

Report

Cabinet

Part 1

Date: 10 May 2023

Subject Pillgwenlly Master Plan – Strong, Not Wrong

Purpose To present the Pillgwenlly Master Plan to Cabinet and seek agreement to the recommendations within the report

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Ward Pillgwenlly

Summary The Pillgwenlly Master Planning process was commissioned through the governance of the One Newport Partnership as a result of the on-going challenges for the community of Pill. The Master Planning process has been community led, following a comprehensive engagement programme and represents the ambitions of the residents and businesses of Pill.

One Newport has approved the final document and now commends this to each partner organisation.

Partner organisations are being asked to approve the strategic intention of the Master Plan. This is not a commitment to financial investment, it is a commitment that asks partners to align their decision making regarding services and/or developments within the Pill area with the aspirations and ambitions of the Master Plan and that we remain committed to utilising our resources in Pill in a way that best supports these ambitions, identified to tackle the challenges faced by the community.

It will be critical that Partner agencies continue to work together to access grants, private and public funding to realise the ambitions of the Master Plan.

Proposal For Cabinet to agree to adopt the Master Plan as the key, strategic driver for decision making and service delivery within the Pillgwenlly Ward and to task Officers to continue to work with our Partners to identify and access external funding to deliver on the Master Plan.

Action by Cabinet and Executive Board

Timetable Immediate
This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Chief Executive
- Head of Law and Standards
- Head of Finance
- Head of People, Policy and Transformation
- Pillgwenlly Ward Councillors

Signed

Background

The Pillgwenlly Ward of Newport is a vibrant, highly diverse and multi-cultural area with a strong sense of community. There are, however, significant levels of deprivation and specific issues associated with community safety.

One Newport is a partnership of key statutory and voluntary organisations, committed to improving the well-being of the people of Newport. The Partnership, with the support of Welsh Government commissioned The Urbanists to develop a Master Plan for the area, underpinned by the community's vision to build on 'what's strong not wrong.' Work began in November 2021 and now, having been approved by One Newport, the Master Plan is being commended to Newport City Council.

The Master Plan presents the ambitions of the community of Pill and identifies a series of projects that will support the realisation of the community vision for the area. As a strategic document the intention is that it guides agencies in the allocation of resources, influence and expertise and provides a basis for collaborative working within Pill.

Whilst focusing on Commercial Road, the Master Plan also identifies other key areas of importance to the community, including green spaces and community facilities.

Community Engagement

This Master Plan has been developed with the community of Pill. An 11-month long engagement period with the community has been undertaken through MELA Cymru, a social enterprise that has worked as part of the Urbanist commission. This has included:

- 51 one to one interviews with key community stakeholders
- 14 engagement events with targeted groups
- 2650 people reached through social media and Pill Connects
- 605 people from diverse backgrounds

Current Work

The Master Plan recognises that partner agencies are already committed to improving the well-being of the people of Pill and identifies key aspects of this work within the Plan through five key work areas that have been brought together into work streams, following community engagement:

1. Improving communications
2. Fly-tipping and refuse collection
3. Housing quality and management
4. Local business and community support
5. Physical environment and green spaces

The Master Plan includes a brief summary of progress in each of these areas.

Safer Pill

Safer Pill is a sub group of the statutory Community Safety Partnership. It is jointly chaired by Gwent Police and Newport City Council. It has a wide representation from organisations working within Pill and responds to the needs of the community.

Following the extensive community engagement process to develop the Master Plan, Safer Pill has now reviewed and reset work areas and priorities to better align with the priorities of the community.

This priority work is now focused on:

1. Exploitation of vulnerable people

2. Drug supply
3. Women and children
4. Communications and community engagement

This work will take both a people and place based approach, with multi-agency problem solving and interventions.

Community Ambitions

Through the extensive and iterative community engagement work, three Community Ambitions have been identified:

1. Improved green and public spaces
 - a. Better quality outdoor play facilities
 - b. More pleasant green spaces to socialise and relax
 - c. More tree planting on street and existing green spaces
 - d. Improving the public spaces along Commercial Road and Alexandra Road
2. Better business and shopping offer and environment
 - a. Strengthen the offer by adding new retail, leisure and business spaces
 - b. Better reflect the diversity of the Pill community in the business and shopping offer
 - c. Bring vacant buildings and shopfronts back into use
 - d. Improve the quality of existing buildings and shopfronts
3. Mix of community and youth facilities
 - a. Provide facilities for young people
 - b. Improve existing community facilities
 - c. Help community groups and members to create their own community facilities
 - d. Identify opportunities to deliver community and youth facilities on Commercial Road

Within each of these Ambitions a series of potential projects that could be undertaken to support the realisation of the vision for the area have been developed.

Once the Plan has been agreed

The next stage following agreement of the Plan is a process of project feasibility and costing. This is included within the original commission and there are no financial implications at this point.

Once feasibility has been concluded it is the responsibility of each organisation to work collaboratively in order to secure funding to deliver identified projects. Whilst Newport City Council has a key role to play here, this is a shared expectation amongst partners. Other organisations are in a more preferable position to access external grants, for example, than the Council and we will also be looking to support private sector investment. Partner organisations are being asked to approve the strategic intention of the Master Plan. This is not a commitment to financial investment, it is a commitment that asks partners to align their decision making regarding services and/or developments within the Pill area with the aspirations and ambitions of the Master Plan and that we remain committed to utilising our resources in Pill in a way that best supports these ambitions, identified to tackle the challenges faced by the community.

All partners have committed to on-going communication and engagement with the community regarding opportunities and progress. Whilst Pill Connects will continue to operate as a communication tool, engagement with individuals and groups will also remain critical.

Financial Summary (Capital and Revenue)

The Master Planning work has been jointly funded by Welsh Government and One Newport Partners. There are no on-going financial implications as a result of this report. Some work within the Master Plan is already underway and funding for that work (where applicable) is included within Service Area budgets.

Once feasibility work has been undertaken on individual projects any budgetary or other implications will be detailed within future reports to Cabinet.

	Year 1 (Current) £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Ongoing £	Notes including budgets heads affected
Costs (Income)					
Net Costs (Savings)					
Net Impact on Budget					

Risks

Risk Title / Description	Risk Impact score of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Risk Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	Risk Mitigation Action(s) What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect?	Risk Owner Officer(s) responsible for dealing with the risk?
Failure to meet community expectations	M	M	Ensure on-going communication and engagement with the community regarding Master Plan developments	One Newport Partnership
Failure to secure necessary funding to implement identified projects	M	M	Work with partners to identify sources of funding and to secure them	One Newport Partnership
Lack of support from partners to take forward aspirations	M	L	The report outlines the work and commitment from partners in the One Newport Partnership	One Newport members

* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

Links to Council Policies and Priorities

The Pill Master Plan directly supports the Council Corporate Plan and delivery of the following well-being objectives.

1. Economy, Education and Skills - Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.
2. Environment and Infrastructure – Newport is a city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.
3. Quality Social Care and Community Services - Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.
4. An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council - Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core.

Options Available and considered

1. To accept the report and recommendations within it
2. Not to accept the report

If the decision is to accept the report then the following is requested:

1. To approve the strategic intention of the Master Plan. This is not a commitment to financial investment, it is a commitment that asks partners to align their decision making regarding services

and/or developments within the Pill area with the aspirations and ambitions of the Master Plan and that we remain committed to utilising our resources in Pill in a way that best supports these ambitions, identified to tackle the challenges faced by the community.

2. To task Officers to continue to work with our Partners to identify and access external funding to deliver on the Master Plan.

Preferred Option and Why

3. To approve the strategic intention of the Master Plan. This is not a commitment to financial investment, it is a commitment that asks partners to align their decision making regarding services and/or developments within the Pill area with the aspirations and ambitions of the Master Plan and that we remain committed to utilising our resources in Pill in a way that best supports these ambitions, identified to tackle the challenges faced by the community.
4. To task Officers to continue to work with our Partners to identify and access external funding to deliver on the Master Plan.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

The report sets out an ambitious programme to meet the needs and ambition of the Pill community. It is mainly focussed on ensuring all partners, organisations, agencies etc. align their priorities, in relation to this area, with the plan. In that sense, with an anticipated robust assessment from all organisations of their priorities against it; it has the potential to be a very effective tool to ensure resource alignment to key priorities and objectives.

There are no financial commitment at this point for the Council but as part of decision-making and in particular financial decision -making such as the MTFP/Annual budget decisions and use of underspends etc., it should be used to guide proposals and decisions accordingly, where possible, if adopted by the Cabinet.

Comments of Monitoring Officer

There are no legal issues arising directly from this report at this time. Any specific legal implications will be addressed as part of the implementation of the individual elements of the Master Plan. In terms of the alignment of decision making with other Partners, any future decisions to be made by the Council in connection with the Master Plan will need to follow the Council's agreed decision-making processes, dependent upon the decision to be taken.

Comments of Head of People, Policy and Transformation

The Master Plan reflects the outcomes of a major programme of engagement with the local community of Pill to identify their aspirations and ambitions so that a joined up approach across the One Newport partners can be put in place. The Master Plan sets out key projects that will help achieve these aspirations which address various wellbeing issues through a strategic place-making approach and takes account of parallel work areas, particularly community safety work through the Safer Pill partnership.

There are no specific human resources implications in this report.

Scrutiny Committees

Please include a record of any consultation with scrutiny committees. Please add here details of any consultation and the outcomes.

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment:

- **Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act**
- **Equality Act 2010**
- **Socio-economic Duty**
- **Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011**

The council has a number of legislative responsibilities to assess the impact of any strategic decision, proposal or policy on people that may experience disadvantage or inequality. A summary of the key points in the FEIA are as follows:

1. Engagement with the Community and Stakeholders has been a key element of the work undertaken and is summarised in this report
2. The FEIA highlights positives impacts against most protected characteristics and no negatives
3. The Master Plan adopts and integrated, place making approach through collaboration with a clear focus on the 5 Ways of working set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
4. Assessment against the Socio-Economic Duty also shows positive impacts.

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.

Whilst this report is not specifically in relation to the duty it is supported by Safer Pill and a number of issues identified by the community are in relation to community safety. The physical changes suggested within the Master Plan should have a positive impact on safety within the community and Gwent Police have been fully engaged within the process.

Consultation

Feedback from consultation with the community is included within and has influenced the Master Plan itself.

Background Papers

Link to Pill Master Plan: [Pill Masterplan Report \(newport.gov.uk\)](https://newport.gov.uk/Pill-Masterplan-Report)

Dated: 3 May 2023