulations.

3. Sector Development

3.1. The Economic Regeneration Team are working in conjunction with Coleg Gwent to support the development of relevant sector skills and attend sectoral forums to support Newport businesses

3.2. Supporting and referring businesses to Innovation Point for specific incubator support for digital SME's.

3.3. Continuing to chair and facilitate quarterly Newport Business Account Manager meetings attended by a number of key organisations from across Newport and the region, including FE's, HE's, Welsh Government, Careers Wales, UK Steel Enterprise, Business Wales, Finance Wales, SE Wales Chamber, Remploy, Job Centre Plus, Princes Trust, local enterprise agencies and housing associations.

3.4. The Construction cooperative did not deliver its 3rd project due to difficulties with the tenant and the programme is currently on hold. Looking to re – establish the programme of work in Q4

2.7. A third Pop Up Business School will be held in June 2018.

2.8. Continue support and sponsorship of the M4 Business Breakfast events.

2.9. To review Bitesize Business events provision in light of local business requirements.

3. Sector Development

3.1. Continue to work with Coleg Gwent to shape curricular requirements.

3.2. Continue to identify and sign-post digital SME businesses for targeted Welsh Government support.

3.3. Continue to facilitate the Newport Business Account Manager meetings in 2018.

3.4. Re-establish the Construction Cooperative through community benefit clauses linked to major capital construction projects (e.g. TRI funding)

General overview:

The Council is working well towards achieving the actions set out in the Delivery Plan with a number of actions already completed, or close to completion. A large number of actions within the plan relate to ongoing activity. This is activity that has been determined to have no defined end, therefore by its nature cannot be completed, and will continue to be delivered by the appropriate service area unless future evidence determines there is no further need.

The Vibrant and Viable Places Regeneration Program was a great success with the team delivering on-time and under budget. The Economic Regeneration team are now working on a HLF project for the Market Arcade and securing funds via Welsh Government's new Targeted Regeneration and Investment (TRI) program for future regeneration projects in Newport. Business Support officers are implementing the third General Business Development Grant which will continue targeting the City Centre in order to increase footfall and decrease vacancy rates at the heart of the City. Existing businesses will also be supported in their aspirations to grow and expand and will contribute towards the Council's commitment to support job creation.

The Inspire2Achieve program was another great success and WEFO has approved in principle an extension until December 2022. The Community Regeneration Team has secured a Legacy Fund of £1.2m per annum to continue to improve skills and employability. Wavehill have also been appointed by the Employability and Skills team to look at current and future skills needs. A £2.5 million HLF fund for businesses along the Gwent Levels has been approved and the Purple Flag status for the city centre night-time economy is an on-going project with the city centre already showing improvements prior to the full assessment.

Whilst the current Strategy is working well, there have been significant changes to the economic climate since 2015, not least the impending removal of the Severn Bridge tolls, the intention to adopt a refreshed City Centre Master Plan and the introduction of flexible funding. It is therefore considered appropriate to undertake a full review of the Strategy and update/refresh the document in order to deliver continued growth over the next 3 years.

Actions: To start work on a refreshed Economic Growth Strategy. In the interim we will continue with the improvements and on-going projects within the 'next steps' part of this document in order to continue improving the lives and prospects of Newport residents and their communities.



Scrutiny Report

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 21st June 2018

Subject Annual Forward Work Programme

Author Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Role
Daniel Cooke	Scrutiny Advisor

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked

1. Consider the draft Annual Forward Work Programme (**Appendix 1**) and determine if it wishes to make any amendments to the programme or if further information is required;
2. Agree the start time for the Committee meetings, and approve the proposed schedule of meetings for 2018/19 (**Appendix 2**).

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 The Centre for Public Scrutiny’s Good Scrutiny Guide recognises the importance of the forward work programme. In order to ‘lead and own the process’, it states that Councillors should have ownership of their Committee’s work programme, and be involved in developing, monitoring and evaluating it. The Good Scrutiny Guide also states that, in order to make an impact, the scrutiny workload should be co-ordinated and integrated into corporate processes, to ensure that it contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.
- 2.2 Scrutiny Committees have limited time and resources and therefore work plans need to be manageable. It is not possible to include every topic suggested by Members, Heads of Service or the Public – successful Scrutiny is about looking at the right topic in the right way and

Members need to be selective, whilst also being able to demonstrate clear arguments for including or excluding topics.

- 2.3 The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) guide to work effective work programming 'A Cunning Plan?' makes the following reference to the importance of good work programming:

'Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well it can help lay the foundations for targeted, incisive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done badly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any work done is likely to be minimal.'

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 The following information is provided to the Committee:

Appendix 1 – Draft Annual Work Programme

Appendix 2 – Draft Schedule of meetings

Draft Annual Work Programme

- 3.2 The draft work programme is being presented to the Committee for consideration following consultation with the Scrutiny Chairs, and Service Areas, and detailed research by the Scrutiny team. It is designed to be a starting point for Members to develop, the work programme for Scrutiny should be Member led.
- 3.3 The attached draft work programme has been drafted using a number of difference sources, including:
- Member identified topics;
 - Cabinet Work Programme;
 - Corporate Risk Register;
 - Previous Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programmes, Agendas and minutes (available online);
 - Policy Framework;
 - Discussions with the Business Improvement Team (Performance Information) and relevant Heads of Service.
- 3.4 There are also items where there is a statutory duty for Policy Framework documents to be considered by Scrutiny, for this Committee this covers the draft budget proposals in January 2019. The Committee will coordinate comments from all of the People and Place and Corporate Scrutiny Committees, and will make comment on the budget process and public engagement to Cabinet in February 2019.
- 3.5 Once the Committee is happy with the content of its Annual Work Programme, it will be published to the website to allow members of the public to view. The Committee may wish to consider if it wishes to seek the feedback of any stakeholders on the work programme.
- 3.6 The Committee will then have a standing item on each of its Committee meeting agendas for a Forward Work Programme Update, with a breakdown of which items will be coming to each meeting. It will also clarify what information has been requested for the Committees consideration, what the role of the Committee is for each item and a list of invitees.
- 3.7 Under the Committee restructure in May 2017, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee are responsible for the strategic policy review and development functions, as well as

pre-decision and monitoring of the implementation of projects/schemes/legislation that impacts on the Council as a whole.

- 3.8 The work programme attached has been developed to focus the Committee's limited resourced its resources on routinely scrutinising performance to provide a more in-depth monitoring and challenge for clearly defined service areas.
- 3.9 To focus the discussion, the Head of Service will brief the appropriate Cabinet Member prior to the Committee meeting. The relevant Cabinet Members (depending on the content of the report).
- 3.10 Where the Committee identifies the need for more detailed scrutiny in a specific issues / area, the Committee can request for more information back to the next committee meeting. It is intended that this approach will allow Members to gain an overall picture of performance in the service area, and allow space on the work programme to undertake 'deep dives' and request more detailed information where they see an area of concern.
- 3.11 As the Committee identified some areas that they would like to be provided with additional information before committing to a 'deep dive' or Policy Review Group. Head of Service briefings have been set up in September in lieu of the meeting. These briefings are for the Committee to receive additional information before committing to undertaking resource heavy additional work.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

- 4.1 The draft work programme contains suggested items for the work programme – Member input to the work programme is essential to the success of Scrutiny.
- 4.2 The Corporate Assessment, and the subsequent [follow up assessment](#) provide background information on the importance of good work programming. Specific reference is made to the need to align the Cabinet and Scrutiny work programmes to ensure the value of the Scrutiny Function is maximised.

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

Deliberate if the proposed items should be included in the Annual Forward Work Programme, There are a number of questions and processes that can help the Committee come to a decision on whether to include a topic.

Criteria for Selecting Scrutiny Topics

PUBLIC INTEREST:	The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;
ABILITY TO CHANGE:	Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically influence, and which will result in a Cabinet decision being taken;
PERFORMANCE:	Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other agencies, are not performing well;
EXTENT:	Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the city;
REPLICATION:	Work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort.

Reasons to Reject Scrutiny Topics

- The issue is already being addressed / being examined elsewhere and change is imminent
- The top would be better addressed elsewhere (and will be referred there)
- Scrutiny involvement would have limited / no impact upon outcomes
- The topic may be sub-judice or prejudicial to the Council's interest
- The topic is too broad to make a review realistic
- New legislation or guidance relating to the topic is expected within the next year
- The top area is currently subject to inspection or has recently undergone substantial change

- 4.3 For each item on the agreed work programme, the Committee should consider if they are well defined to ensure the Committee can effectively fulfil its role for each item.

Defining Scrutiny Topics

For every item on the work programme / new referral, it should be clear:

- **What is the issue / activity / project under consideration?**
 - *A brief outline of the matter being referred / the question being asked*
- **What is Scrutiny being asked to do?**
 - *e.g. undertake a full review of the subject? Investigate / interrogate different policy options? Be consulted of final proposals before decision making? Monitor outcomes / implementation?*
- **What are the reasons for / expected benefits of involving Scrutiny in this matter?**
- **Is there a specific deadline for this piece of work?**

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- Having proper work programming procedures in place ensures that the work of Overview and Scrutiny makes a positive impact upon the Council’s delivery of services, contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and ensures that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner. All undertakings of the Committee should impact on the Corporate Plan Commitments and the Well-being Objectives.

Well-being Objectives	Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment	Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities	Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient	Build cohesive & sustainable communities
Corporate Plan Commitments	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
Supporting Function	Modernised Council			

6 Risks

- 6.1 If proper work programming procedures are not put in place, the organisation and prioritisation of the work programme is put at risk. The work of Overview and Scrutiny could become disjointed from the work of the rest of the Council, which could undermine the positive contribution Overview and Scrutiny makes to service improvement through policy development.
- 6.2 A report is presented to each Committee every month in order to mitigate that risk. The specific risks associated with individual topics on the work programme will need to be addressed as part of the Committee’s investigations.

7 Financial Implications

- 7.1 The preparing and monitoring of the work programme is done by existing staff for which budget provision is available. There will be financial consequences for some of the reviews undertaken. These will be commented upon by the Head of Finance as the reports are presented.

8 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

- 8.1 The Annual Forward Work Programme does not directly address any aspects of the Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act. Each topic outlined in the Forward Annual Work Programme should be measured against the Act’s Wellbeing seven Goals and delivered in line with its Sustainable Development Principles;

Wellbeing Goals

- **A Prosperous Wales**
- **A Resilient Wales**
- **A Healthier Wales**
- **A More Equal Wales**
- **A Wales of Cohesive Communities**

- **A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Welsh Language**
- **A Globally Responsible Wales**

Sustainable Development Principles

- Does the report / proposal demonstrate how as an authority we are working in accordance with the sustainable development principles from the act when planning services?
 - **Long Term**
The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
 - **Prevention**
How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives
 - **Integration**
Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies
 - **Collaboration**
Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives
 - **Involvement**
The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

9. Background Papers

[Good Scrutiny? Good Question! Wales Audit Office Improvement Study in Local Government.](#)
 'A Cunning Plan?' Devising a Scrutiny Work Programme' – CfPS Guide
[Corporate Assessment](#) , [Follow up](#) in 2015 and [Progress](#) Report August 2016
[Council Report – Scrutiny Committee Structures – May 2017](#)

Report Completed: May 2018

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee Annual Forward Work Programme 2018/19

Topic	Role		Why is the Committee looking at this report?
Corporate Plan	Performance Scrutiny (Council wide)	To provide comments to the Cabinet on the effectiveness of the implementation of the objectives within the Corporate Plan.	The Committee will receive an update on the implementation of the Corporate Plan on at least an annual basis. For this update – the Committee will receive a summary of any comments made by the Performance Scrutiny Committee in relation to their consideration of the quarterly updates on the improvement objectives. Timescale – November 2018
Performance Management Strategy	Performance Scrutiny (Council Wide)	To provide comments to the Cabinet on the effectiveness of the implementation of the objective within the Corporate Plan.	The Committee will receive an update on the implementation of the Performance Management Strategy on at least an annual basis. The Committee will monitor its recommendations from the previous meeting. Timescale – November 2018
Consultation and Public Engagement Strategy	Overview	Consider how the Council planned approaches consultation with the public, and how effective the Council is engaging with the public.	Scrutiny's role is to enable the voice and concern of the public to be heard and to ensure that there is appropriate engagement within the decision making process. Timescales – November 2018
Draft Budget Proposals	Scrutiny Management	To coordinate the comments and recommendations made by the all Scrutiny Committees in relation to the Cabinet Draft Budget Proposals	Once the draft budget proposals are agreed, the Cabinet is required to consult on the proposals before recommending an overall budget and required council tax to the Council for approval in March. Scrutiny Committees must be consulted as part of this process. Prior to Cabinet meeting to decide on the Budget on 14 February Timescale – January 2019
	Overview	Make comments /recommendations to the Cabinet relating to the Budget Process and Engagement;	
Strategic Budget	Overview	To consider the Strategic Budget Process and how the Council is developing a longer term	The budget is a Policy Framework document, and there is an obligation to consult with Scrutiny on the draft budget.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee Annual Forward Work Programme 2018/19

Page 74		strategic approach to budgeting.	<p>However this item, would go further than this, to start a discussion with the Cabinet member and Directors whether the development of a strategic approach to budgeting is viable within the current climate, and if so, how this could be developed.</p> <p>The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee has raised concerns regarding the risk a short term approach to budgeting at its meeting on 3 July (minutes), during consideration of the Director of Social Services Annual Report.</p> <p>'Within the report, the Director outlines concerns with the ongoing financial situation and the severe risk to the service if funding for social services continues to decrease. The Committee were concerned about this risk and the potential impact on service users as some of the most vulnerable people.</p> <p>Members agreed that this was a key risk within the service area, and that further consideration should be given by the Cabinet as to how the Council is mitigating this risk, and developing a more strategic approach to budgeting to protect vulnerable service users in this area'</p> <p>Timescale – July 2018</p>
Director of Social Services Annual Report	Overview	To consider the report provided by the Strategic Director – People and provide comment/ recommendations to Cabinet.	<p>The Director of Social Services has a statutory obligation to report annually to the Council, and consult with Scrutiny, on the delivery, performance and risks in relation to the whole range of social services functions, and to identify plans for improvement.</p> <p>This annual reporting requirement is in accordance with statutory guidance issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 and also the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, insofar as it relates to the continuous improvement of service delivery.</p> <p>Timescale – July 2018</p>

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee Annual Forward Work Programme 2018/19

<p>Recommendations Monitoring :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Regeneration Strategy; - Pill PSPO; - City Centre PSPO; 	<p style="text-align: center;">Scrutiny Management</p>	<p>To consider how effectively the recommendations made have been implemented and assess the impact of the service changes post implementation.</p>	<p>Best practice to monitor the implementation of recommendations made by Scrutiny. Recommendations are the way that scrutiny can make impact. Monitoring then makes it more likely that scrutiny's work will add value. Recommendations should be monitored and evaluated after they have been made, and scrutiny's recommendations continue to be "owned" by scrutiny, even though it is for Cabinet, and/or partners, to deliver.</p> <p>The timing of the updates will depend on the implementation timetable of each of the recommendations, this is usually reviewed 6 months after adoption or annually.</p> <p>Timescale – When available / appropriate</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 75</p> <p>Scrutiny Self Evaluation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Scrutiny Management</p>	<p>To consider the results of a Scrutiny Self Evaluation exercise, and determine what actions Scrutiny should take in the following year to improve its own performance.</p>	<p>Best practise to ensure that the Scrutiny Function is evaluating its performance in making an impact and is developing and improving the way it operates for the.</p> <p>Timescale – throughout the year</p>
<p>Scrutiny Annual Report</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Scrutiny Management</p>	<p>The Committee will be asked to consider and endorse the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2016/17, and agree a schedule for the on-going monitoring of the implementation of the action plan.</p>	<p>The Scrutiny Annual Report has to be approved by Scrutiny, and subsequently submitted and approved by the Council by September 2017.</p> <p>Timescale – July 2018</p>
<p>Annual Information Risk Report</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Overview</p>	<p>To consider how the Council is managing the risks relating to IT and make comment for consideration to Cabinet.</p>	<p>It is best practice for the annual Information Risk Report to receive comments and recommendations from Scrutiny before going to Cabinet.</p> <p>Timescale – September 2018</p>
<p>Annual Corporate Safeguarding</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Overview</p>	<p>To consider how the Council is carrying out its corporate safeguarding responsibilities and make</p>	<p>It is best practice for the annual Corporate Safeguarding to receive comments and recommendations from Scrutiny before</p>

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee Annual Forward Work Programme 2018/19

		comment or recommendations to Cabinet.	going to Cabinet. Timescale – June 2019
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Waste Strategy – Recommendations monitoring needed in 2019/2020

Decriminalised Parking - Recommendations monitoring needed in 2019/2020