

Report

Council

Part 1

Date: 1 March 2022

Subject **Regional Population Needs Assessment (PNA)**

Purpose

- To seek approval of the PNA from Newport City Council prior to submission to Welsh Government
- To receive comments from members on the highlighted need in the PNA and if this need reflects Newport City area.
- To demonstrate how the PNA aligns to the regional Wellbeing Assessment required Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

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Summary As set out in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 local authorities and local Health Boards must enter into a partnership to produce one population assessment report per local government electoral cycle. The latest PNA has been developed and the Regional Partnership Board are seeking sign off from NCC.

Proposal **To agree PNA following consultation and engagement including NCC scrutiny**

Action by Full council

Timetable Agreement and sign off by 31st March 2022

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Performance Scrutiny committee (21st Jan 2022)
- Cllr Paul Cockeram, Cabinet Member Social Services
- Sally Ann Jenkins Director Social Services

Signed

Background

As set out in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 local authorities and local Health Boards must enter into a partnership to produce one population assessment report per local government electoral cycle. The Act also stipulates:

- the Regional Partnership Board is required to produce the Population Needs Assessment (PNA) and
- local authorities and local health boards are required formally to approve the PNA report and make available on their websites.

A copy of the population assessment report must be completed by April 2022 and also be sent to Welsh Ministers at the time of publication.

The first regional Population Needs Assessment (PNA) was overseen by the Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) in April 2016. The PNA aligned to Wellbeing Assessment completed by Public Service Boards as required under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. The 2022 PNA report will also align, integrate and cross reference the Gwent Wellbeing Assessment to avoid duplication and create a joint population wellbeing assessment for the region (this section can be read alongside the regional Wellbeing Assessment or as an individual document).

The first PNA was approved assigned off across the region on 1st April 2017(follow link to RPB website Population Needs Assessment [Home - Gwentrp](#))

The identified need was used to develop the regional Area Plan. Following the publication of the regional report each local authority and health board required to prepare and publish a plan setting out the range and level of services they proposed to provide, or arrange to be provided, in response to the population needs assessment. The plans are formally referred to as Area plans and a statutory requirement under the SSWB Act. The first regional Area Plan was published 1st April 2018 and set out the partnership working and delivery of services in response to each core theme identified in the population assessment.

In March 2021, Welsh Government released supplementary advice for Regional Partnership Boards to support development of Population Needs Assessments (PNAs). There were no changes to the guidance, however, some additional information and definition of core themes were included but the statutory PNA themes have not changed and are set out below.

- children and young people
- older people
- health / physical disabilities
- learning disability/autism
- mental health
- sensory impairment
- carers who need support; and
- violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

In Gwent we took an approach to produce a separate Area Plan section for autism, and WG have advised that separate PNA sections should be produced for the next PNA. An additional section in relation to Housing is also appropriate and can provide a clear link to the national strategies and partnership working with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs).

The PNA has identified and reinforced existing areas of need and priorities for action including:

- Continued support to children looked after and reduction of out of county placements
- Ageing population, loneliness amongst older people and increase in people living with dementia
- Carers and the need for access to information, respite and mental health support
- The need for emotional wellbeing and mental health support across the region
- To mitigate impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and long covid
- Support to vulnerable groups including people living with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and autism

It will be unrealistic for the PNA to include all the identified needs across health and social care but the regional report will highlight the joint priorities to be progressed across public services, the health board and voluntary sector.

Engagement with citizens is a key requirement under the SSWB Act and the PNA has been developed and includes qualitative data from a range of citizen groups.

As required with the first PNA, the Regional Partnership Board will have to develop a regional Area Plan – publication 1st April 2023 – and will set out how the identified need will be met through partnership working and collaboration. The RPB will once again work alongside Public Service Board partners to ensure alignment with Wellbeing plans required under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, as well as linking to LA Corporate Plans and ABUHB Integrated Medium Term Plan.

Financial Summary (Capital and Revenue)

There are no direct financial implications to developing and approving the PNA, but maximising public service budget and reinvesting into preventative programmes is a key requirement under the SSWB Act.

Risks

If the PNA is not approved, joint working and collaboration will be undermined and NCC will not be able to fulfil their statutory duty under the SSWB Act.

Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Corporate Improvement Plan 2017/22

Options Available and considered

To agree the PNA and set out requirement to align priorities and work programmes with the regional Wellbeing Plan required under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

Preferred Option and Why

To agree with priorities in the PNA to meet statutory requirements under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (2014).

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

There are no direct financial implications in producing the PNA itself but the assessment will be a key document in driving services and their developments over the next few years to meet the specific needs identified by the PNA and should provide a focus for all relevant public bodies.

Comments of Monitoring Officer

The Council and the Health Board have a statutory duty under section 14 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 to carry out a joint assessment of people who are in need of care and support and to identify the range and levels of social care services required to meet those needs. The joint assessment must be carried out at least one every electoral cycle and, as the last social needs assessment was completed in April 2017, then there is a requirement to undertake a further needs assessment before May 2022. This joint regional population needs assessment has been overseen by the Gwent Regional Partnership Board and has been undertaken in accordance with Welsh Government guidance and in consultation with all partners and key stakeholders. It now needs to be formally signed-off and agreed by each of the partners, so that it can form the basis of the joint regional action plan, to meet the assessed social care needs through partnership working and collaboration. The social care assessment process has been aligned to the regional well-being assessment undertaken by the Gwent PSB and is also consistent with the Council's corporate plan objectives.

Comments of Head of People, Policy and Transformation

The regional PNA has been developed in collaboration with partnership officers across the region who are developing the new regional Wellbeing assessment and plan for the Gwent Public Services Board (PSB). Partners across the PSB and RPB will work together to ensure that the priorities identified by the PNA and those identified as part of the Wellbeing Plan are aligned and provide the best opportunities for joint working.

There are no direct HR implications arising from the report.

Scrutiny Committees

The draft PNA was considered by Performance Scrutiny committee on 22nd January 2022 and comments were accepted and incorporated.

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment:

- **Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act**

The Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 is predicated on nearly identical principles to the principles of working in WFG Act and 5 ways of working. These shared principles are the foundation for the PNA

- **Equality Act 2010**

The PNA has set out the need and impact to groups identified in the Equality Act. The Area Plan produced following the PNA will have a full impact assessment based on priorities in the PNA.

- **Socio-economic Duty**

Workforce and recruitment is an emerging priority in the PNA and considerations of the Socio-Economic Duty will be considered when developing the Area Plan.

- **Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011**

The Area Plan will set out how services and support will be delivered through the medium of Welsh.

Consultation

The PNA sets out where citizens and partners have provided comments through a robust engagement process.

Background Papers

Dated: 22 February 2022