

Agenda



Liaison Meeting with Community Councils

Date: Thursday, 5 October 2023

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1/Hybrid

To: Councillors Bishton, Coedkernew, Goldcliff, Graig, Langstone, Llanvaches, Llanwern, Marshfield, Michaelstone-y-Fedw, Nash, Penhow, Redwick, Rogerstone and Wentlooge

Item	Wards Affected
1 <u>Apologies</u>	
2 <u>Declaration of Interest</u>	
3 <u>Minutes of the Meeting Held 22.06.23 (Pages 3 - 10)</u>	
4 <u>The Consultation Draft of Newport's Local Action Plan (Pages 11 - 18)</u>	
5 <u>The Gwent Well-being Plan (Pages 19 - 42)</u>	
6 <u>Climate Change- Support for Community Councils</u> Verbal Presentation.	
7 <u>Voter ID</u> Verbal Presentation.	
8 <u>Date of the Next Meeting</u> 14.12.23 at 6pm.	

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Date of Issue: Friday 29th September 2023

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Minutes

Liaison Meeting with Community Councils

Date: 22 June 2023

Time: 6:00pm

Venue: Microsoft Teams Meeting/Committee Room 1 Civic Centre

Present: Cath Davies (Marshfield CC), Mandy George (Llanwern), Nathan Tarr (Graig), Judy Clatworthy (Wentlooge), Julie Foster (Wentlooge) John Davies (Bishton), John Wagstaff (Penhow) Councillor Yvonne Forsey (Rogerstone West), Councillor Bev Davies (Rogerstone East), Leanne Rowlands (Democratic and Electoral Services Manager), Taylor Strange (Governance Officer), Emily Mayger (Governance Officer), Superintendent Jason White (Gwent Police)

Apologies

Councillor John Reynolds (Rogerstone West)

Elizabeth Bryant (Head of Law and Standards)

Declarations of Interests

N/A

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes were proposed as a true record.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted that a date was being arranged on personal safety between now and the following meeting. The Graig Community Councillor asked whether there could be multiple sessions with the first held on teams followed by an in-person session. The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager stated that it was likely that the meeting will be on teams only.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager explained that the other items will be dealt with on the final item of the agenda, the Forward Work Programme.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager informed all members that the slides to the presentations will be sent out following the meeting.

Police Update

Superintendent Jason White attended to provide an update.

- A general update was provided on Newport east and west activity.
- The Superintendent provided context regarding the current focus of policing in the area, such as dealing with prolific offenders.
- The Superintendent confirmed that the police service has allocated more police officers working at night.
- A multi-agency approach has been taken to dealing with homelessness, reducing the number of people that become homeless as well as helping people already experiencing homelessness to access appropriate services.

The Bishton Community Councillor noted concerns to the Superintendent that police Community Councillors haven't attended their council meetings.

The Bishton Community Councillor noted that these meetings take place once a month and highlighted that they would like some of the meetings throughout the year to have a police presence.

- The Superintendent confirmed that he would take the action back and follow up this up.

The Marshfield Community Councillor stated that they had set up a chairs forum with other community councils such as Wentlooge, as well as recently meeting with the Councillor Allan Screen where issues that are common to many areas are discussed.

The Marshfield Community Councillor mentioned that issues relating to the area had been raised with Officer Wetly. It was also noted that assurances were made in relation to police attending community meetings in order to better exchange information between the police and community councils. The Marshfield Community Councillor stated that following this the meetings weren't attended by the police and as a result he felt that rural community councils were being inadequately served.

- The Superintendent informed the Community Councillor that Officer Wetley had moved on from their role and that he had noted the request for a police presence in the area.

The Marshfield Community Councillor highlighted that he felt collaborative work and a consistent dialogue were essential to the partnership approach.

- The Superintendent highlighted that there had been contact with people who had formerly served as Community Councillors regarding specific incidents.

The Marshfield Community Councillor felt that feedback wasn't always provided when issues were raised. .

- The Superintendent highlighted that he is aware of the issues they face and will speak to Officers in those wards as well as raising the issues with Community Councils directly.
- The Superintendent reinforced the importance of the police's relationship with Community Council's and the benefits of the collaborative approaches and positive relationships.

The Marshfield Community Councillor explained that they were aware the police surgeries were being reduced and the Community Council had highlighted this with their ward member to escalate. The Marshfield Community Councillor considered that strong working relationships with the Community Councils can be helpful to both the police and community in terms of sharing intelligence and relaying key information to the residents.

- The Superintendent noted he would speak with the relevant Officers in the following week to discuss steps that could be taken to strengthen the links with Community Councils and the communities they serve.
- The Superintendent noted that there was a pressure concerning the resources available and the current demand, and functions are being evaluated in order to allocate the available resource in the most effective way.
- The Superintendent also highlighted several areas that there is focus on including the time taken to answer non-emergency calls on the 101 number.

The Wentlooge Community Councillor informed the Superintendent that apologies weren't always given by police Community Councillors that were expected to attend Community meetings in Wentlooge.

- The Superintendent confirmed a written update could be provided if officers were unable to attend in person.

The Wentlooge Community Councillor asked if confirmation of police attendance could be provided before notices were promoted.

The Penhow Community Councillor asked how they are able to get in contact with Officer Childs who covers their community area.

The Superintendent provided the details of the officer.

The Graig Community Councillor noted that there hadn't been a police presence in a number of years, and highlighted concerns that Community Councils weren't being updated by the police. The Graig Community Councillor further commented that they would typically expected police to attend a meeting on a quarterly basis in order to allow two-way feedback and exchange of information.

- The Superintendent noted that work conducted in other local areas focused on engagement could be replicated for the community councillors, and he has asked neighbourhood officers to provide some feedback related to engagement.

The Graig Community Councillor asked about action taken by police to improve engagement and help reassure the community in relation to a recent local incident.

- The Superintendent noted that ancillary orders had been put in place regarding those involved in the incident, and the police had been working in partnership with the Registered Social Landlords and other organisations. The Superintendent went on to say that it is important to understand that the police can't deal with issues in isolation. The Superintendent further highlighted that a civic injunction was placed at the address.

The Graig Community Councillor asked whether some of the outcomes of this incident could be used to help prevent similar issues.

- The Superintendent confirmed that a multi-agency meeting regularly takes place, where police and partners review incidents and issues, and the police also have a central problem-solving hub that could be accessed by other officers.

The Rogerstone West Community Councillor informed the meeting that police reports are regularly provided to the Rogerstone Community Council.

The Llanwern Community Councillor asked if police Community Councillors could attend meetings remotely as an easier alternative to attendance in person.

- The Superintendent confirmed that this could be looked at.

The Marshfield Community Councillor felt that for her Community Council, a physical presence is preferred as it helps encourage respectful behaviour of those attending the meeting.

The Marshfield Community Councillor also requested an update on the current structure of the officers in the area.

- The Superintendent noted this could be sent out although several officers positions have recently been changed. The Superintendent highlighted that Newport has recruited recently, and whilst this means that the overall numbers of officers has increased, it will take some time for the inexperienced officers to develop their skills, knowledge and experience. The Superintendent noted that there would be a focus on patrols and ensuring a visible presence in Marshfield and other Community Councils.

Annual Report Requirements

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager covered the key points via the use of presentation slides which would be sent out to all members.

Community Councils must discharge their new duties including the requirement to prepare and publish an annual report which came into effect on 1st April 2022. Section 52 of the 2021 Act requires community councils, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, to prepare and publish an annual report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements over the previous year.

There is support across the sector and from the public for increasing the visibility of the work of community councils. This is to encourage communities to take an interest in what their councils do and to have easy access to information about the council's work.

An independent review panel of community and town councils cited a lack of visibility of community councils' activities. The panel found there was a significant need to increase awareness of the existence of community councils and their work within their communities, as well as a need for councils to engage with communities when making decisions.

Annual reports should provide information that strengthens the accountability of the council and increases transparency of the work undertaken. The annual report should be a proactive means of sharing information about the council's priorities, activities, and achievements.

The Community Councillors noted they had started to compile their report.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager confirmed that a training plan could be shared in the report rather than a list of who had completed what training.

The Community Council Community Councillors queried whether they could include the lack of response by the police in their report.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted the reported should be factual and based on the Community Council rather than other organisations, but perhaps they could note positive steps taken forward to deal with any issues they have faced.
- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted It was important to work constructively as well as noting constructive criticism as a learning outcome. The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted to the meeting that lessons learned should be concerned with the Community Council rather than other services.

The Marshfield Community Councillor questioned whether need to publish their report in Welsh. The Graig Community Councillor noted that the website states that on request a report can be provided in Welsh although this has never occurred.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted they will look specifically into this.

The Graig Community Councillor asked whether the report is produced by a single person and then approved by the Community Council. The Graig Community Councillor questioned whether Committees need to also publish paper reports as well as putting them on their website.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager informed the member that this was correct, but the report is likely to be made up of a number of documents brought together that may have different authors.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted that the important part of the report is that it is approved by their respective Community Council as a documented item of business at a CC meeting. The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager confirmed this was not the case, publishing on the website was sufficient to meet the legislative requirements.

The Bishton Community Councillor highlighted the finance reports aren't user friendly as they can be difficult to read.

Action:

Democratic and Electoral Services Manager to confirm duties regarding Welsh Language and the Annual Report.

All Community Councils to finalise their draft reports and consider them at a Council meeting. Final reports to be published on Community Council websites following CC meeting.

Community Councils Roles and Responsibilities.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager shared a presentation outlining the key roles and responsibilities for Community Councils to refresh and remind councillors.

There was a discussion following the presentation where it was clarified that;

- Roles and responsibilities must be clearly defined including the role of the Responsible Financial Officer, and for smaller Councils this role is often allocated to the clerk. However, absolute clarity on roles and responsibilities is key.

The Wentlooge Community Councillor asked how minutes should be published.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted the minutes are legal records of meetings and should include a summary of the discussion as well as a record of any decisions made.

The Bishton Community Councillor noted they refer any issues with the minutes to the clerk following the meeting.

The Graig Community Councillor asked whether supplementary documents should be published at least 3 days before the meeting.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager confirmed this was correct.

The Graig Community Councillor asked what is the recommended time to replace a Community Council Chair?

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted this would be as soon as possible while still following the correct procedure.

The Graig Community Councillor questioned how many Councillors are needed for a meeting to be quorum.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager will check this, but also confirmed the chair counts as a member for quorate purposes.

The Rogerstone East Community Councillor confirmed that a third of the whole CC needs to be present and must be no less than three members is needed to be quorate.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager reaffirmed that Registers of Interest need to be completed regularly and published on the CC websites.

The Bishton Community Councillor meant whether Community Councillors need to complete declaration of interest forms during meetings they have interests in.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager informed they that they would need to follow the guidance set out, such as declaring the interest and leaving the discussion.

The Wentlooge Community Councillor confirmed that Community Councillors do not need to publish their registers of interest online but must hold copies of them, as well as noting that an interest during a meeting is recorded and then must be noted on a form ready for any audit. This has been a recent change to legislation as the forms were required to be published online previously.

The Penhow Community Councillor asked what happened if Community Councils didn't do things such as publishing meeting information.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager confirmed that this opened the Council up to challenge and potentially reputational issues. Further clarity would be sought from the Monitoring Officer.

Actions

Democratic and Electoral Services Manager to seek clarity on potential risks of CC's not meeting legislative requirements.

Complaint Process

Presented by Democratic and Electoral Services Manager.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted there should a process for handling complaints in each Community Council, and this should be published on their website. There is an all

Wales model process published on the Public Service Ombudsmans website which should be used as a model.

The Graig Community Councillor asked if this complaints process was needed for complaints against the Community Council as well as complaints against the Community Councillors?

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager confirmed this was correct, the process should consider both types of complaints that they may receive.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted that if the complaint is a Code of Conduct, then it should be referred to the Monitoring Officer for consideration.

The Graig Community Councillor noted that minor issues can be dealt with by the Community Council under their policy, however larger issues should be referred to the Monitoring Officer.

Actions

All CC's to ensure that they have an appropriate Complaint Policy in place and published on their website.

Notice for Casual Vacancies

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted that any vacancies must follow the correct procedures as well as the vacancies being notified to Newport City Council to ensure that a vacancy notice with correct periods of notice is produced in both English and Welsh.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager reaffirmed that its always worth conferring with Newport City Council to make sure all steps are followed correctly.

The Graig Community Councillor asked if some costs are incurred by the Community Council in case of an election.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager confirmed that this was correct, costs of any elections are the responsibility of the Community Council.

The Bishton and Langstone Community Councillor asked if the seat is uncontested would costs still be incurred.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted that some print costs are dealt with by the Newport City Council for local elections, but ad-hoc Community Council print and mail costs are entirely picked by the Community Council.

Forward Work Program

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted that a forward work program had been created with the following items being scheduled.

- Personal safety training
- Health and safety training
- Gwent Wellbeing Plan and Newport Local Action Plan

The Bishton Community Councillor noted that Community Councils don't have alternative routes for dealing with issues concerning Newport City Council.

- The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager highlighted that the process is the same for Community Councils and City Councillors, there are no routes to bypass the policies and procedures in place.

The Penhow Community Councillor noted they funnel any issues to their City Councillors to deal with.

Rogerstone East Community Councillor confirmed that City Councillors don't get special treatment when contacting officers to deal with issues.

The Wentlooge Community Councillor noted the Community Council charter didn't have a set time to be updated, with the former Monitoring Officer bringing any changes to the charter as a standing item on the meeting agenda. This could be considered at a future meeting.

The Community Councillors would like an agenda item for best practices on statutory documents. The Bishton Community Councillor would like this "best format" for statutory documents to be there as a resource but not compulsory.

The Marshfield Community Councillor would like personal safety training to be given to Community Councillors, as this impacts on the number of people who want to stand.

The Democratic and Electoral Services Manager noted this would be covered in the personal safety training.

The Meeting was drawn to a close.

Date of Next Meeting: 5th October 2023

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One Newport Partnership Local Action Plan

Consultation Draft

One Newport is a partnership of the main public agencies in Newport including Newport City Council, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Gwent Police, Natural Resources Wales and also key local organisations like Newport City Homes and Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations.

One Newport has been working on a new Local Action Plan which will cover the important work that needs close cooperation and joint working between these organisations. The day-to-day business of these organisations isn't included in this plan e.g. repairing roads, carrying out surgery, detecting crime etc, as they know this is something they will be doing. Instead, this plan is about the extra things we need to focus on to make Newport a better place now and also for future generations. This means some of this work may take some years to make a real difference, but we will need to make a start soon, for instance by preventing health and social problems, or making sure people have the skills employers will need in coming years.

Recently a new [Gwent Public Services Board \(PSB\)](#) was set up to improve partnership working in the region. One Newport's local action plan intends to help achieve the [Gwent PSB's Well-being Plan](#) ambitions but will also make sure that Newport's unique issues get the attention they deserve.

In this consultation, we have identified the key themes and actions for partnership working in Newport and we now want to know what you think of our draft Local Action Plan. This will give us important feedback so we can start to work on the detail of what we should be doing.

Gwent Well-being Plan

Well-being Objectives

We want to create a fairer, more equitable and inclusive Gwent for all.

We want a climate-ready Gwent, where our environment is valued and protected, benefiting our well-being now and for future generations.

Steps to achieve the objectives

Take action to reduce the cost of living crisis in the longer term.

Provide and enable the supply of good quality, affordable, appropriate homes.

Take action to reduce our carbon emissions, help Gwent adapt to climate change, and protect and restore our natural environment.

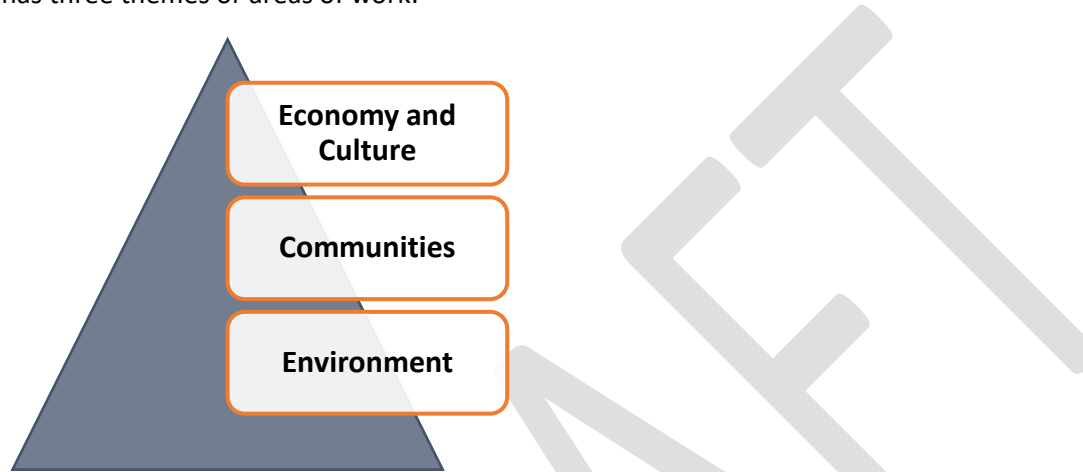
Take action to address inequities, particularly in relation to health, through the framework of the **Marmot Principles***.

Enable and support people, neighbourhoods, and communities to be resilient, connected, thriving and safe.

*The Marmot Principles can be viewed on the [Gwent Public Services \(PSB\) Website](#).

Draft Newport Local Action Plan - Themes

Our draft local action plan has three themes or areas of work:



The colour coding below shows how the actions under the themes link to the two Gwent Well-being Plan Objectives, or is other local, strategic work in Newport that would best be delivered in partnership.

Page 13



Draft Theme – Economy and Culture

Ensure opportunities are available and promoted for people at all stages of their lives to develop and enhance their education and skills.

- Note: This means partners working together to help children, young people and adults develop their skills and knowledge so that they can achieve their potential, find the right employment, and support the well-being of themselves and others.

Promote fair work and help people out of poverty, including leading Newport to become a Living Wage City.

- Note: Fair work means workers are fairly rewarded, heard and represented, and can progress in a secure, healthy, and inclusive working environment. In a Living Wage City, communities and businesses work together to tackle low pay.

Develop community wealth building projects to retain spend within the local economy.

- Note: Community wealth building” could help make Newport’s economy stronger, benefiting local people. An example is when an organisation buys its goods and services from a local business, rather than a supplier from further away. This can help the local business grow and create jobs, which gives people more money to spend, potentially in local shops and restaurants.

Collaborate with and provide direction to the Business in The Community Place Programme in Newport.

- Note: Business in the Community (BITC) and its network of businesses are focused on growing responsible business practices, for greater social and environmental impact. Its Place Programme is about bringing everyone together in a place to act on a common agreement of the challenges, opportunities and solutions, drawing on the strengths of everyone in that community.

Support revitalisation of the city centre for families, businesses, and visitors through a City Centre Masterplan and collaboration with Newport Now Business Improvement District.

- Note: A masterplan would identify priority projects for investment in the city centre that would make a positive difference for people living, working, and visiting there. The Newport Now Business Improvement District oversees the marketing and management of the city centre, representing city centre businesses.

Develop and deliver a Sports Strategy for Newport, which strengthens our role as a city of elite sport, and encourages and increases participation.

- Note: Participation in sport and physical activity is known to improve physical and mental health, and quality of life for many. A shared strategy would increase opportunities for people to enjoy and participate in sport, as well as attracting people to Newport for sports events, which would support the local economy.

Support delivery of a strategy celebrating Newport's culture, diversity, and heritage, and promoting participation for well-being.

- Note: Participation in the arts – theatre, cinema, art, music etc – is known to improve well-being and quality of life for many. A shared strategy would build on and promote Newport’s wide-ranging arts-based groups and facilities, important historic attractions, multi-cultural population, and talented creative people - helping people take part, and supporting social connections and enjoyment of life in the city.

Enable and promote a diverse events programme that brings communities together and raise the city's profile, generating social and economic benefits.

- Note: A wide programme of events would help celebrate the strengths of Newport people and their communities, increase the quality of life and vibrancy of the city, and attract visitors which would benefit local businesses.

Draft Theme – Communities

Increase volunteering opportunities and empower residents to make their communities stronger and more resilient.

- Note: This could involve building on participatory budgeting work already undertaken in Newport, which allows residents to decide on how public money is spent, to benefit communities, improving the support One Newport gives to the voluntary and charity sectors, and increasing the involvement and participation of residents in community development work .

Develop an integrated approach to tackling poverty and inequality.

- Note: This is about partners working together and involving communities to improve wellbeing. Exmaples would be working together to address the cost-of-living crisis, adoping common approaches across the agencies who support children and families and putting in place area-based programmes in our most disadvantaged communities building on work in Pillgwenlly and Ringland.

Promote and support Newport's Integrated and Wellbeing Networks (IWNs) in connecting and enhancing community assets.

- Note: IWNs are multi-agency and multi-sector partnerships that work together to tackle issues in disadvantaged areas, including addressing health inequalities. We will build on the IWN's in place in Pillgwenlly and Ringland and look to expand this approach to more areas.

Tackle and prevent homelessness through collaborative strategies and plans.

- Note: We will look to intervene early to prevent homelessness and treat homelessness as a joint public services matter – rather than just a housing issue. It would involve services 'placing the individual at the centre' and recognising that people at risk of homelessness may have experienced trauma in their lives.

Oversee implementation of the Pill Masterplan to enhance the physical, community and economic environment. Use this learning in other communities.

- Note: The Pill Masterplan is a multi-agency, approach focussing on Pill. It follows much community engagement which means that the Masterplan will focus on what matters most to local people. Lessons Learned in Pill will be applied in other areas of Newport.

Promote sustainable and affordable food provision.

- Note: This could include mapping food access and using One Newport partner procurement to support sustainable, affordable, food provision. Where possible we will support local food provision (recognising that Newport is not a major food producing area), which would also contribute to the community wealth building work in our Economy and Culture theme.

Support the work of Safer Newport to promote a more cohesive city.

- Note: Safer Newport is the city's community safety partnership, concentrating on local community safety issues including antisocial behaviour serious and organised crime and local neighbourhood issues.

Draft Theme – Environment

Protect and enhance our green spaces and waterways for nature and people.

- Note: Accessible and high-quality urban green and blue spaces, such as parks, urban forests, tree-lined streets, allotments, riverbanks and coastlines, provide significant mental and physical health benefits to local communities and also help to lessen the effects of air and noise pollution. Green and blue spaces provide crucial habitats for wildlife and contribute towards a healthy and thriving ecosystem. We will ensure that our green and blue spaces, including our nature reserves, are protected and enhanced for both local communities and wildlife.

Promote sustainable and active Travel as the preferred modes of transport in the City.

- Note: Active travel covers any form of human-powered transportation, such as walking, cycling, or scooting, instead of using a car or other vehicle. To encourage active travel around the city we will continue to develop new routes and upgrade existing ones (to make them safer and more accessible) to link up existing active travel routes. We will also work together to encourage more sustainable travel using public transport.

Tackle the climate and nature emergency, through climate action and protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

- Note: The climate and nature emergency refers to the crisis we are facing due to the significant and harmful changes occurring in our climate and natural environment. Biodiversity is the variety of living things on Earth, from bacteria to animals and plants, and the different environments they live in. We will work in partnership to address the climate and nature emergency and minimise our contributions to climate change.

Deliver climate change mitigation through our built environment: Public Sector Estate // Housing // Connected Green Infrastructure.

- Note: The built environment, including buildings and housing, is responsible for a significant amount of the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. By making changes to the way we design and use buildings and housing, such as increasing energy efficiency and using renewable energy sources, we can reduce these emissions and help to address climate change. Green infrastructure refers to a connected network of natural and semi-natural features such as parks, rain gardens and green roofs, that provide multiple benefits to people and the environment, such as biodiversity conservation, flood control, air purification, and recreational opportunities.

Develop strategies to address flood risk.

- Note: Newport is located at the meeting point of the River Usk and the Bristol Channel, which makes it vulnerable to flooding from both river and coastal sources. We will work together to lessen the risks from flooding.

Promote the Circular Economy as a method of minimising the impacts of production and consumption.

- Note: The circular economy aims to keep resources in use for as long as possible by designing products and systems that can be reused and recycled, reducing waste and pollution. We will work to promote the principles of the green economy in all the work that we do.

Consultation Questions

Questions for each theme

- To what extent do you think this theme will improve well-being in Newport?
Fully / Partly / Not at all / Don't know
- Do you have comments on any of the particular actions listed in this theme?
- We want to involve local people and organisations in making Newport a better place to live. What could you, or other people, do to contribute to this theme?
- Would you make any changes to this theme?

Questions on the overall draft plan

- Thinking about all the themes and actions together, to what extent do you agree with this plan?
Fully / Partly / Not at all / Don't know
- Are there important things we have missed in this plan?
- Do you think this Local Action Plan will contribute to the Gwent Well-being Plan?
Fully / Partly / Not at all / Don't know
- Do you have any further comments on this plan?

Consultation Details

To provide feedback on the draft action plan, please [complete the online survey](#).

For more information on One Newport and the Local Area Action Plan email one.newport@newport.gov.uk.

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Well-being Plan for Gwent

Contents

Introduction	3
Public Services Board Membership	4
How our plan was developed	5
Timeline	6
Seven Well-being Goals	8
The Marmot Principles – Building a Fairer Gwent	9
Overarching principles	10
Effectively working together	10
Communication and Engagement	10
Welsh language and culture	10
Performance management	11
Our Well-being Objectives	12
We want to create a fairer, more equitable and inclusive Gwent for all.	12
We want a climate-ready Gwent, where our environment is valued and protected, benefitting our well-being now and for future generations.	13
Steps	14
Take action to reduce the cost of living crisis in the longer term.	14
Provide and enable the supply of good quality, affordable, appropriate homes.	15
Take action to reduce our carbon emissions, help Gwent adapt to climate change, and protect and restore our natural environment.....	16

Take action to address inequities, particularly in relation to health, through the framework of the Marmot Principles.....	17
Enable and support people, neighbourhoods, and communities to be resilient, connected, thriving and safe.....	18
What happens next?	19
How the Marmot Principles link to the steps	20
Connections with other Partnerships and Plans	21
Local Delivery Groups	21
Regional Partnership Board (RPB).....	21
Building a Fairer Gwent – a Marmot Region.....	21
Safer Gwent - Community Safety Partnership.....	21
Cardiff Capital Region	22
Strategic Corporate Plans.....	22
Area Statements.....	22
Greater Gwent Nature Recovery Action Plan (GGNRAP)	22
Third Sector Partnership Agreement.....	23
Participatory budgeting.....	23
Appendices	24

Introduction

Welcome to the first Well-being Plan for Gwent, setting out how we are working together to respond to some of the key issues identified in our most recent Well-being Assessment. As part of planning for the next 25 years, and beyond, this five year plan sets out what we will be doing to improve well-being across the region, now and for future generations. Many of the issues we know that affect the well-being of a region will take more than a few months or even years to solve, so the plan has tried to look for longer term solutions which may take a bit longer to show results. There will, of course, be things we can do in the short term, but those will need to help deliver benefits in the years to come.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act established Public Services Boards, more commonly known as PSBs, for each local authority area to work together to improve well-being in their area. PSBs are made up of senior leaders from the Local Authority, the Health Board, the Fire and Rescue Service and Natural Resources Wales. A number of other organisations are also invited to join the PSB, such as the Police Service, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Public Health Wales, and the voluntary sector.

In September 2021 the five PSBs in Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire, and Torfaen came together to form the Gwent PSB, working across the region, and locally. This decision was made to simplify and strengthen the existing partnership arrangements by bringing all the public services together. The move to a regional PSB, with collective responsibility for improving well-being, makes it easier for partners to actively get involved, to add value and avoid doing the same thing several times.

The Well-being Assessment for Gwent, published last year, showed that inequality and deprivation in our communities and the need to take action on the climate and nature emergencies were having an impact on well-being. This Well-being Plan outlines how we, the PSB, will work together to tackle the social, economic, environmental and cultural issues which can affect well-being in Gwent.

Public Services Board Membership



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru



Mae Landlordiaid Cymdeithasol Cofrestredig Gwent yn aelodau o'r sefydliad Cartrefi Cymunedol Cymru
Gwent Registered Social Landlords are members of Community Housing Cymru



Heddlu Gwent Police



Page 22



How our plan was developed

We used the new Well-being Assessment to identify the issues which had the most effect on well-being, and where we could achieve more by working together than working alone and making better use of the resources we have. This is often known as 'added value'. We identified these issues:

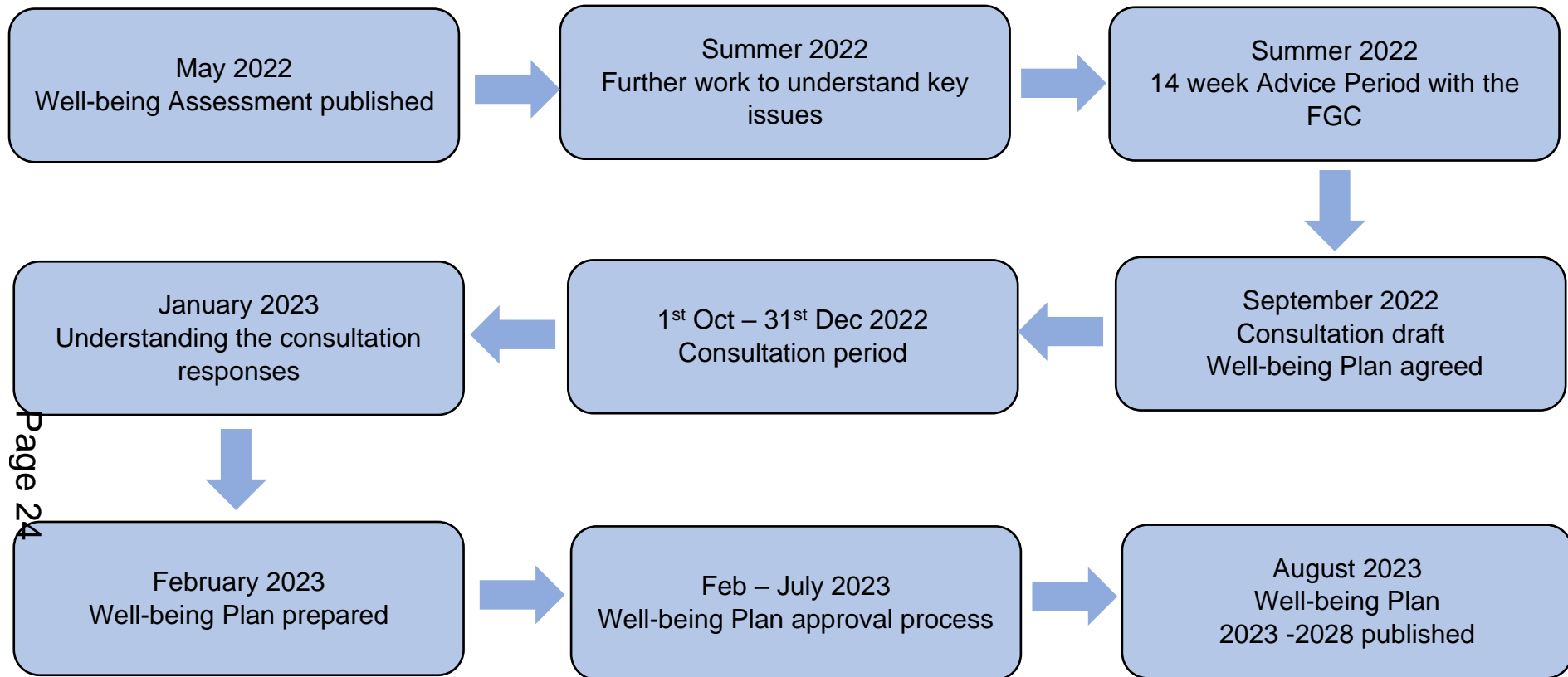
- Health inequalities and well-being (including housing)
- Community cohesion (including community safety and substance misuse)
- Environment (including climate and nature emergencies)

Over the summer of 2022 more work was done to get a better understanding of these issues and how they affected our communities. This involved pulling on a wide range of knowledge and experience, including from the Future Generations Commissioner's office, learning from others and examples of good practice from across Wales and beyond. The Future Generations Report was another source of information about what the future might mean for things like jobs or flooding.

The draft Well-being Plan for Gwent went out for consultation in October 2022. It had three objectives, each with several supporting steps. Full details of the consultation process can be found in Appendix 1.

Following the consultation, the responses were assessed and analysed. The responses came from five sources: the survey, community events, stakeholder events, statutory consultee responses and individual written responses. To understand what the most important issues were for people the issues raised in the consultation were then ranked according to how many of the response sources commented on each one. These became the objectives and steps in this Well-being Plan. We will continue to use the information from the consultation as we develop each step's delivery plan as well as continuing to engage communities and groups in our work going forward.

Timeline



Five Ways of Working

Just as when we were preparing the Well-being Assessment, we have used the five ways of working, collaboration, integration, involvement, long-term, and prevention, to guide our work. This means that while considering how to improve well-being in our communities now, we've also looked at how well-being could be affected in the future and how we can prevent issues becoming worse. We will need to work together to see what we're each doing in a community and how this affects what we do, individually and in partnership. Finally, but most importantly, we want our communities, professionals, businesses, and others to identify the issues which are most important to them. As we develop how we will be delivering the Objectives and Steps (regional and local delivery plans) we will continue to use these principles to guide our work.



Figure 1: The 5 ways of working from the Well-being of Future Generations Act

Seven Well-being Goals

The actions in this Well-being Plan must contribute to the Well-being Goals for Wales. Together they show the Wales we'd like for the future and cover all aspects of well-being. Each of the goals are as important as each other, although the steps in the plan may do more for one goal than for another.

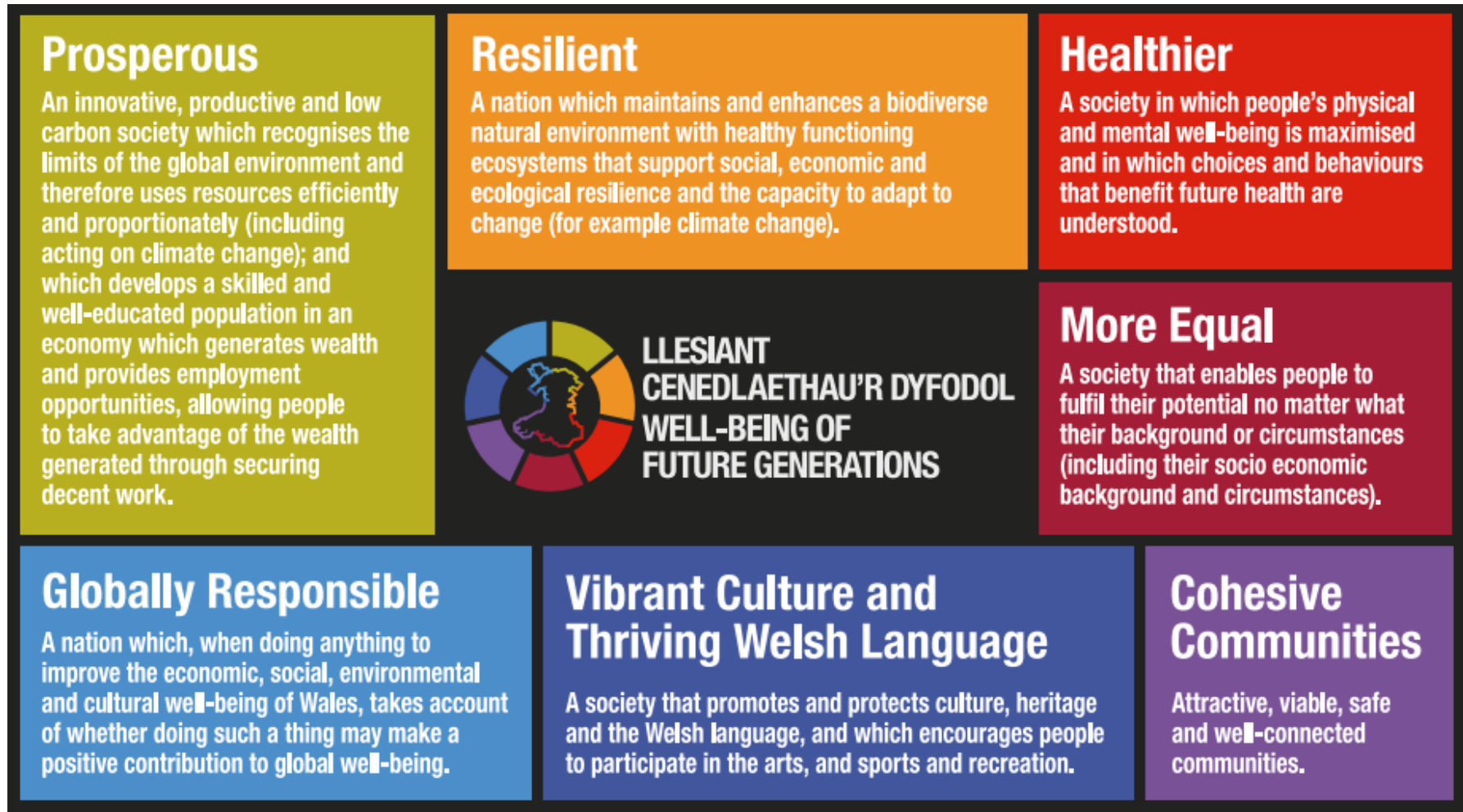


Figure 2: The 7 Well-being Goals from the Well-being of Future Generations Act

The Marmot Principles – Building a Fairer Gwent

Recognising the inequality that exists in our communities, identified in the Well-being Assessment, the Gwent Public Services Board has agreed to become a 'Marmot region' using this collaborative approach to undertake evidence-based action to reduce inequalities in Gwent.

The Marmot Principles provide a framework to inform the actions to respond to the challenges faced across Gwent. This will re-focus and accelerate progress towards reducing the root causes of health and related inequalities across Gwent. As part of this, the PSB will use the eight Marmot Principles, alongside the Objectives and Steps, to shape the delivery of this Well-being Plan.

Eight Marmot Principles

1. Give every child the best start in life
2. Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
3. Create fair employment and good work for all
4. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention
7. Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes
8. Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together

The Institute of Health Equity is producing a report for the PSB detailing the actions needed to tackle inequity across Gwent. As the delivery plans are developed this report will help to guide our work. The report, appendix 2, was published in June 2023 and is available [here](#).



Overarching principles

As a new PSB we have agreed that there are some things that we would all want to sign up to. These aren't Objectives or Steps but they are the things that will make us work more effectively together and make the positive changes we want for Gwent. They are our Overarching Principles, our ways of working, and reflect the five ways of working in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Effectively working together

Public Services Boards were established to promote better joined up working and a better understanding of how the different organisations contribute to the well-being of an area. We must make sure that what we do isn't making it more difficult for others to do what they need to. We should be sharing knowledge, expertise, and resources whenever possible and avoid doing the same thing many times over. There will be things that are best done by one or two partners, but where working together is the best option, we will do this. This Well-being Plan is about the things we can do better together, the 'added value'.

Communication and Engagement

While we have been developing the Well-being Assessment and Plan we have tried to engage with people and communities. We know we haven't always been as successful as we would have liked to be, and the Covid-19 restrictions have made it even harder to meet you. As we continue to develop and deliver this plan we want to keep talking with you, to understand your concerns and ideas. We also want to work with our communities, when we can, to create local solutions that contribute to the regional ones.

A full report about the Plan's consultation is available here [Appendix 1](#). If you'd like to be involved in the future, either just to be kept informed, or to be more involved where possible, please contact: GwentPSB@caerphilly.gov.uk

Welsh language and culture

A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language is one of the goals in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. Each of the seven well-being goals describes an aspect of the Wales we want for the future, and they are all interlinked. The Welsh language forms a part of, and plays a part in all aspects of employment, education, culture, health and social care, community cohesion, the economy and more.

Being able to use the Welsh language is a valuable skill in all parts of life across Wales. It is also a key part of Wales' cultural heritage. Each of the PSB members have a statutory duty to promote the Welsh language, but together we will encourage the increase in the use of Welsh by; using it more with each other, consulting more in Welsh and producing more of our information bilingually, rather than just our main documents.

The PSB organisations are major employers and together we can promote opportunities for our staff and workforce to learn and use the language. Schemes like 'Helo Blod,' can be used by the PSB to promote the Welsh language together as members. The Welsh language is also a central part of the community services such as health, social and primary care. 'More than Just Words' aims to improve the service for social services, health, and social care. The PSB will continue to use media and social media through both languages and look at how else it can encourage the use of the Welsh language in all its activities.

Performance management

We need to know whether what we're doing is making a difference. We have agreed to have a single 'performance management' process, which will show us how well-being is improving. The indicators will be included in the Step Delivery Plans to make sure that we're looking at the right things. The annual reports will include how much progress we've made against these key measures. The PSB will need to take responsibility for ensuring that we're making the progress we've agreed we need to make.

Because the PSB is all about partnership working, we will also need to share the information we each have around issues. Each of our organisations is collecting data all the time, and there's also research and information coming from universities, Government agencies, the Census and a range of other places. All this information will be useful to the PSB, and the individual member organisations and we need to find a way of being able to share that safely and efficiently.

Our Well-being Objectives

Using the evidence in the Well-being Assessment, the PSB has identified two interconnecting objectives (what we want to achieve). These will set the direction for our work for the next five years and beyond.

We want to create a fairer, more equitable and inclusive Gwent for all.

The latest Well-being Assessment showed that although our communities are strong with many people feeling connected to their neighbourhoods and proud of their surroundings, the inequalities that exist in our communities have the potential to impact on all aspects of well-being both at a personal and community level. There are also a range of challenges that could potentially widen these inequalities in the future and impact negatively on well-being. People who live in more deprived communities have fewer years of life that are free from ill health and are more likely to have shorter lives. Children from deprived households get poorer school results; limiting their opportunities and increasing the risk that poverty will be passed from one generation to the next. Some people in our communities are experiencing in-work poverty with the amount of spare money they have after paying their bills making it difficult to afford food, transport, energy and to be digitally connected – especially as costs increase.

Many people still feel unsafe, lonely or alone. Widening economic, health, well-being and other inequalities have affected community cohesion, safety and empowerment. The assessment tells us that home ownership is already unaffordable for many low-income households, and as house prices rise more pressure is put on our social housing stock. Future Gwent will also need more housing stock that meets the needs of an ageing population and changing family structures and is resilient to a changing climate.

The Covid-19 pandemic, the cost of living crisis, the UK's exit from the EU, the war in Ukraine, and the increasing impacts of climate change, make the lives, livelihoods, health, safety and well-being of the people of Gwent even more challenging. If action isn't taken, this will lead to poorer health and well-being because of increased deprivation, substance misuse, mental health problems, civil disorder and crime, and antisocial behaviour. Evidence is already showing this will impact the health and well-being of already disadvantaged people and communities the most, who will need additional focus and support.

We want a climate-ready Gwent, where our environment is valued and protected, benefitting our well-being now and for future generations.

The latest Well-being Assessment showed that Gwent's countryside, coastline, rivers and urban greenspaces are not all in good condition. Many of our plants and animals are in decline. This drop is, in turn, making it more difficult to deal with challenges such as climate change, poverty and inequality. The 'green economy' could provide jobs in the industries of the future such as renewables, energy efficiency and decarbonisation and supporting good health. Many of the unsustainable approaches that are putting pressure on our natural resources are also causing the climate to change. We need Gwent's natural resources to be resilient to the impacts of a changing climate including more extreme weather events. There will also be challenges associated with transitioning to a low carbon future, and we will need to consider the whole energy system – heat, power and transport. Whilst projections of milder winters associated with a changing climate may help to reduce fuel poverty, we know that much of our housing stock has poor thermal efficiency and will be challenging to retrofit.

For us to enjoy the benefits that nature can provide, our natural areas must be healthy and able to withstand threats and disturbance, such as climate change, urban development and pollution. This will require us all to work differently and really understand how we interact with our environment and the impacts we're having.

To do this we need to change our food, energy and transport systems so they work better for nature and for us, reducing climate change and protecting the resources our future generations will rely on. Developing the 'green economy' could provide local jobs in the industries of the future such as renewables, energy efficient housing and decarbonisation. Increasing the supply of locally grown food is better for nature, our health and reduces pollution. If we change how we travel around Gwent we can reduce carbon emissions, benefit local wildlife and our well-being.

Steps

We have identified five steps that will help us to achieve our two well-being objectives. Delivery plans for each step explaining what will be done in the short, medium and longer term, who will do it and by when, will be developed during the first year of the plan using the five ways of working as a framework. These will be published as part of the first annual report. Work may begin on delivering some steps before the delivery plans are completed if it can be, especially if we already have the information we need to take action. The delivery plans will be complemented by local delivery plans at a county level. These will be written by Local Delivery Groups, which mirror the membership of the PSB but at a more local level.

Take action to reduce the cost of living crisis in the longer term.

Although the cost of living crisis began after the Well-being Assessment was completed, we know that it is likely to make the poverty, deprivation and inequity in our communities worse and can increase crime and antisocial behaviour. Voluntary and community groups, councils and others are already providing support to many and will continue to do what they can.

While dealing with the immediate issues we must make sure that what we do now doesn't make things even harder in the future. The right training and skills will enable people to get decent work with pay that helps them to provide for their families. The growth in local renewable energy production and use, could provide better jobs, a cleaner environment and potentially cheaper energy for everyone. The need to make our homes and businesses more energy efficient and better insulated, will offer opportunities for local social enterprises and traditional businesses.

Technological changes will mean that services can be provided differently, as we saw during the pandemic, with services provided virtually or closer to home, offering alternative travel options and reducing pollution. We will need to make sure that any changes in the way people access services is designed around their needs and uses new technology to support those. Local food production will help people be able to eat healthy, more affordable food as well as providing opportunities to share their knowledge, and failures, with others. More local food production also helps to reduce the impact on the environment and is less prone to supply disruption.

Links to the other steps



Homes



Environment



Health



Communities

Contribution to the national Well-being Goals

Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Culture & Language	Global

Provide and enable the supply of good quality, affordable, appropriate homes.

Having a home is central to a person's well-being. It means they can get a job, an education, the help and support they may need and allows them to feel part of a community or neighbourhood. Homes can be owned by the person living in them, rented from the council, a housing association, or a private landlord. How many homes are rented or owned is different across the region, as are the costs of buying or renting a home. The Well-being Assessment showed that the average house price in Monmouthshire is around three times that in Blaenau Gwent. Being able to afford to pay the rent or mortgage is only part of the story.

The cost of living in that home has also been increasing and many homes could be much more energy efficient, tackling both climate change and fuel poverty. As Wales moves towards being carbon neutral the need to make homes more energy efficient and better insulated is becoming more important. Insulating homes should help people to stay healthier for longer, help to reduce energy use and therefore costs, provide good quality local jobs as well as helping to protect the natural environment around the world.

Homes need to be in the right place to support individuals and the community, with access to local shops, workplaces, schools, health care, cultural and leisure activities, and transport. We know that as the climate changes there are likely to be more floods, storms, heatwaves and other weather events and homes need to be able to cope with those. Communities are changing, with more blended families, older people and people living alone, so housing needs to be adaptable and suitable for those changes.

The consultation showed that having good quality, affordable housing was an important issue for our communities. How housing is provided is very different across the region. The PSB wants to work together to improve the quality of homes in Gwent, but it will take some time to identify work we can do together because of the different rules and funding available to the different organisations.

Links to other steps



Cost of living



Environment



Health



Communities

Contribution to the national Well-being Goals

Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Culture & Language	Global

Take action to reduce our carbon emissions, help Gwent adapt to climate change, and protect and restore our natural environment.

Protecting the environment for future generations is one of the greatest challenges of our time. The land, air, water, trees, plants, animals, and insects provide us with everything we need to live. However, our need for new homes and workplaces, renewable energy, recreation, and food production are putting nature under pressure. Without a healthy environment across Gwent there can be no well-being benefits for our communities.

The effects of climate change are being felt in our communities through flooding and heat waves. The Welsh public sector is committed to become carbon neutral by 2030. We must reduce Gwent’s carbon emissions by increasing our use of renewable and sustainable energy sources, increasing availability of local food, reducing waste, and changing how we travel around Gwent. We want to support our communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change, recognising that some communities are more exposed to floods, heatwaves, air pollution and other climate risks to health.

We need to better manage the demands on Gwent’s natural environment and protect, connect and restore nature. We’ll support community green/blue space initiatives which bring communities together, especially in areas of Gwent which have least access to local, quality outdoor spaces for health and well-being. Whilst focusing on the immediate needs across Gwent, we’ll also ensure our decisions consider future trends, and don’t make things even harder for future generations.

Links to other steps



Cost of living



Health



Homes



Communities

Contribution to the national Well-being Goals

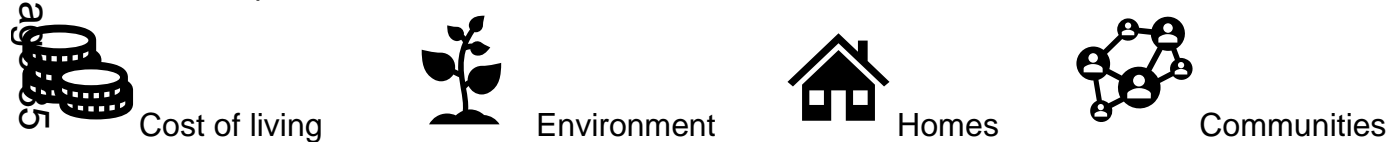
Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Culture & Language	Global

Take action to address inequities, particularly in relation to health, through the framework of the Marmot Principles.

People’s health and well-being is affected by many things, clean air, water, and food, being able to get decent work, a suitable home, having local shops, access to culture and leisure activities, a quality education, good transport and social networks as well as health information and care. Where someone lives and how much money they have impacts on their health and happiness, it can lead to poorer health and less opportunity to thrive in life.

The Gwent PSB has agreed to use the framework of the eight Marmot Principles, developed by Prof. Sir Michael Marmot and his team at the Institute of Health Equity, which focus on the central issues that affect fairness, health and well-being. This approach will help to identify how to address the root causes of poor health and inequity across Gwent. The Institute of Health Equity has written a report, using the evidence from the Well-being Assessment, the consultation responses, and their experience of working in other areas across the UK, to make recommendations for how the Gwent PSB and other regional partnerships, can take action to reduce inequities across Gwent. This report will form the basis of the action plan for this step.

Links to other steps



Contribution to the national Well-being Goals

Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Culture & Language	Global

Enable and support people, neighbourhoods, and communities to be resilient, connected, thriving and safe.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, communities across Gwent pulled together to support each other in times of need. But the cost of living crisis and the war in Ukraine have made existing inequities and poverty worse, with crime and antisocial behaviour increasing as people find life harder. We also know that there are some people, or communities, living in the region that don't feel as welcome, safe, or supported as they should. This could be because they are old, sick, vulnerable, at risk from domestic violence, drug misuse or racism. The amount of violence and abuse against women and girls by men is a prime example. Many of these community safety issues have been there for decades, with poor housing, health, and jobs, making it harder for people to improve their well-being.

Thriving communities need safe, affordable, suitable homes, access to sports, leisure, and cultural activities, with opportunities to get involved through paid work or volunteering, and in the language of their choice. There are historical buildings and areas across Gwent that could be used as community resources for local arts programmes and other activities, providing an opportunity to promote and share knowledge about the local heritage, history, and culture.

Communities need decent, reliable transport that enables people to access services, get to decent work, attend events, or visit family and friends, safely, cheaply and in a low carbon way. The beautiful countryside provides the space for exercise and recreation for people of all ages, benefiting their physical and mental health and providing opportunities to reduce the effects of extreme weather events, caused by a changing climate.

Links to other steps



Cost of living



Environment



Health



Homes

Contribution to the national Well-being Goals

Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive	Culture & Language	Global

What happens next?

During the first year of this Plan we will be preparing detailed delivery plans at a regional and local level. Working with our Local Delivery Groups, other partnerships, communities, Community Councils, voluntary groups, and others, we will get a better understanding of what needs to be done and how best to do it. These delivery plans will form the basis of the first annual report, along with updates. There may be things we can do in the short term, such as finding out more about how something similar has been done before or declaring a nature emergency or promoting fair pay within our organisations. But we must make sure that these support our long-term objectives and the steps we have identified.

How the Marmot Principles link to the steps

	Cost of living	Housing	Environment	Health equity	Community
Give every child the best start in life	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives	✓			✓	✓
Create fair employment and good work for all	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure a healthy standard of living for all	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention	✓	✓		✓	✓
Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes					✓
Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together	✓	✓	✓		

Connections with other Partnerships and Plans

Across the Gwent region, and beyond, there are a number of other partnerships and initiatives which will make a difference to people and rather than repeat what these groups are doing, the Gwent PSB will look to work with them to deliver its objectives for Gwent.

Local Delivery Groups

In each of the local authority areas which make up the Gwent region, Local Delivery Groups (LDGs) have been set up to deliver the PSB's objectives at the local level. Their membership is similar to that of the PSB, with additional local representation. Activity to deliver the objectives may look different in different areas and the LDGs will be able to better connect with and draw on local expertise and groups to provide a local flavour. In time these groups may want to deliver their own action plans creating a link between local and regional priorities and action.

Regional Partnership Board (RPB)

The Gwent RPB brings together the health board, local authorities and the voluntary sector to ensure effective services, and care and support is in place to best meet the needs of the people of Gwent. The priority areas they need to work on are services for: older people with complex needs and long-term conditions, including dementia; people with learning disabilities; carers, including young carers; Integrated Family Support Services; children with complex needs due to disability or illness. The RPB has written a Population Needs Assessment and an Area Plan, available here www.gwentrpb.wales/home. These complement the Well-being Assessment and this Well-being Plan. The PSB will support the work of the RPB, and they will support our work, but we will make sure that we're not duplicating each other's work, particularly at the local level through shared actions working through the Integrated Services Partnership Boards and Neighbourhood Care Networks.

Building a Fairer Gwent – a Marmot Region

A Marmot Region is a network of local stakeholders committed to tackling inequity through action on the social determinants of health – the social and economic conditions which shape our health with action framed within eight principles. Becoming a Marmot Region demonstrates that we want to work together at a senior level to improve equity across Gwent, and improve the lives of all our communities.

Safer Gwent - Community Safety Partnership

Safer Gwent, is a regional multi-agency Community Safety Partnership (CSP), made up of statutory bodies under the Crime & Disorder Act, and wider partners who have a key role in addressing the community safety portfolio. Safer Gwent aims to carry out, on behalf of the Gwent PSB, the oversight of regional community safety issues and quality assure the coordination of regional activity to support local CSP delivery. In addition, Safer Gwent is uniquely positioned to take forward the Gwent PSB community safety elements of step 5, whilst ensuring that the PSB is fully cited on and able to respond to issues identified within the annual community safety strategic assessment.

Cardiff Capital Region

The Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) is a collaborative partnership comprising the ten Local Authorities that make up South East Wales and represents almost half the population of Wales. The CCR delivers a wide range of regeneration and investment projects, managed by a dedicated team and a ring-fenced £1.2bn investment fund, through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, which aims to deliver 25,000 new jobs and generate an additional £4bn of private sector investment by 2036. The CCR's high-profile projects include: the £50m Innovation Investment Capital fund, supporting business to scale up; the £50m Sites and Premises Fund, developing new sites to support the delivery of their Industrial and Economic Plan; the £10m Challenge Fund, supporting Local Authority innovation to accelerate decarbonisation and transform communities; the Homes for the Region programme to deliver 2,800 new homes; and several Metro projects transforming public transport infrastructure across the region.

Strategic Corporate Plans

These are the plans each of the organisations that make up the PSB have for what they are going to do over the next 3 – 5 years. These have different names in different organisations but they all set the high level direction for that organisation including their own Well-being Objectives which should, as much as possible, align to those of the PSB.

Area Statements

The South East Wales Area Statement (SEWAS) informs internal and external planning across Gwent and helps stakeholders (including the PSB) consider different ways of working together.

The Area Statement process helps explore and shape aspirational ways of working. It has 4 themes: [Linking Our Landscapes](#), [Climate Ready Gwent](#), [Healthy Active Connected](#), and [Ways of Working](#). The collaborative actions identified under each theme are underpinned by best available evidence, local knowledge and understanding gathered throughout the development of the SEWAS. The outcomes under each of the four strategic themes will deliver the Area Statement vision for South East Wales. This vision has been developed collaboratively over the course of the Area Statement process and is underpinned by what specialists and wider stakeholders want to see in Gwent.

Greater Gwent Nature Recovery Action Plan (GGNRAP)

[Greater Gwent Nature Recovery Action Plan](#)

The GGNRAP is a strategic framework, aiming to halt and reverse negative biodiversity trends, aligning national policy and legislation, informed by evidence including the [Greater Gwent State of Nature Report 2020](#), the South East Wales Area Statement and Gwent Well-being Assessments. It is intended to be used by public bodies and organisations which operate at a regional level across the Greater Gwent area, including those on the Gwent PSB, to support better involvement that drives positive change and collaborative action together, long term. It is

also a guide for the Local Nature Recovery Action Plans which focus more on local action to promote biodiversity in each Local Nature Partnership area found within Gwent.

Third Sector Partnership Agreement

The Third Sector Partnership Agreement between the Gwent PSB and the wider third sector recognises the mutual benefits that can be gained from close co-operation between the statutory partners and third sector across the Gwent PSB landscape. It builds on previous local versions and sets out guidelines for how all parties should work together. Partnership Agreements with the third sector have been identified by Welsh Government as good practice.

Participatory budgeting

Funding has been made available to the five Gwent Local Authorities to lead participatory budgeting programmes in their areas. The authorities are currently at different stages of development and with differing levels of investment. Some local authorities have now completed one or more programmes. Initial feedback has suggested participatory budgeting is effective in distributing funding to community groups, can help achieve wellbeing objectives, can generate high levels of participation and is well received. Public Health Wales are leading a review of participatory budgeting undertaken across Gwent, to inform and improve future use of this approach.

Appendices

Appendix 1 [Consultation and engagement](#)

Appendix 2 [Building a Fairer Gwent: Improving Health Equity and the Social Determinants](#)

Appendix 3 <https://www.gwentrpb.wales/area-plan>

Appendix 4 [PSBs in Gwent's Well-being Objectives 2018 – 2023](#)