

Scrutiny Report



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 18 April 2019

Subject Wales Audit Office Wellbeing of Future Generations examination report

Author Overview and Scrutiny Officer

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

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Rhys Cornwall	Head of People and Business Change
Tracy Mckim	Policy, Partnership and Involvement Manager
Gareth Jones	Performance Audit Lead

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

1. Consider the Wales Audit Office report on the use of the sustainable development principles contained in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, when developing and meeting the Council's Wellbeing Objectives.
2. Consider the Officer response to the report and any questions the Committee deem applicable.
3. Provide, if necessary, any comments and recommendations to Cabinet on the WAO report.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (2015) (the Act) requires public bodies in Wales to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other, and prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.

- 2.2 The Wales Audit Office (WAO) report will be fed into a larger WAO report looking at the 44 bodies that are covered by the Act. This report will be submitted to the National Assembly in 2020.
- 2.3 The report is based on the outcomes of workshops, reviewing key documents, and interviews with Officers, key stakeholders and elected Members. Each research element aimed to identify how the sustainable development principles and the five ways of working were applied. The Council's key strategies and plans include the Economic Growth Strategy 2015 -25, the Newport City Centre Masterplan and the Local Development Plan.
- 2.4 The report looked at a section of the Council's wellbeing objective, *'to promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment'*. The part, *'maintain our focus on regenerating the city centre to become one of the UK's top cities'* was examined.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 WAO Report: Wellbeing of Future Generations: An examination of the step of 'Maintain our focus on regenerating the city centre to become one of the UK's top city' – Newport City Council – **Appendix 1**

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

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

- Analyse what the WAO have found during their audit and establish if the management response provided is appropriate.
- Question the NCC officers present on the findings of the WAO and the management response they provided. Consider whether the Officers have action plans and processes in place to achieve the recommendations of the WAO report and the statutory responsibilities set out by the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.
- Consider the *Positive Indicators of the Five Ways of Working* provided in the report and establish whether the Officers use the indicators as a good practice guide when planning and evaluating work.
- Conclusions:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the reports?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the performance of the Service Area?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the Cabinet?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- The WAO report links to the Wellbeing Objective, '*Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment*' and the corresponding Corporate Plan Commitment, '*Thriving City*':

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

6 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

6.1 General questions

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

6.2 Wellbeing Goals

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

6.3 Sustainable Development Principles

- Does the report / proposal demonstrate how as an authority we are working in accordance with the sustainable development principles from the act when planning services?
 - Long Term**

The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs

- **Prevention**

How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives

- **Integration**

Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies

- **Collaboration**

Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives

- **Involvement**

The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

7. Background Papers

Include all additional documents that are referenced in the report, and those that you have used as background reading. Hyperlink to online versions of them if available.

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)

Report Completed: April 2018