

# Agenda



## Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

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Date: Wednesday, 28 July 2021

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting

To: Councillors J Clarke (Chair), M Spencer, S Marshall, G Berry, F Hussain, M Linton, R Mogford, T Suller and K Whitehead

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Item	Wards Affected
1	<u>Apologies</u>
2	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>
3	<u>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 February 2021 (Pages 3 - 14)</u>
4	<u>Formation of a Regional PSB (Pages 15 - 36)</u>
5	<u>Conclusions 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.
6	<u>Scrutiny Adviser Reports (Pages 37 - 46)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Forward Work Programme Update (<b>Appendix 1</b>)</li><li>b) Actions Plan (<b>Appendix 2</b>)</li><li>c) Information Reports</li></ul>

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Date of Issue: Wednesday, 21 July 2021

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# Minutes

## Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

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Date: 24 February 2021

Time: 5.00 pm

Present: Councillors J Clarke (Chair), S Marshall, G Berry, M Linton, J Hughes and K Whitehead

In Attendance: Beverly Owen (Chief Executive), Will Beer (Public Health Wales), Steve Ward (Chief Executive - Newport Live), Steve Davies (Natural Resources Wales), Harriet Bleach (Natural Resources Wales), Tracy McKim (Partnership Policy & Involvement Manager), Nicola Dance (Senior Policy & Partnership Officer), Ed Pryce (Assistant Director - EAS), Sarah Davies (Principal Challenger Adviser - EAS), Hayley Davies-Edwards (Principal Challenge Adviser - EAS), Sarah Morgan (Chief Education Officer), Andrew Powles (Assistant Head of Education - Engagement and Learning), Neil Barnett (Scrutiny Adviser) and Ellie Howard (Graduate Trainee)

Apologies: Councillors M Spencer, R Mogford and T Suller

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### 1 Declarations of Interest

None.

### 2 Public Services Board Well-being Plan 2020-21 Q2 Performance

Attendees:

- **Steve Ward – PSB Intervention Lead for The Newport Offer** (Newport Live)
- **William Beer – PSB Intervention Lead for Strong Resilient Communities** (NHS Public Health Team Consultant)
- **Beverley Owen – Covering for the PSB Intervention Lead for Sustainable Travel** (Chief Executive of Newport City Council)
- **Steve Morgan – PSB Intervention Lead for Green and Safe Spaces** (Natural Resource Wales)
- **Nicola Dance – Covering for PSB Intervention Lead for Right Skills** (Senior Policy and Partnership Officer)
- **Harriet Bleach** - Natural Resource Wales
- **Tracy McKim** – Policy Partnership & Involvement Manager

The Public Health Team consultant gave an overview of the Public Services Board (PSB), explain that their role is to ensure that the One Newport partnership acts consistently with 5 key ways of working: long term, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement. It was explained as important to analyse whether we are on track to meet our wellbeing objectives, and there are a number of indicators to test this, which will be outlined in the various presentations.

The consultant then introduced various representatives for the different interventions being presented.

### **The Newport Offer**

The key aspects of the Newport Offer were outlined by a representative from Newport Live, including the Place-making charter and Purple Flag status (which has now been achieved). It was acknowledged that the pandemic has had a serious impact on the Newport Offer, due to the reduction in the night time economy and tourism. Going forwards, community wealth building, to ensure that long term economic growth stays within Gwent, as well as a focus on the city as destination will be essential key aims. Supporting Carbon reduction, as seen in the renewable energy instalment in the Velodrome is another key aim. Finally, supporting tourism and the rural economy are all part of future plans.

The Newport Offer is an all-encompassing approach. The question now is how do we re-focus and take this forward? There is a need to develop new key performance measures, and we must ensure we engage with the wider sector when doing this. The central aim is to ensure that the Newport Offer is appealing for education, employment and tourism, to demonstrate that Newport is a great place and a world class destination. Engagement of Newport Youth Council has been excellent during Covid-19. They will review Newport Offer to ensure they are part of this development going forwards. (It was explained that the Leader brought forward this action).

Now, we want to demonstrate that the council and PSB is reaching out to service users and citizens. It will be important to make progress by working together. There will be a review of this to ensure that the Newport Offer is relevant to everyone in the city.

Members asked the following:

- A member asked whether the scorecards could reflect which way the KPIs are trending. I.e. if something is rated as green, it is possible that it could be trending down so could be at risk. This was acknowledged by the chair as a useful comment.
- Members asked where the PSB see themselves moving forward with recovery?

The representative for the Newport Live replied, commenting that he spoke to the Minister for Leisure and Culture regarding this. He enquired about Wales' control plan to come out of Covid-19 from tier 4 to tier 1. There will also be a mini/staggered tiering system as this progresses, rather than everything opening at once. A timeline has been requested from multiple sectors, so there is an indication for how we will start some of this work. For example, the tourism sector and ticketed events will need advanced warning of when they will be allowed to open in order to prepare. Similarly, getting the confidence of the public at this time is a challenge. There is concern from the public at the moment due to the new variant, and a lack of clarity over this and how it spreads. Hoping to have further clarity on guidance regarding this from WG on Friday.

- Members commented that a lot of groups grow at grassroots levels in Newport, for example local action groups. Is there a way that we can bring these partnerships to a central point- e.g. if there is a good local project from one area, could there be teaching and learning for another area who want to do a similar thing? Where we have good examples of success, could these be put in one place? This would also demonstrate all of the work which is taking place across the city.

The representative from Newport Live replied to say that we need to take this idea forward. There is a possibility that there could be a digital forum where this could be compiled together. The leader is chairing a group next week for the Newport Offer where this could be discussed. It is important to question whether the vision of the

Newport Offer is still appropriate and consider if this is what local residents want. This digital forum could assist with this.

The Chief Executive agreed with the Member's comments here and asked for those action points to be picked up regarding local learning.

### **Green and Safe Spaces Intervention**

A representative for Natural Resources Wales presented the projects for Green and Safe spaces. The projects that sit under the intervention have expanded and developed well despite Covid-19. It is important to mention the success of the network- the number of partners within this have grown.

One of the objectives was to issue e-newsletters, the first two of these have now been distributed successfully. The funding proposal submitted for Green Arc project, Green Infrastructure mapping and Green Prescribing Scoping Exercise was also explained.

There were some considered risks, but these did not materialise. One risk was lack of participation in the project, but this was not realised. Another was that green spaces were not sufficiently protected; this remains a risk but is being mitigated. The final risk was the impact of Covid-19, however the team have worked well virtually, so this risk has not been realised.

Regarding the key performance measures, the only 'red' measure was for Network Workshops in the previous quarter. However, it was explained that this is no longer red in the current quarter, as there was a workshop in November and 3 more planned ahead. Work is now being undertaken to challenge ourselves more- the performance measures are not just about measuring numbers but also about quality. The group are looking to change and improve these KPMs. There has been a collaborative and co-productive approach throughout the past months. This intervention is a big challenge for Newport but also holds great opportunity.

Members asked the following:

- Members expressed their support for the green spaces project. One member enquired specifically about whether Bettws is low on green spaces- could this information be quantified?

The representative from Natural Resources Wales replied, saying that there is a project to map the green infrastructure that we have, in addition the green arc project. However, there are even more opportunities available and he would welcome hearing about ideas that members and their communities have. Covid-19 has really highlighted how much people value green spaces. It is important to acknowledge that more deprived areas have less access to green spaces.

Another representative from Natural Resources Wales (Harriet Bleach) replied regarding Bettws. She is currently working with Bettws early learning centre, who are working towards woodland development which is NRW owned. Much of the managed land in Bettws is Newport City Council/Newport City Homes owned, so these organisations will be key in managing that. Acknowledged that it is important to improve access to those open spaces.

Members replied to say that we need to identify the green spaces we have, need to highlight where residents can go, where people can actually access and is allowed NRW representatives replied to say that they are hoping to develop an app to promote local green spaces with accompanying information.

- Members mentioned that recently, many people are taking up couch to 5K running schemes. Is there a way to promote good local routes (e.g. 5K/10K) for people doing this? Also considering walking groups, how can these be promoted? Also want to

consider the gardening aspect of green spaces- how can the PSB support this- this would be good for mental health.

NRW representative replied to say that Couch to 5K has been started via promotion from social media. Also some analysis about private garden space in Newport has taken place, indicating that there is a lot of this kind of space.

The Public Health Team consultant also replied, expressing that this links to green prescribing- community gardens, allotments etc. This is currently being reviewed.

- Members asked, when there are places that we need to protect, how do we develop a community or NCC land bank for zones that we want to keep free of development? How can we be protecting these areas?

The NRW representative explained that one of the challenges to this is resourcing this, but we shouldn't rule it out. NRW are keen to explore these opportunities as a partnership, particularly for areas of Newport that don't have as many green spaces.

- Members asked, regarding the Ringland area, are there going to be more allotment spaces? Also, more space needed for local sports activities, how can we help these groups as a partnership? There are also problems with anti-social behaviour in the woodland area.

The Chief Executive replied that we will come back to those specific ward issues and the relevant officers will reply.

The Public Health Team consultant explained that they have been looking at safe routes to school to get people out into the community walking. Possibility with the woodland area to consider what we could do, possibly use ideas from what was done in Duffryn with the Duffryn link. Want to consider how communities can reclaim these spaces.

### **Strong and Resilient Communities Intervention**

The consultant from the Public Health Team presented this item. This intervention is about bringing together community groups, voluntary groups and public bodies to work on a local partnership basis- not top-down solutions but rather solutions that are community-led. The desire for an asset based approach was expressed. There have been many challenges posed to this because of Covid-19, due to many community hubs, libraries etc. being closed. The team have been looking at the impact of the pandemic on different parts of the community, in particular groups with protected characteristics.

Participatory budgeting has been piloted in Ringland, and the health board has invested £150,000 in this initiative. This allows groups to vote on the issues that matter to them as a community. There will be a meeting online at the end of March to discuss this, with a focus on social rebuilding and recovery over the next 12 months.

It was explained that place-based working has seen the formation of wellbeing collaboratives in Ringland and in Pill. The idea behind this is to build on naturally occurring assets- the buildings, the people, those who are active in their local area, green spaces etc. One project presented is for 'social prescribing'- e.g. local social/community groups that people can be referred to if they are experiencing mental health difficulties.

Lockdown has highlighted people's willingness to serve as a volunteer to support people who need help. In the recovery phase of Covid-19, the team want to build on this civic activity and tap into this volunteering asset more.

Finally, lockdown has highlighted the issue with digital exclusion which risks widening inequalities. The team are working with Digital Communities Wales to ensure the gap isn't widening for those who can't afford broadband or tablets/laptops at home.

Members asked the following:

- Members wanted to express their agreement with the need for projects to be community-led. We want to be supporting those groups to develop. Wants to express the quality and of the presentation and thank the public health team for this.

The Public Health Team consultant replied to say that this is the real ethos of their work and is glad it has been recognised.

- Members commented regarding the unequal impact of Covid-19 for wealthier and less affluent areas of the city. How do we recover from this and encourage people after such a long period of isolation?

The Public Health Team consultant replied to say that neighbourhood hubs will be essential in this.

- Members commented that pandemic has shone a light on the work that the neighbourhood hubs do. It was highlighted how well liked and respected they are within the community. This has been one of the real positives of the pandemic.

### **The Right Skills Intervention**

The Senior Policy and Partnership Officer presented the Right Skills Intervention on behalf of Guy Lacey, who leads the board. The partnership of this board has been very successful over the past year. One key activity has been reviewing the 'right skills' work. This has been developed by taking on board the recommendations from the Future Generations Act. It was felt that there was too narrow a focus on economic wellbeing- so now the 'Right Skills' work includes social, cultural, and environmental wellbeing. There are now three key strands of activity which were presented in turn.

The first of the strands is skills to support long term economic growth sectors. The main piece of work related to this is a 'Planning for digital careers' event for year 9 pupils. This is now a virtual event. We have aimed to involve key businesses and employers from Newport- presenting exciting things from the digital sector. Participation levels from employers has been very pleasing. There are small businesses as well as major employers taking part. This event is taking place mid-March. Afterwards, this material can be retained (i.e. video presentations etc.) for pupils to continue to access for their benefit.

The second strand is reducing and preventing disadvantage and increasing equality of opportunity. The main focus for this strand is helping young people not to become Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)- last year Newport was second lowest in Wales for year 11 NEET which shows great progress. Planning is underway for a Film Sector Careers masterclass which is aimed at 18-30 year olds who are NEET and disadvantaged in some way. Purpose is making them aware of career opportunities as well as leading to training opportunities. The plans have had to change and this has had to become virtual instead, this was disappointing but important to deliver this as a pilot this year.

The third strand of work is expanding the area of skills beyond economic wellbeing. Turning the focus to adult learning and helping people to have a life well lived. This is related to social, cultural and environmental wellbeing, and involves developing skills such as carbon literacy and Welsh Medium Skills development. The Reach Restart project is part of this, which is particularly for those with English as an additional language, for example refugees or asylum seekers.

With regards to the KPMs, the NEET indicators are currently set at the Welsh Average. Reach restart is 'amber' due to the impact of Covid-19 on activities. New activity is shortly to be expanded upon.

Members asked the following:

- Members commented that they were very pleased regarding the news that Newport was the second lowest in Wales for NEET figures. It was acknowledged that it will perhaps be more obvious once restrictions are lifted what the real impact of Covid-19 has been.

### **Sustainable Travel Intervention**

The Chief Executive presented the Sustainable Travel Intervention. It was expressed that there has been significant progress with regards to this intervention over the last few months.

There are 3 steps in the sustainable travel agenda. The first is that the PSB are to be champions of sustainable travel. 23 public sector organisations have signed up to sustainable travel charter. Commitments include promoting cycling, public transport etc. This year has presented the opportunity to reset the agenda with regards to sustainable travel.

The second step is prioritising walking and cycling for travel. There has been a PR campaign to encourage people to travel sustainably. This was a significant recommendation of the Burns Commission and is integral to the work of the PSB. 3 schools have been taking part in the active travel programmes. Pleasing to note that Newport Transport has 16 low emission buses in transit and new electric vehicle trucks.

The third step is for charging points for electric vehicles to be rolled out across the city. The final part of this surrounding taxis, wanting to develop charging points for taxis. In conclusion, lots of good work has gone on in supporting sustainable transport in Newport.

Members asked the following:

- Members wanted to emphasise the positive outcomes so far and thank the team for their work. It was expressed that often solutions to sustainability are very small things, like getting people to change small habits. It is important to acknowledge that small changes make a difference too. How can we improve our approach to this?

The Chief Executive agreed with this point. This is about generational change. New ways of working have been demonstrated, now is the time that we need to take this head on. The sum of smaller parts will have the greatest impact of all. The active travel network will be a huge part of this, encouraging people to make these smaller journeys without the car. Assurance that these comments will be taken back to Ceri.

Members replied to say that initiatives such as Green Caerleon are being set up- how we could be tapping into that? The Chief Executive replied, expressing that we are heavily reliant on community participation to help us get to the goal we want to reach. The NRW representative replied to emphasise the importance of behavioural changes being essential. We need to understand what it will take for people to change their behaviour.

- Members made comments regarding electric vehicles. How can we be more efficient at using electric vehicles going forward? Are we looking at renewable energy sources to fuel this so we are not using fossil fuels? Can there be something related to bus tickets for example- showing people the contribution they have made to green agenda, money off a bus ticket (equivalent of a coffee card) etc.- i.e. the use of 'green points' to reward 'green' behaviour?

The Chief Executive replied to say that we are working with partners with regards to an energy plan. Discussions are underway regarding sustainable travel and how this fits into broader agenda in relation to climate change.

The NRW representative agreed that this idea of 'green points' is a good idea- will speak to colleagues to understand what is already in place and what more could be developed.

- Members questioned how do we flex and innovate the plan with innovative suggestions that are being raised?

The Chief Executive agreed with this- there are opportunities for innovation which are not always captured. How do we capture this in a different way? The Public Health Team consultant commented that it is important to consider how we can bring in case studies to include the human experience alongside the scorecard. These will highlight difficult issues we need to work in partnership together on- they must be tackled together. We have this strength of relationship within the partnerships that we didn't have before.

Members replied to express that they wouldn't want these good ideas to get lost. Because of the quality of the input, how do we change the existing plan to help the direction it is going in? The Public Health Team consultant replied to say there is an annual review of the objectives. The existing plan was based on a detailed assessment of the wellbeing needs. This developed a key list of priorities. Members emphasised opportunities to improve but this is not a criticism of all the good work which has taken place.

- Members asked what adaptations are unique to pandemic and what will remain? And what are the challenges moving forward in the short, medium and long term?

The Public Health Team consultant replied saying that digital transformation has been huge. In addition, sustainable travel, not travelling for meetings etc. has been improved. Civic activity to support vulnerable people has also been important. The Chief Executive replied that the main challenge will be the economy. How do we support the resurgence of the economic footprint in Newport? It is important to focus on the positive first and foremost. Relationship building and community resilience have been the key positives.

The Public Health Team consultant explained that people are having to reinvent their futures, now the focus is on these people. The right skills team are looking to help address this. This will be key to economic recovery. Members expressed that it is very positive to hear that the partnership is strengthening rather than weakening.

### **Conclusions:**

1. The Committee **noted** the performance within the Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance for Quarter 2 in Appendices 1 to 5.
2. The Committee **noted** the Minutes of the Public Services Board held on 8 December 2020 in Appendix 6.
3. The Committee **made** the following comments to the Public Services Board:
  - a) The Committee wished to express their thanks and gratefulness for the work put into these presentations, and all the work that has gone on through Covid-19.

- b) The Committee made comment that energy and vibrancy has been a key aspect of this. The Committee were also pleased to hear of the strength of the PSB, and noted that it is very encouraging to understand that their partnership has strengthened. Additional comment was made that there are really clear signs of excellent partnership working and that the PSB is clearly a very good team.
- c) The PSB gave the Committee confidence that what they were saying was true. There was a genuine sense that they were joined up. The ability of team members to step in for others shows the strength of the partnership and genuine good teamwork.
- d) The Committee are looking forward to see these plans and initiatives move forward.
- e) The committee would like the PSB to consider how they can extend diversity and inclusion moving forward. Young peoples' views should be included wherever possible and encouraging the Youth Council is essential as they are the future and the committee want to commend the involvement of them already.

### 3 **Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan 2021 - 2022**

Invitees:

**Ed Pryce** - Education Achievement Service (EAS) Assistant Director:  
Policy and Strategy

**Sarah Davies** - **Principal Challenge Advisor (EAS)**

**Hayley Davies-Edwards** – **Principal Challenge Advisor (EAS)**

**Sarah Morgan** - **Chief Education Officer**

The Chief Education Officer introduced the EAS team and their report. EAS represents the 5 counties in South Wales to provide a high level of support for our schools and learners. The business plan will be presented. This has been developed to address Newport specific issues, particularly with Covid-19 in mind.

The Assistant Director of EAS presented the EAS report. Emphasised that this is about partnership, as the EAS work in close partnership with all 5 LAs. The key element of this plan is learning lessons from the pandemic and moving forwards with hope. The language of closing gaps and learning deficits is not the language school leaders are using.

This plan has been made to support the LA statutory function. This plan is designed to be flexible to meet the needs of specific schools. We must consider how schools will emerge strengthened from the pandemic; there is a need to build on what has worked well, particularly the virtual environment. The balance between challenge and support must be right, as it is critical to remain sensitive to the needs of the schools.

The Assistant Director of EAS highlighted the change of data gathering this year- there is not data from external exams this year. It will therefore be important to focus on the people aspect of performance, and the specific needs of pupils and schools. School development plans are an essential part of this.

The strategic priorities in this plan are about a commitment to partnership working. They are focussed on the learning experience and quality of teaching and learning across schools. Additionally, there is a focus on essential skills such as English, Maths, and social skills. We want to consider how we can best address the needs of learners- not by addressing them as whole groups but individuals. It is necessary to address the impact of physical and mental health problems during Covid-19. Additionally, we are looking at a new curriculum design.

Wellbeing priorities are also a key element of this. We are continuing to focus on disadvantaged and vulnerable learners. Coaching and mentoring programmes are to be implemented on a regional and national basis. Want to value a range of characteristics which is broader than end of key stage outcomes.

There are still uncertain financial grant projections. Whilst nothing significantly awry is being predicted, we are 3 months later with final grant projection than usual. EAS are due to hear from Welsh Government next week to confirm to schools the figures. There remains uncertainty surrounding the pandemic but the EAS are aiming to mitigate this risk as much as possible. There has been a managed reduction of EAS staff profile over time, which reflects that there are more staff within schools funded by EAS than before.

Members asked the following:

- Members thanked the presenters for this comprehensive report, recognising the complexity of this work. The work that the EAS do is highly valued. This is a strong report in very challenging times.
- Members commented in relation to the partnership side of things, citing that there are local recovery plans. Is the EAS happy that they can get around all 5 local recovery plans?

The assistant director of EAS replied that there are regular meetings between EAS and the LA- we think these partnerships are strong and EAS believe they can meet needs of all 5 local authorities.

- Members commented in relation to mental health needs in pupils. What is ongoing for teachers to support this? Is there awareness raising to support this for governors, how can they support school and staff?

The Chief Education Officer explained that the LA Leads for Inclusion (Katy Rees) meet with vulnerable pupil leads across schools, to ensure there is no duplication with approaches. The EAS provide mental health toolkit training, whilst the LA provides school based counselling. There is a raft of mental health work is carefully constructed on a strategic level.

The assistant director of EAS commented that there is support in place for governors. Within the distance and blended guidance for governors, a key element of this is the wellbeing element. Planning is underway for a governor conference for wellbeing.

- Members asked if the learning from the pandemic captured anywhere? The 'acts of valour' that have taken place across the pandemic should be noted as positive outcomes.

The assistant director of EAS remarked that the 'distance and blended learning' website was developed, which showcases case studies to celebrate these successes.

The EAS Principal Challenge Advisor reported that a task and finish group was developed. Tomorrow there is a distance and blended learning session where schools will be showcasing their successes. 'Celebrate, share, support, review' is a new pilot programme. Schools have constructed presentations of the innovation of their distance and blended learning work. This will provide schools with the opportunity to stop and reflect what they've accomplished. As a region we want to learn from them. Members wished to ensure that all the good work is captured and rewarded accordingly.

- Members made comments regarding returning to normal with blended learning. Will there be changes to blended learning in the future? What are the lessons learned that we will look to adapt to?

An EAS representative replied that this is the conversation taking place in schools now. It is very common for schools to say that this has changed their practice forever. An example of this has been improved flexibility, and that people have adapted well to using technology. All schools are thinking along these lines.

The EAS Principal Challenge Advisor referenced the distance and blended learning website once again. Collaborations made by Coleg Gwent have been further refined, and they will not shy away from this in the future.

- Members asked what is the perceived future with regards to the financial situation?

The Assistant Director of EAS remarked that there has not been any furloughing due to being a publicly funded body. They have found that the EAS is able to function very well virtually. The delivery model to schools has enabled the EAS to be busier than ever. There have also been some efficiency savings on travel.

The EAS Principal Challenge Advisor commented that there is real efficiency with the staff who are deployed. Support from EAS has gone into schools to support staffing levels.

- Members wanted to understand how the partnership has had to adapt. What has been learnt as partners?

An EAS representative explained that a key learning point has been that good learning is good learning irrespective of the medium. Whether pupils are in person, with a paper pack, online, or interacting with teachers in chat, children respond when learning is authentic, stimulating and interesting for them. Teachers have adapted brilliantly and considered the craft of teaching on a different platform. The creativity of schools and teachers has been brilliant. It doesn't matter what is happening, if the learning is stimulating for the child.

The EAS principal challenge advisor explained that the EAS are now able to offer professional learning to a wider range of people, and on demand, now because we are using this virtually. Attendance at network events has been improved for people who can't make in person events.

The Assistant Director for EAS commented that this has allowed them to communicate with clarity, not putting on pressure just by offering things to schools.

## Conclusions:

The Committee **agreed** to forward this Minute as a detailed record of its consideration of the EAS Business Plan 2021-21 to the Cabinet to consider, in particular the following comments and commendations:

- The committee wanted to extend a massive thank you to EAS and the Education department for all the work that has taken place
- The Committee remarked that it was very encouraging to hear of the strength of the partnership, and about the adaptability and what they are learning.
- The Committee noted that it was very clear that the EAS, Education Department and schools are learning together and taking steps forward. There is clearly a strong partnership between EAS and LA, who seem happy working together and this relationship is getting stronger and stronger.

- The Committee noted that both organisations know Newport schools well. It is evident that they do speak with each other about issues and have good understanding. Comment was made that historically it has not been that way- schools have wanted to improve by themselves. The Committee voiced that it was important to maintain this new outlook going forward.
- The Committee wanted to raise that it is important for governors to be well aware of the wellbeing and mental health of students. It is essential that schools should be very aware of the resources available there.

The meeting terminated at 7.58 pm

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# Scrutiny Report

## Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships

### Part 1

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### Subject Formation of a Regional PSB

Author Scrutiny Adviser

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

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Tracy McKim	Policy Partnership and Involvement Manager
Nicola Dance	Senior Policy and Partnership Officer

## Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

### 1 Recommendations to the Committee

a) note and comment on the recommendations in the common appended report particularly:

- To note the proposal to move to a regional PSB as outlined in the report and the importance of maintaining strong local partnerships.
- To note the requirement to establish regional Scrutiny and to receive further details on this as appropriate.
- To support the development of Local Delivery Partnerships and ensure that these are considered in local Scrutiny work programmes.
- To note the developing arrangements to establish Regional Scrutiny.
- To continue to support Scrutiny of the current Well-Being Plans to 2023 through existing local partnership Scrutiny arrangements.

b) comment on the future role of the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships in scrutinising Newport’s existing well-being plan until 2023, community safety scrutiny (Police and Justice Act 2006), scrutiny of local delivery under the new Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-2028.

## 2 Context

### Background

2.1 The Well-Being of Future Generations Act 2015 enables two or more Public Services Boards (PSBs) to be able to merge if it would assist them in contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals.

There have been discussions at the Gwent wide leadership group 'G10' and at each PSB about the merger of the Gwent PSBs to form a single regional PSB. The decision to do this must be agreed by each of the individual PSBs as the statutory bodies. Each PSB in the Gwent region has agreed this in principle and to establish a Regional PSB in September 2021.

The PSBs and G10 have also considered the importance of maintaining the existing strong local partnerships in each area to support delivery of the Well-being Plan and also other partnership work.

The existing individual Well-being Plans across Gwent will continue to be delivered through local partnerships and will be overseen by the current local scrutiny arrangements until spring 2023.

The driver for the change to a regional approach and plan considered by the G10 leadership were:

- improving the well-being of people across Gwent by strengthening governance, accountability, improving collaborative working and supporting a clearer partnership landscape.
- providing the catalyst for a regional well-being assessment and well-being plan that maintains local accountability.
- opportunities to align partnership legislation.
- opportunity to develop effective regional scrutiny arrangements.
- opportunity of aligning the focus of both the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and PSB that will reduce duplication of activity, align strategic priorities and much closer collaboration over assessment and planning processes.
- The approach supports the Welsh Government review on 'strategic partnerships' and the recent Audit Wales Review of Public Services Boards.

Discussions with Partnerships Scrutiny will be ongoing and continue, to ensure the development of effective local Scrutiny for Newport partnership arrangements. This will include a range of work including community safety and the ongoing monitoring of the current Well-being Plan.

The five PSB partnership leads have written a common report on behalf of the five Gwent area PSBs to present through their organisational governance structures prior to the commencement of the new arrangements in September 2021 and this is attached to this report.

The common report outlines a series of recommendations:

1. To note the proposal to move to a regional PSB as outlined in the report and the importance of maintaining strong local partnerships.
2. To note the requirement to establish regional Scrutiny and to receive further details on this as appropriate.
3. The local assessment of well-being to be agreed by 5th May 2022 will be added to the Council work programme for sign off
4. To note the proposed changes to terms of reference, and to make any relevant changes to committee structures and constitution.
5. To support the development of Local Delivery Partnerships and ensure that these are considered in local Scrutiny work programmes.

6. To note the developing arrangements to establish Regional Scrutiny.
7. To continue to support Scrutiny of the current Well-Being Plans to 2023 through existing local partnership Scrutiny arrangements.

The report sets out further detail on this and the continued delivery of the current One Newport Well-being Plan 2018-2023. The Council's governance and constitution will also be amended to reflect these changes.

The future arrangements will include Local Delivery Partnerships in each area comprising each of the statutory and invited members, plus other local partners. The report sets out further detail on this and the continued delivery of the current OneNewport Well-Being Plan 2018-2023. The Council's constitution will also be amended to reflect these changes.

## **Implications for Newport City Council and Scrutiny**

This formation of a regional PSB will mean that the current OneNewport PSB is reformed as the OneNewport local delivery partnership. This important partnership body will continue to develop in its new role. Newport City Council will be a member of the regional PSB and work with partners across the regional to develop and deliver a regional Well-being Assessment (May 2022) and Well-being Plan (May 2023).

Council received the common report on 20<sup>th</sup> July *[and authorised the Proper Officer to make the necessary consequential amendments to the Council's Constitution to reflect the changes in governance arrangements and terms of reference]*.

The formation of a regional PSB requires the establishment of regional Scrutiny, The proposal to establish a Joint Scrutiny Committee to review and scrutinise the work of the Gwent PSB will require changes to the terms of reference of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee. The Council has the legal power to establish joint scrutiny committees with the other local authorities in accordance with the 2011 Measure.

Officers are working with the Scrutiny Managers in each of the five local authorities to work through how the proposed Regional Scrutiny will function in terms of its membership and terms of reference. It is anticipated that the administration for the Regional Scrutiny Committee will rotate between the five local authorities in the Gwent region.

The first formal activity the regional scrutiny will be involved in will be as a consultee to the new regional well-being assessment (Section 38 of the Act). Given the timeline at Appendix 1 this is likely to be in February 2022. Thereafter, the proposed Regional Scrutiny will take oversight of the Gwent Well-being Plan from 2023.

Ongoing Scrutiny of the current Well-Being Plans continues within the local partnership Scrutiny arrangements. The Partnerships Scrutiny Committee will also continue to be the designated crime and disorder committee under the Police and Justice Act 2006 and will continue to have a role in scrutinising the work of the Local Delivery Partnership. Discussions with the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee will be ongoing and continue, to ensure the development of effective local Scrutiny for Newport partnership arrangements.

## **Previous Consideration of this item**

- 2.2 On 19<sup>th</sup> May, Committee members received an informal briefing on the background to this item and proposal to form a regional PSB, and publish a regional Well-being Assessment and Well-being Plan. This was to introduce key elements of the proposals prior to consideration by the Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

### **3 Information Submitted to the Committee**

- 3.1 The appended report is being presented in each of the five local authority areas in the Gwent region. It details the arrangements for the formation of a Gwent PSB from September this year and confirms the decision of the board members across the five existing Public Services Boards to dissolve and merge as a single Gwent PSB.

The future arrangements will include Local Delivery Partnerships in each area comprising each of the statutory and invited members, plus other local partners. The report sets out further detail on this and the continued delivery of the current OneNewport Well-being Plan 2018-2023. The Council's constitution will also be amended to reflect these changes.

### **4. Suggested Areas of Focus**

#### **Role of the Committee**

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

- a) note and comment on the recommendations in the common appended report and as below:
  - 1 To note the proposal to move to a regional PSB as outlined in the report and the importance of maintaining strong local partnerships.
  - 2 To note the requirement to establish regional Scrutiny and to receive further details on this as appropriate.
  - 3 The local assessment of well-being to be agreed by 5th May 2022 will be added to the Council work programme for sign off
  - 4 To note the proposed changes to terms of reference, and to make any relevant changes to committee structures and constitution.
  - 5 To support the development of Local Delivery Partnerships and ensure that these are considered in local Scrutiny work programmes.
  - 6 To note the developing arrangements to establish Regional Scrutiny.
  - 7 To continue to support Scrutiny of the current Well-Being Plans to 2023 through existing local partnership Scrutiny arrangements.
- b) To comment on the future role of the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships in scrutinising Newport's existing well-being plan until 2023, community safety scrutiny (Police and Justice Act 2006), scrutiny of local delivery under the new Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-2028.

## Section B – Supporting Information

### 5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Newport City Council Corporate Plan 2017-2022 – the Corporate Plan contains the Council’s Well-being Statement and well-being objectives, which contribute to the achievement of the national well-being goals.

The Council is a statutory member of the PSB and is therefore collectively responsible for publishing a Local Well-Being Plan. The well-being objectives in both the Well-Being Plan and the Corporate Plan are aligned to take account of the well-being goals and the sustainable development principle.

### 6 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

#### 6.1 General

Each PSB must prepare and publish a local well-being plan setting out its local objectives and the steps it proposes to meet them. Newport’s existing Well-being Plan sets out a number of objectives, priorities and interventions that show how the PSB intends to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the local area. Under the new arrangements, Newport’s Well-being Plan will run until March 2023 and then be superseded in May 2023 by a regional Well-being Plan published by the regional PSB.

#### 6.2 Wellbeing Goals

Through the its Well-being Plan published for the Gwent Area in 2023, the regional PSB will be seeking to maximise its contribution to all seven Well-being Goals, Similarly Newport’s existing Well-being Plan, which will be delivered by the Newport Local Delivery Partnership until March 2023 addresses all the Well-being Goals as follows:

- *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*

#### 6.3 Sustainable Development Principles

The new regional Plan, once published, will demonstrate how the regional PSB, and the Council as a member of the PSB, will apply the sustainable development principle by looking to the long term, finding enabling solutions and interventions to prevent problems, take an integrated approach, collaborate with others and involve local people and communities.

Part of the rationale for moving towards a regional PSB is to facilitate increased collaboration and integration of activity with other boards like the Regional Partnership Board, which operate on a regional footprint. The establishment of Local Delivery Partnerships will add weight to ensuring the voices of local people are heard and that they are involved in PSB activity and decisions that affect them.

Currently partners across the five PSBs in the region are working together on the development of a “Gwent” Well-being Assessment. A consultation exercise will involve local stakeholders in the process.

## 7. Background Papers

- Report attached with appendices and background papers received by all local authorities.
- [Newport Local Well-being Plan](#)
- [OneNewport partnership](#) work
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Shared Purpose: Shared Future – Statutory guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:
  - [SPSF 1: Core guidance](#)
  - [SPSF 3: Collective role \(public services boards\)](#)
  
- [Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the scrutiny of Public Services Boards](#)

Report Completed: 15th July 2021



**SUBJECT: Progress report - Regional PSB**

Report written and submitted by: GSWAG Governance Group for G10

<b>1</b>	<b>Areas Affected</b>
1.1	Gwent
<b>2</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
2.1	<p>To update members on the development of a regional 'Gwent' PSB, and the next round of the Assessment of Local Well-being and Local Well-being Plans and to note any relevant governance changes required for the local authority and its committees.</p> <p><b>The report is being received by partnership Scrutiny Committees across Gwent for awareness and Cabinet/ Council for note and decision making as appropriate.</b></p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Background</b>
3.1	<p>The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act sets out a collective well-being duty on specified public bodies to act jointly via public services boards (PSBs) to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area by contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals.</p> <p>As part of this collective well-being duty, the PSB must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare and publish an assessment of the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in each community, and in the area as a whole, to be published no later than a year before its local well-being plan.</li> <li>• Prepare and publish a local well-being plan setting out its local objectives and the steps it proposes to take to meet them, published no later than 12 months after each local election.</li> </ul>

	<p>The first <a href="#">local well-being assessments</a> were published in May 2017. The <a href="#">first local well-being plans</a> were published in May 2018 for Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. The next round of the well-being assessment and well-being plan are due to be published in May 2022 and May 2023 respectively.</p> <p>Appendix 4a - Existing PSB partnership structure.</p>
3.2	<p>The Act also provides for two or more PSBs to be able to merge if it would assist them in contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals. There have been discussions at the Gwent wide leadership group ‘G10’ and at each PSB about the merger of the Gwent PSBs to form a single regional PSB. The decision to do this must be agreed by each of the individual PSBs as the statutory bodies.</p> <p>Each PSB in the Gwent region has agreed this in principle. The PSBs and G10 have also considered the importance of maintaining strong local partnerships in each area to support delivery of the Well-Being Plan and also other partnership work.</p> <p>Appendix 4b – Future Regional partnership structure.</p>
3.3	<p>The drivers for the change to a regional approach considered by the G10 leadership were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improving the well-being of people across Gwent by strengthening governance, accountability, improving collaborative working and supporting a clearer partnership landscape.</li> <li>• providing the catalyst for a regional well-being assessment and a future well-being plan that maintains local accountability and a continuation of local partnership working.</li> <li>• opportunities to align partnership legislation and PSB statutory duties for a more strategic overview of areas such the Crime and Disorder Act, Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) and the Childrens Act.</li> <li>• opportunity to develop effective regional scrutiny arrangements.</li> <li>• opportunity of aligning the focus of both the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and PSB that will reduce duplication of activity, align strategic priorities and much closer collaboration over assessment, and planning processes.</li> <li>• The approach supports the Welsh Government review on ‘strategic partnerships’ and specifically recommendation 3 of the recent Audit Wales Review of Public Services Boards<sup>1</sup>.</li> </ul> <p>There is already a range of effective partnership work that takes place through the G10 leaders group and subgroup GSWAG (Gwent Strategic Well-being Action Group) which has also attracted funding through Welsh Government and</p>

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<sup>1</sup> Recommendation 3 of the WAO Review of Public Services Boards includes ‘.....that Welsh Gov enables flexible models for merging, reducing and integrating their work with other forums such as Regional Partnership Boards; and – giving PSBs flexibility to receive, manage and spend grant monies .....’

	delivery of work such as 'climate ready Gwent' however there is not one strategic direction for this work that a regional assessment and plan would provide.
3.4	The current <a href="#">Well-Being Plans (2018-2023)</a> form the delivery arrangements for the next two years and these will continue to be delivered by the local partnerships (One Newport; The Blaenau Gwent We Want; The Caerphilly We Want; Our Monmouthshire; Torfaen Public Services Board) supported by the regional PSB, and scrutinised by partnership Scrutiny Committees in each of the local areas. This means no change to the current well being plans being delivered across Gwent.
3.5	A timeline for this activity can be found at Appendix 1 to this report.
<b>4</b>	<b>Progress</b>
4.1	Each of the five PSBs Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouth, Newport, Torfaen have discussed the proposal and agreed to disband the local PSB and form a regional PSB from September 2021. Reporting will be via the Regional PSB and to local scrutiny as appropriate.
4.2	<p>PSB officer groups across Gwent have been reviewing and developing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of reference</li> <li>• Progress towards a Gwent well-being assessment and plan, including engagement</li> <li>• Local Delivery Partnership arrangements</li> <li>• Membership of the Gwent PSB</li> <li>• Regional scrutiny arrangements</li> <li>• Performance</li> <li>• Links to other regional boards</li> <li>• Openness, transparency and identity of the Gwent PSB</li> </ul> <p>The terms of reference and membership of the Local Delivery Partnerships (our current arrangements) have not yet been drafted but will also need to be agreed at the first meeting of the Gwent PSB to ensure continuity of delivery of the 5 existing well-being plans which run until 2023. Local Delivery Partnerships will need to include senior officers, with the ability to take decisions and direct resources, from all the Gwent PSB member bodies, and any local partners who are currently represented on the 5 PSBs.</p> <p>The Local Delivery Partnership arrangements may differ in membership and scope but as a minimum will need to provide for the delivery of local priorities set out in the Gwent well-being plan and any local contribution to regional priorities.</p>
4.3	The current thinking is for the new Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-2028, there are likely to be a set of overarching well-being objectives which will be met by both regional and local activity. There are likely to be local actions which will be particular to a locality and determined by more local data and assessment. The Local Delivery Partnerships will be tasked with contributing to the regional actions as well as delivering any specific local activity.

	To meet statutory deadlines for the next iteration of the well-being assessment and well-being plan the engagement work has commenced and there are regional subgroups in place to develop this work and support delivery of the Gwent Well-Being Assessment.
4.4	The Gwent PSB inaugural meeting is proposed for September 2021 and the members will set their terms of reference and membership at that meeting.
4.5	All statutory and invited G10 member organisations (Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Blaenau Gwent CBC, Caerphilly CC, Gwent Police, Monmouthshire CC, Natural Resources Wales, Newport CC, Office of the PCC, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Torfaen CBC) are taking reports as appropriate within their own governance and this report forms part of the decision making for this local authority.
4.6	The development of regional scrutiny arrangements for the Gwent PSB and its assessment and planning will continue over the coming months and will need to be collaborative in the approach to membership and interaction with the local Scrutiny Committees, particularly during the interim period ahead of the new Well-Being Plan.
	<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> To note the proposal to move to a regional PSB as outlined in the report and the importance of maintaining strong local partnerships.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> To note the requirement to establish regional Scrutiny and to receive further details on this as appropriate.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.1	The initial meeting of the Gwent PSB is proposed as September 2021. Each organisation is responsible for reports to members and any necessary governance changes.
5.2	The regional well-being assessment will need to be completed and signed off by the statutory members individually, and by the PSB collectively, by the 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2022. The development of the well-being assessment also requires the input of the Future Generations Commissioner and Welsh Government. All groups are working to the assessment timeline attached at Appendix 2.
	<b>Recommendation 3:</b> The local assessment of well-being to be agreed by 5th May 2022 will be added to the work programme for sign off.
<b>6</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>
6.1	The draft Terms of Reference at Appendix 3 have been developed based on the 5 existing terms of reference, Schedule 3 to the Act, the reported discussions at the meetings to dissolve the existing PSBs and the discussions at G10.

6.2	The terms of reference must be agreed at the first meeting of the Gwent PSB (Schedule 4 Article 4). However, further development is needed to support the proposed <i>Local Delivery Partnerships</i> . This is an important concern raised by each local authority area.
6.3	The terms of reference can be agreed by the four statutory partners acting together, however given the ‘collaboration’ element of the sustainable development principle they will be agreed by the full set of members of the new board at its first meeting. It has been agreed in principle that all members of the regional PSB whether statutory or invited will have equal voting rights.
6.4	<p>The terms of reference and membership of the Local Delivery Partnerships have not yet been drafted but will also need to be agreed at the first meeting of the Gwent PSB to ensure continuity of delivery of the 5 existing well-being plans which run until 2023. Local Delivery Partnerships will need to include senior officers, with the ability to take decisions and direct resources, from all the Gwent PSB member bodies, and any local partners who are currently represented on the 5 PSBs but will not be at the Gwent PSB e.g., individual Registered Social Landlords, tertiary colleges, community councils, youth forums etc.</p> <p>The Local Delivery Partnership arrangements may differ in membership and scope but as a minimum will need to provide for the delivery of local priorities set out in the Gwent well-being plan and any local contribution to regional priorities.</p>
6.5	The current thinking is for the new Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-2028, there are likely to be a set of overarching well-being objectives which will be met by regional and local activity. There are likely also to be local actions which will be particular to a locality and determined by more local data and assessment. The Local Delivery Partnerships will be tasked with contributing to the regional actions as well as delivering any specific local activity.
6.6	<p>Administering PSBs is a responsibility that falls to the local authority members. To ensure that this is shared equally there is in principle agreement that this rotates around the five local authority members but on a two-year rotation to provide some continuity. The draft terms of references suggest that the Chair holds the role for a period of two years. Where a local authority holds the position of chair the administration role should move with that chair.</p> <p>Although other organisations may Chair a PSB, a local authority must chair the first meeting of the PSB and every mandatory meeting (after a local government election) thereafter.</p>
	<p><b>Recommendation 4:</b> To note the proposed changes to terms of reference, and to make any relevant changes to committee structures and constitution.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 5:</b> To support the development of Local Delivery Partnerships and ensure that these are considered in local Scrutiny work programmes.</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>Regional Scrutiny</b>
7.1	Officers are working with the Scrutiny Managers in each of the five local authorities to work through how the proposed Regional Scrutiny will function in terms of its membership, terms of reference, continued scrutiny of the 5 existing well-being plans until 2023, community safety scrutiny (Police and Justice Act 2006), scrutiny of local delivery under the new Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-2028, host authority etc.
7.2	Ongoing Scrutiny of the current Well-Being Plans continues within the local partnership Scrutiny arrangements.
7.3	The work to develop regional scrutiny is ongoing and will need to be taken through Council decision making processes so that the new regional scrutiny can be formed to begin its role of scrutinising the Gwent PSB.
7.4	The first formal activity the regional scrutiny will be involved in will be as a consultee to the new regional well-being assessment (Section 38 of the Act). Given the timeline at Appendix 1 this is likely to be in February 2022. Thereafter, the proposed Regional Scrutiny will take oversight of the Gwent Well-being Plan from 2023.
7.5	The discussions with Scrutiny Managers are considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of the regional scrutiny</li> <li>• The continued scrutiny of the current well-being plan</li> <li>• Ongoing scrutiny of local level PSB activity once the new PSB is formed</li> </ul>
7.6	To strengthen the relationship with the Regional Scrutiny Committee the Chair and Vice-chair should be aware of the Boards work and should be sent all agendas, minutes, and papers. It is proposed that the Chair of the Regional Scrutiny would also be invited to all regional PSB meetings.
	<p><b>Recommendation 6:</b> To note the developing arrangements to establish Regional Scrutiny.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 7:</b> To continue to support Scrutiny of the <a href="#">current Well-Being Plans</a> to 2023 through existing local partnership Scrutiny arrangements.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Links to other regional boards</b>
8.1	<p>There are a multitude of partnership boards across the Gwent region that have been established in line with policy, programme or legislative drivers.</p> <p>This is outlined in a diagram at Appendix 4c which shows the Gwent PSB &amp; RPB partnership landscape with statutory duties</p> <p>Connectedness and alignment of these boards could be improved and maximised under the Gwent PSB, particularly where boards are delivering activity in-line with the PSB statutory duties, as specified in the PSB statutory guidance.</p>

	<p>The Gwent PSB, working closely alongside the Gwent RPB, has the opportunity to reduce duplication, maximise resources, identify shared priorities and achieve closer alignment of policy, programme and legislative agendas, which would potentially improve outcomes for citizens across Gwent.</p> <p>Further work is required to map the various boards, key drivers and governance across Gwent.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Performance and Reporting</b>
9.1	A robust performance framework is essential in facilitating the PSB to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Gwent. A framework is being developed to provide an integrated mechanism that focusses on the performance of partnership and collaborative activity that delivers the statutory duties, objectives and priorities of the PSB.
9.2	The framework will facilitate the regional PSB to hold the performance of delivery of its priorities and responsibilities to account and be accountable for its own performance. This will be closely linked to the development of other parts of the PSB governance arrangements including scrutiny arrangements, terms of reference, other Regional Boards and Local Delivery Partnerships.
9.3	The performance framework will need to be driven by a range of qualitative and quantitative data, experiences, research and evidence to allow the PSB to evaluate progress and impact. The PSB will need to have the skills and capacity to support the provision of up-to-date information, analysis and insight on well-being of people and places in Gwent.
9.4	Each of the current PSBs has an online presence, with their own <a href="#">websites</a> that host all meeting papers, performance reports, member profiles, the local assessment of well-being, data sets, the well-being plan, action plans, statutory annual reports, public contact points etc. It will be important that this is replicated for a Gwent PSB to ensure openness and transparency.
9.5	In addition, several PSBs have a social media presence through Twitter and Facebook. This includes social media guidance for partners in the use of the PSB identity and logos. The Gwent PSB will need to consider its own openness and transparency and potentially develop a Gwent identity, certainly this will be need for the next round of well-being planning. This will be an early consideration of the new PSB.
<b>10</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
10.1	<p>Good progress is being made by officers of the PSB member organisations and development of the local assessment of well-being is on track to meet statutory timelines. Subject to reports passing through internal governance structures the Gwent PSB should be able to form from September this year. The provisional first meeting date is set.</p> <p>Each individual Council will need to consider changes to its constitution and committee terms of reference.</p>

	<p>Arrangements for Regional Scrutiny are being discussed among democratic services leads and the aim is to conclude this to meet the approval requirements of the local assessment of well-being needs. The scrutiny of the existing well-being plans is continuing through local Scrutiny in each individual area until 2023.</p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>Full set of Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> To note the proposal to move to a regional PSB as outlined in the report and the importance of maintaining strong local partnerships.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> To note the requirement to establish regional Scrutiny and to receive further details on this as appropriate.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 3:</b> The local assessment of well-being to be agreed by 5th May 2022 will be added to the work programme for sign off.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 4:</b> To note the proposed changes to terms of reference, and to make any relevant changes to committee structures, terms of reference and constitution.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 5:</b> To support the development of Local Delivery Partnerships and ensure that these are considered in local Scrutiny work programmes.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 6:</b> To note the developing arrangements to establish Regional Scrutiny.</p> <p><b>Recommendation 7:</b> To continue to support Scrutiny of the current Well-Being Plans to 2023 through existing local partnership Scrutiny arrangements.</p>

<b>Appendices</b>	<b>Appendix 1</b> – Proposed timeline for a Gwent PSB <b>Appendix 2</b> – Regional PSB Assessment Planning <b>Appendix 3</b> – Draft Terms of Reference of the regional PSB <b>Appendix 4</b> – PSB Structures; a. Existing PSB Partnership Structure b. Future Regional Partnership Structure c. Gwent PSB & RPB partnership landscape with statutory duties
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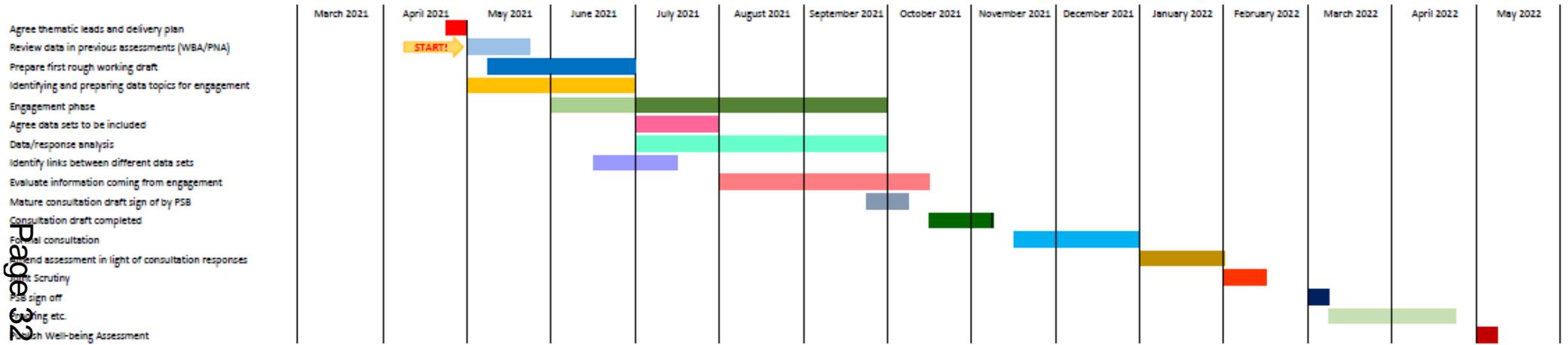
## Appendix 1 - Proposed timeline for a Gwent PSB

The proposed timeline for a Gwent PSB will mean that a new PSB is in place by September 2021 to develop the next phase of the Well-Being Plan as outlined below (**statutory deadlines**).

Date	Item
Mar 2021	Gwent PSB approach agreed by G10
Mar/ Apr 2021	Paper taken to each PSB which will detail the decision to move to a regional PSB and how this will be done. Plans for local arrangements discussed. <b>Agreement from each PSB for this to go ahead.</b>
Apr/ Jul 2021	Report to each LA scrutiny committee. Regional scrutiny process agreed. <b>Formally agreed by each Local Authority/ organisation as required</b>
Apr – Oct 2021	<b>PSB to draft Well-being Assessment</b>
May – Aug 2021	<b>PSB to undertake a public engagement process for the Well-being Assessment</b>
Jun – Jul 2021	Final PSBs are held in each area. Paper on local arrangements agreed and signed off by each PSB. ToR for the regional PSB is formally signed off by each individual PSB. Date for first regional PSB is set. Lead Local Authority agreed.
Sep 2021	Regional PSB is created <b>First meeting must be held within 60 days (30th October).</b> The first meeting will need to be chaired by a LA. Local boards established.
Nov 2021	Consultation Draft Assessment agreed by PSB
Dec 2021 – Jan 2022	<b>Consultation Period for the Well-being Assessment for all stakeholders</b>
Feb 2022 – Mar 2022	Redrafting Well-being Assessment in light of consultation
Apr 2022	<b>Final version of Well-being Assessment agreed by Gwent PSB</b>

May 2022	<p><b>Publish Well-being Assessment</b></p> <p>Copy of Assessment to Welsh Ministers, Commissioner, Auditor General for Wales, Scrutiny Committee</p>
May 2022 – Oct 2022	<p><b>PSB to develop response analysis to inform the Local Wellbeing Plan</b></p> <p>Seek advice from the Future Generations Commissioner</p> <p>PSB to develop Local Well-being Plan</p>
Nov 2022 – Jan 2023	<p><b>Statutory Consultation of the Well-being Plan</b></p>
Feb 2023 – Mar 2023	<p>Redrafting Well-being Plan</p>
Apr 2023	<p><b>Final version of Well-being Assessment agreed by Gwent PSB</b></p>
May 2022	<p><b>Publish Well-being Plan</b> - copy of Plan to Welsh Ministers, Commissioner, Auditor General for Wales, Scrutiny Committee</p>

## Appendix 2 – Regional PSB Assessment Planning



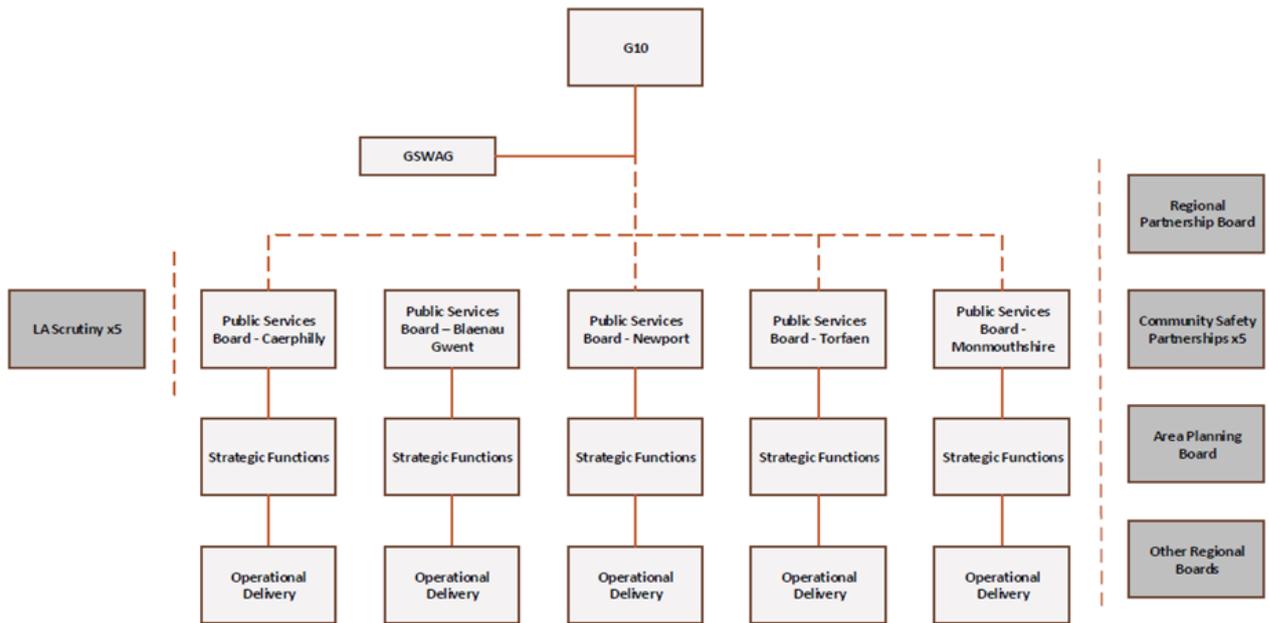
### **Appendix 3- Draft Terms of Reference of the regional PSB (June 2021)**



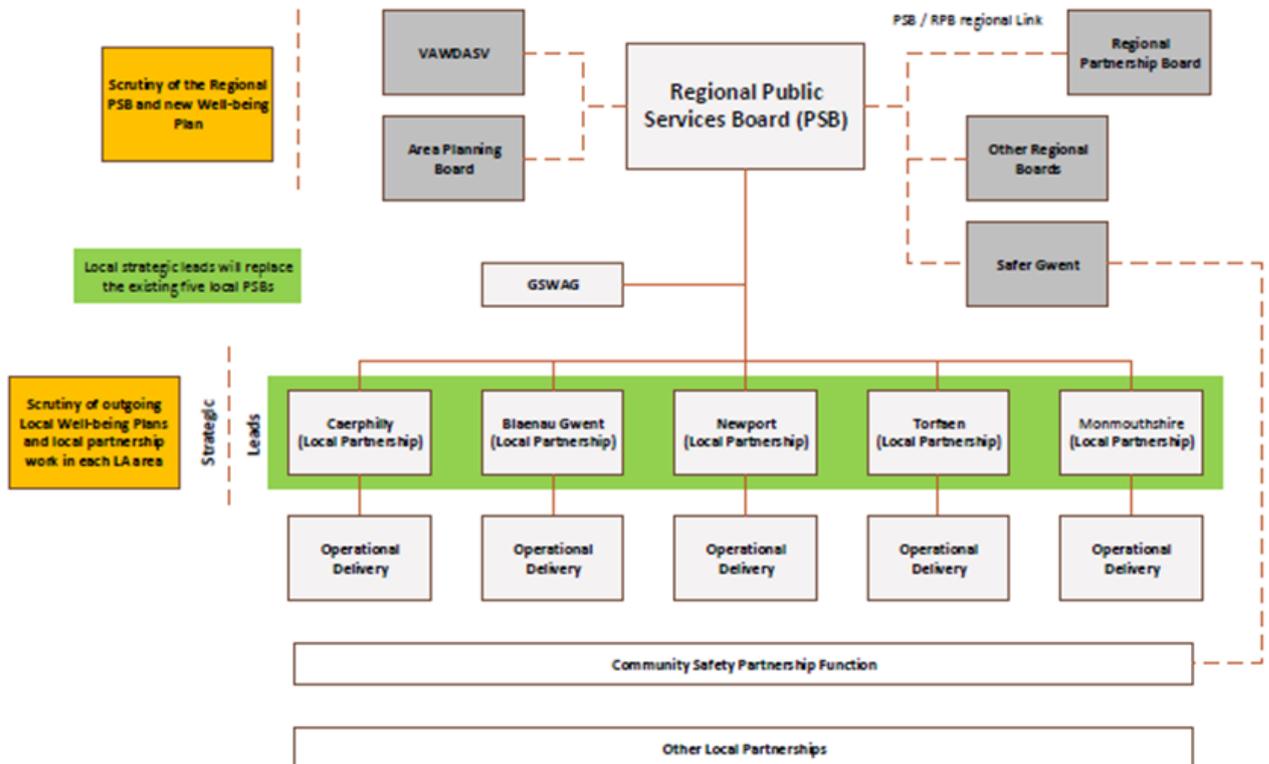
Gwent PSB ToR  
draft.docx

## Appendix 4 - Partnership Structures

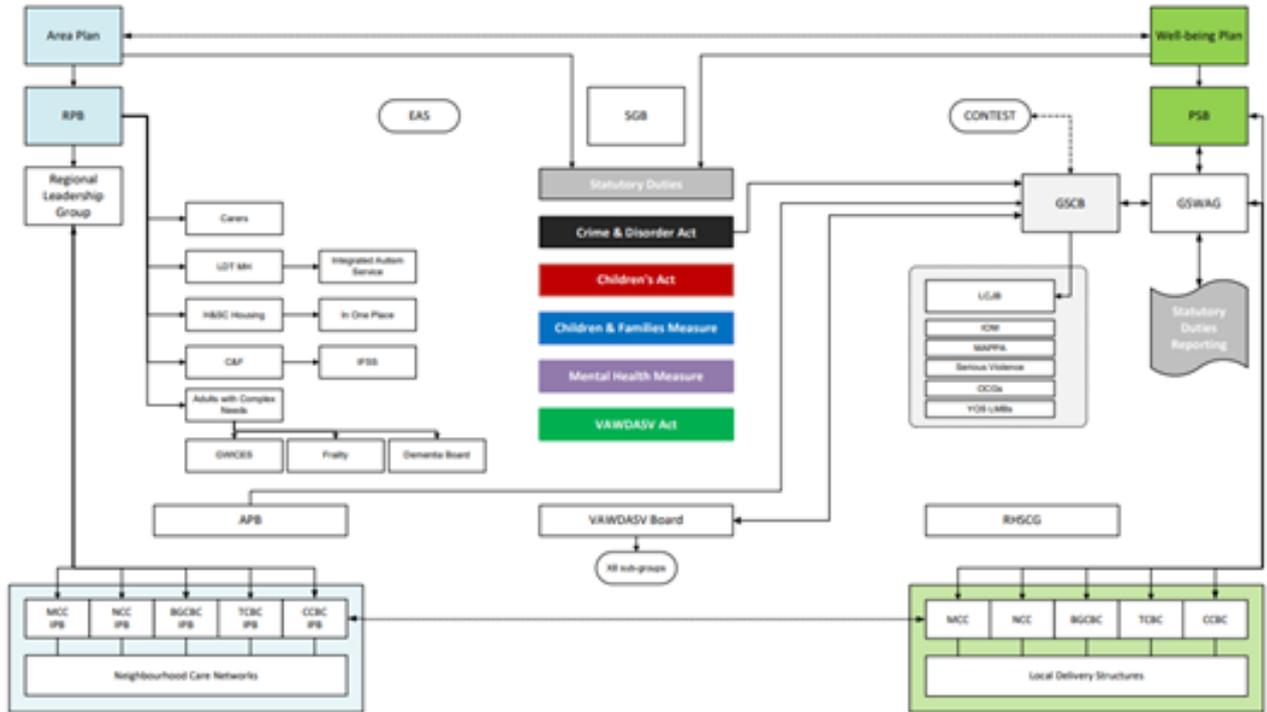
### a – Existing Partnership Structure



### b – Future regional partnership structure.



c - Gwent PSB & RPB partnership landscape with statutory duties



## Background papers

### Wellbeing Assessments for Gwent

- [Newport](#)
- [Caerphilly](#)
- [Blaenau Gwent](#)
- [Torfaen](#)
- [Monmouthshire](#)

### Wellbeing Plans for Gwent

- [Newport's Well-being Plan 2018-23](#)
- [The Caerphilly We Want 2018 – 2023](#)
- [The Blaenau Gwent We Want 2018-2023](#)
- [Well-being Plan for Torfaen 2018 - 2023](#)
- [Monmouthshire Public Service Board Well-being Plan 2018-23](#)

### PSB websites

- [The Blaenau Gwent We Want](#)
- [The Caerphilly We Want](#)
- [Our Monmouthshire](#)
- [One Newport](#)
- [Torfaen Public Services Board](#)



# Scrutiny Report

## Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships

### Part 1

Date: 28 July 2021

### Subject Scrutiny Adviser Report

Author Scrutiny Adviser

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

Invitee:	Role
Neil Barnett (Scrutiny Adviser)	Present the Committee with the Scrutiny Adviser Report for discussion and update the Committee on any changes.

## Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

### Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

**1. Committee’s Work Programme:**

Consider the Committee’s Forward Work Programme Update (**Appendix 1**):

- *Are there any amendments to the topics scheduled to be considered at the next Committee meeting?*
- *Are there any additional invitees that the Committee requires to fully consider the topics?*
- *Is there any additional information that the Committee would like to request?*

**2. Action Plan**

Consider the Actions from previous meetings (**Appendix 2**):

- *Note the responses for the actions;*
- *Determine if any further information / action is required;*
- *Agree to receive an update on outstanding issues at the next meeting.*

**3. Information Reports**

Note that no Information Reports have been circulated to the Committee

## 2 Context

### Background

2.1 The purpose of a forward work programme is to help ensure Councillors achieve organisation and focus in the undertaking of enquiries through the Overview and Scrutiny function. Effective

work programming is essential to ensure that the work of Overview and Scrutiny makes a positive impact upon the Council's delivery of services.

- 2.2 Further information about the work programming process, including the procedures for referring new business to the programme, can be found in our Scrutiny Handbook on the Council's Scrutiny webpages ([www.newport.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.newport.gov.uk/scrutiny)).
- 2.3 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.

#### **Forward Work Programme Update**

- 2.4 The Committee's work programme was set in October 2020, including estimated timescales for when the reports will be considered by the Committee. This programme is then managed and implemented by the designated Scrutiny Adviser for this Committee under the direction of the Committee Chairperson.
- 2.5 Attached as **Appendix 1** is the Committee's Forward Work Programme Update. The Committee is asked to consider:
- *Any amendments to the topics scheduled to be considered at the next Committee meeting?*
  - *Are there any additional invitees that the Committee requires to fully consider the topics?*
  - *Is there any additional information that the Committee would like to request?*

The Committee agreed to keep a degree of flexibility within its work programme to enable the Committee to respond to urgent / emerging issues. This item is an opportunity for the Committee members to raise any suggested amendments to the Work Programme.

#### **Action Sheet from Previous Meetings**

- 2.6 Attached at **Appendix 2** is the Action Sheet from the Committee meetings. The updated completed actions are included in the table.
- 2.7 Any actions that do not have a response will be included on the Action Sheet at the next meeting to ensure that the Committee can keep track of outstanding actions.

#### **Information Reports**

- 2.8 There were no Information Reports circulated to the Committee.

### **3 Information Submitted to the Committee**

- 3.1 The following information is attached:

**Appendix 1:** The Committee's Forward Work Programme Update;  
**Appendix 2:** Action Sheet from Previous Meetings.

### **4. Suggested Areas of Focus**

## Role of the Committee

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

- **Forward Work Programme Update - Appendix 1**

Consider:

- Are there any amendments to the topics scheduled to be considered at the next Committee meeting?
- Are there any additional invitees that the Committee requires to fully consider the topics?
- Is there any additional information that the Committee would like to request?

- **Action Sheet from Previous Meetings - Appendix 2**

- Consider the responses to the actions from the meeting;
- Are you satisfied that you have received the necessary information?
- Are there any further issues arising from the responses that you would like to raise?
- For the actions that do not have responses – these actions will be rolled over to the next meeting and reported back to the Committee.

- **Information Reports**

Note that no Information Reports were circulated to the Committee.

## Section B – Supporting Information

### 5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 The latest Cabinet work programme was approved by the Cabinet on a monthly basis for the next 12 months and includes the list of reports scheduled for consideration. Effective forward planning by both Cabinet and Scrutiny needs to be coordinated and integrated in relation to certain reports to ensure proper consultation takes place before a decision is taken. A link to the Cabinet work programme is provided [here](#) to the Committee as part of this report, to enable the Committee to ensure that the work programmes continue to reflect key decisions being made by the Cabinet.

### 6. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 This report relates to the Committee's Work Programme, Actions from Committee's and Information Reports that support the achievement of the Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with the Law and Regulation Service Plan, Objectives, Actions and Measures and the Wellbeing objectives:

<b>Well-being Objectives</b>	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
<b>Corporate Plan Commitments</b>	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
<b>Supporting Function</b>	Modernised Council			

## 7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

7.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 which came into force in April 2016 sets the context for the move towards long term planning of services.

### 7.2 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?
- Evidence of links to Wellbeing Assessment / Objectives / Plan?

### 7.3 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*

### 7.4 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

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2017 - 2022](#)
- The Corporate Assessment and [follow up assessment](#).

Report Completed: 28 July 2021

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**Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships  
– Forward Work Programme Update**

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<b>Wednesday, 6 October 2021 at 5pm</b>		
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Information Required / Committee's Role</b>	<b>Invitees</b>
<b>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children</b>	To consider the developments being undertaken in partnership with Cardiff City Council on behalf of Welsh Government to proactively offer support to children who are awaiting placement in the South of England	<b>Head of Children and Young People Services;</b>  <b>Service Manager</b>
<b>One Newport PSB Well-being Plan Annual Report</b>	<b>Performance Monitoring of the delivery of the Wellbeing Plan by the PSB</b> Statutory obligation within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2014 for this item to be included on the work programme.	<b>One of the Leads for each of the interventions which are:</b> - <b>The Newport Offer;</b> - <b>Strong Resilient Communities;</b> - <b>Right Skills;</b> - <b>Green and Safe Spaces;</b> - <b>Sustainable Travel.</b>

<b>Wednesday, 3 November 2021 at 5pm</b>		
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Information Required / Committee's Role</b>	<b>Invitees</b>
<b>Norse Joint Venture Partnership – Strategy and Performance Review</b>	To provide an overview of the strategy and performance of the Norse Joint Venture.  Update from the Service area and Newport Norse on priorities for the partnership over the coming 12 months.  Summary of the background to the item and a report on performance to date.	<b>Acting Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing;</b>  <b>Managing Director, Newport Norse</b>

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**Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships**

**ACTION SHEET – 24 February 2021**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1	<b>Public Services Board Well-being Plan 2020-21 Q2 Performance</b>	The Committee <b>noted</b> the performance within the Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance for Quarter 2 in Appendices 1 to 5, and concluded by making a number of comments to the Public Services Board.	<b>Scrutiny / Partnerships</b>	<b>Actioned – Comments from the Committee forwarded to the Partners on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021.</b>
2	<b>Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan 2021 – 2022</b>	The Committee concluded by making a number of comments to Cabinet upon the EAS Business Plan 2021 - 2022.	<b>Scrutiny / EAS</b>	<b>Actioned – Comments from the Committee forwarded to Cabinet and EAS on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021.</b>

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