

Scrutiny Report



Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

Part 1

Date: 26 July 2017

Subject Public Services Board – Single Integrated Plan (SIP) Annual Report

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

- Rhys Cornwall – Head of People and Business Change
- Beverly Owen – Strategic Director - Place (Economy and Skills Lead)
- William Beer, Public Health Wales (for the Health and Well-being section)
- Chief Inspector David Morgan, Gwent Police (for the Safe and Cohesive section)

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to consider the Single Integrated Plan (SIP) Annual Report, and determine if it wishes to make any comments to the PSB.

2 Context

Single Integrated Plan

- 2.1 The Well-being and Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 establishes a Public Services Board (replacing Local Service Boards) for each local authority area in Wales, with the requirements set out in statutory guidance 'Shared Purpose : Shared Future'.
- 2.2 Prior to the introduction of this Act, there was statutory guidance 'Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery' in place that set out the requirements for each Local Service Board (LSB) to develop and publish a summary report once a year which should contain a balanced summary of the delivery of planned priorities and outcomes and the plan's effectiveness over the previous year.

2.3 The guidance stated:

The key elements of such a report should include:

- *a report on progress made by LSB member organisations towards delivering the outcomes identified in the single integrated plan, including a summary of mitigating action taken to address negative developments;*
- *an account of the delivery of the information strategy; and of engagement with people and communities;*
- *an account of LSB governance and the processes it has in place to manage its own performance;*
- *an account of local authority scrutiny of the LSB and its member organisations, and summary of relevant reports by the inspectorates and Wales Audit Office; and*
- *changes to the plan for the following year.*

2.4 In light of the Act the Public Services Board has taken over the responsibilities for producing a summary report until the SIP has been replaced with a Local Well-being Plan. The One Newport SIP Annual Report 2016-17 contains the following chapters:

- 1) Introduction;
- 2) Theme Progress;*
 - Economy & Skills Theme;
 - Health & Wellbeing Theme;
 - Safe & Cohesive Communities Theme;
- 3) Information Management;
- 4) Engagement;
- 5) Governance & Performance Management;
- 6) Scrutiny; and
- 7) Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act

**Theme progress for each theme includes outcomes relating to the theme; a description of the theme; the Theme Lead's overview; for each priority under the theme the population indicators, key performance measures, progress in 2016-17 and plans for 2017-18.*

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

3.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the SIP Annual Report for the Committees consideration.

4 Suggested Areas of Focus

In considering the report, Members may wish to consider:

- The progress being made by the PSB in delivering the outcomes within the SIP;
- What mitigation actions were in place to address risks and not achieving objectives;
- How the public have been engaged with on the SIP, and how feedback has been used.

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Additional Data and Analysis

Previous consideration by Scrutiny (July 2016)

4.1 Safe and Cohesive Communities Theme.

Progress was highlighted regarding the priorities for the Safe and Cohesive Communities theme, namely;

- Cohesive Communities
- Anti-social behaviour
- Youth Justice
- Safer City Centre

Comments made related to:-

- A general endorsement and welcome of the success to date in relation to the priorities within the report theme.
- Enforcement of parking regulations in the City Centre. Since 4 May 2016, 476 fixed penalty notices had been issued.
- The impact of the recently implemented Public Space Protection Order. Two £100 fines had been issued for begging offences. Broadly, the Order had worked well.
- The rising level of antisocial behaviour in Lliswerry Ward that differed from the downward trend elsewhere in the city. Ward Members were engaged in seeking to broker resources to tackle issues there. The issue of antisocial behaviour in the city needed to be continually addressed.
- The incidence of hate crime that had remained fairly stable since 2010/11 had increased slightly from 203 incidents in 2013/14 to 226 in 2014/15, although indications were that figures for 2015/16 remained stable. A programme support and services to ensure a better understanding of Hate Crime, improved reporting and better support for victims had been successfully delivered. Reference was made to a lack of awareness within certain groups regarding the process for reporting incidents of hate crime. The police welcomed information regarding any gaps in provision that could be addressed regarding this matter.
- Whether a rise in hate crime incidents had occurred since the Brexit poll in May 2016. Twelve incidents had been reported during the week following the result of the poll.
- The positive impact that a strengthened process of monitoring those who became first time entrants and identifying trends and patterns to offending in an attempt to plan diversionary activities had achieved in the decline of the number of young people entering the youth justice system.
- The possibility of a dedicated bicycle lane within Friars Walk being introduced, in an attempt to deal with the danger posed by bicycles being used randomly.
- The possibility that members of the public felt unsafe at night in the city centre. Patrols were being undertaken and work was continuing within resources available to meet objectives.
- The desirability of implementing a strategy to include peripheral areas of the city centre within the scope of the city centre management regime, to ensure that challenges on the fringes were similarly dealt with.
- The desirability of ensuring the optimum use of resources in managing activity within the city centre was also mentioned. Partners focussed resources appropriately in addressing priorities. Proactive activity to prevent inappropriate behaviour or situations from materialising was preferable to reacting to those that might have been prevented in the first place.
- Reference was made to Incidents of antisocial behaviour, alcohol consumption and vandalism in the vicinity of Rodney Parade. Chief Inspector Williams invited the Member concerned to discuss issues with him following the meeting.
- More detailed information was requested regarding the scrutiny of work related to the Prevent Strategy.

4.2 Health and Wellbeing

The following comments and queries were discussed:

- Members who had attended the visit to the Shoreline Project thought the provision was positive. A Member advised that they had previously thought they would be against anything other than separate accommodation for people with enduring alcohol problems, but after a visit to a shared staffed house could see it worked and stressed that it's important that when such provision is discussed, the huge amount of money that could be saved across services / partners is recognised. Timing also needs to be considered.
- Looking at the performance in the Alcohol & Drugs key performance indicators, what more can be done to engage with secondary schools? – It was explained that all secondary schools in Newport now engage with Barnados (B@1) service and that substance misuse prevention was being prioritised. While there is a lot more information available, it's not practical to provide it all in the annual report.
- A Member referred to the statement: "Welsh Health Survey data suggests that in households headed by someone that has never worked or long term unemployed, adult smoking rates are as high as 44%" and said that they had seen recent figures "identified in houses where one person is working" and it would be good to be able to see that some of these issues are not helped by poverty. – It was clarified that looking at the index, there is a gap across Newport in terms of life expectancy and there is deprivation across all three elements of the plan, with poorer outcomes across poorer areas.
- The positive update on the Newport Breastfeeding Welcome Premises Scheme was excellent.
- Members were really pleased that nutritional support and guidance has been offered to all foodbanks to ensure a balanced food parcel is provided.
- The performance of the Mental Wellbeing and Resilience Key Performance Indicators is really good and what a difference it makes to people's lives.
- Why does graph data in the plan only for the periods up to 2013-14? – This is due to the time taken for Data to be collated and analysed before it can be made available.
- It is good to see that Newport is above the Wales Average on a number of indicators.
- A mostly positive report.

4.3 Economy and Skills

The following comments and queries were discussed:

- The Committee was complimentary about the quality of the report, which Members thought was thorough, balanced, and very well presented, in Plain English – "a pleasant report to read".
- Members were pleased that the report showed good progress against the aims in the plan, whilst noting that there were still areas that needed continued attention and further action.
- The issues under consideration have wide implications for the city and young people in particular, and there are aspects where we fall short, for example youth training, which need to be driven forward.
- Members were concerned about the statistic that there are only five cities with higher JSA (Job Seeker's Allowance) claimant rates than Newport. Members asked what was being done to improve education in the STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering, Mathematics) subjects, in order to improve the skills base and increase job opportunities for young people. Officers described the initiatives underway to increase access to the high skill economy in and around Newport, including putting resources into schools and working with universities to link graduates with industries.

- Questions were raised around the figures for JSA claimants, including why comparative figures were taken in December, when there would be high seasonal employment levels; the impact of zero hours contracts; and how many people not on JSA are being sanctioned. It was explained that December were used because those were the latest figures available when the report was compiled, and comparison was made on the same month in previous years. It was noted that, while current claimant figures were an important measure, a much more long term approach was being taken, looking at the generational issues behind worklessness, and making connections between the various anti-poverty programmes to ensure a more strategic approach. It was also noted that in-work poverty was becoming a bigger issue, including zero hours contracts, and the challenge of sustaining financially rewarding work. A number of clients through the programmes now have significant barriers to work and multiple needs, so a more strategic, long-term approach is appropriate.
- Members asked for further explanation for the apparent fluctuations in statistics on “NEETs” (young people Not in Education, Employment or Training). There had been a steady reduction since 2008, as a result of a series of measures put in place, but this had plateaued a few years ago. Additional resources were put in last year for specific projects, and services had been restructured to bring key areas together. It was hoped that this would have a significant and sustained impact. It was noted that Newport over-performed in this area based on FSM (free school meals) expectations. It was confirmed that levels of NEETs had no correlation to performance of schools within the categorisation system, as the reasons behind young people facing challenges in this area were complex. Recent progress in understanding those reasons was helping to target services more effectively.
- Members asked about the impact of Brexit and risk to European funding for related projects. Advice had been received that the current range for European funding was 2020.
- Members questioned progress on the Disability Discrimination Act compliant footbridge over the railway line at Newport Station. It was reported that a design had been put forward, and plans were awaiting sign off. Approval was expected but this had to go through the appropriate channels within Network Rail first.
- Members praised the ward profiles, and it was confirmed that these would form the basis of the upcoming wellbeing assessment.

6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- Single Integrated Plan for Newport
- Newport City Council’s Corporate Plan 2012-17
- All partner organisations are required to ensure the outcomes in the Single Integrated Plan are reflected in the aims and objectives of their organisation’s corporate planning process.

9 Background Papers

9.1 [One Newport SIP 'Feeling Good About Newport' \(pdf\)](#)

Report Complete: 11 July 2017