



A virtual MEETING OF Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee ON Friday, 17TH DECEMBER, 2021 AT 10.00 AM.

Meeting Contact: Sarah Handy - Members Researcher & Scrutiny Officer
(07385401942)

AGENDA

1. THE 5 CORE STATUTORY FUNCTIONS OF THE CWM TAF JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Members of the JOSC are reminded that, as set out within its terms of reference, their core statutory functions include:-

- To review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by Board;
- To review or scrutinise the Board's governance arrangements;
- To make reports or recommendations to the Board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- To consider matters relating to the Board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- To carry out other functions in relation to the Board that are imposed on it by the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive disclosures of personal interests from Committee Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Note:

1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest: and
2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the disclosure of prejudicial interest they must notify the Chairman when they leave.

3. MINUTES

To approve as an accurate record, the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th September 2021.

- 5 - 12**
- 4. AN UPDATE ON THE QUARTER 1 PSB WORK PROGRAMME**
To receive an update on the Quarter 1 PSB Work Programme and objectives achieved to date.
- 13 - 18**
- 5. AN UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT ACTION GROUP**
To receive an update on the work of the Community Assessment Action Group regarding the Well-being Assessment.
- 19 - 24**
- 6. FEEDBACK FROM THE CHAIR OF THE CWM TAF PSB JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
Feedback from the Chair of the JOSOC on the actions to be taken forward following the training session with Dr Dave McKenna on the 5th November 2021.
- 7. INFORMATION REPORTS**
- Draft Cwm Taf PSB Delivery Plan (Healthy People);
 - Draft Cwm Taf Delivery Plan (Loneliness and Isolation)
 - Draft Cwm Taf PSB Delivery Plan (Strong Economy);
 - Draft Cwm Taf PSB Delivery Plan (Thriving Communities);
 - Draft Cwm Taf PSB Work Plan 2021-22;
 - Draft Cwm Taf PSB 12.10.21 minutes;
 - OFGC Summary Roadmap Info;
 - Letter to PSB Chairs – assessment of local well-being; and,
 - Minister for Housing and Local Government meeting with Public Service Board Chairs, 22nd March 2021
- 25 - 118**
- 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
To consider any other business, as the Chair feels appropriate.
- 9. CHAIRS REVIEW & CLOSE**
To reflect on the meeting and actions to be taken forward

Circulation:-

Representing Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council:
County Borough Councillors: D. Isaac, T. Skinner, K. Gibbs, J. Davies, D. Sammon.

Representing Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council:
County Borough Councillors: G. Caple, J. Bonetto, W. Jones, A. Fox and A. Cox.

Co-opted Members:

Mr M.Jehu OBE – Local Health Board
Mr J. Jenkins – Community Health Council
Ms M. Lewis – RCT Citizen Representative
Mr M J. Maguire – Merthyr Citizen Representative

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Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of virtual the meeting of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting held on Friday, 17 September 2021 at 2.00 pm.

County Borough Councillors - Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance:-

Councillor Caple (Chair)

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councillors

Councillor D Sammon

Councillor J Davies

Councillor D Isaac

Councillor Gibbs

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Councillors

Councillor J Bonetto Councillor G Caple

Councillor A Cox Councillor A Fox

Officers in attendance

Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication (RCTCBC)

Mrs Sarah Handy, Members' Researcher & Scrutiny Officer (RCTCBC)

Ms Kirsty Smith, Senior PSB Support Officer

Ms Lisa Toghill, Senior PSB Support Officer

Mr John Crockett, Apprentice Webcasting Assistant

Co-opted Members in attendance

Mr Mel Jehu, Local Health Board Representative

Others in attendance:

Dr Tom Powell, Chair of the Community Impact Assessment Group

1 Welcome

The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications welcomed Members to the first meeting of the JOSC for the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

2 Apologies

Apologies of absence were received from County Borough Councillors T.

Skinner (MTCBC) and Councillor W. Jones (RCTCBC). An apology of absence was also received from Mr Maguire, Citizen Representative.

3 The 5 core statutory functions of the Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications asked Members to note the 5 core statutory functions of the Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4 Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

5 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 23rd April 2021 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

6 Chair and Vice Chair Appointment

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED**:

1. To appoint Councillor Caple as Chair of the Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year; and,
2. To appoint Councillor Isaac as Vice Chair of the Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

7 The Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2021-22

The Service Director of Democratic Services & Communications gave an overview to Members in respect of the Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2021/22.

Members were advised that the forward work programme sets out a manageable and realistic programme of scrutiny activity, allowing for the more pressing matters to be considered whilst having the flexibility to respond to emerging issues.

Members were also reminded that last year, Members of the JOSC noted that over the medium term the Public Service Board must demonstrate its value and role in improving the delivery of public services and that its purpose makes a positive difference to the residents of Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taf. This recommendation has been incorporated into the Forward Work Programme and Members of the JOSC have been provided with the opportunity to hear and learn experiences from partners in respect of their experiences during the pandemic, the value of the PSB and to

hear evidence from corporate leads of the public sector bodies.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to acknowledge the contents of the proposed draft Cwm Taf Joint Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2021/22.

8 Update on the Cwm Taf Assessment of Well-being

Members were provided with an overview from Dr Tom Powell, the Chair of the Community Assessment Action Group.

Dr Tom Powell thanked the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Cwm Taf PSB for allowing him time and the opportunity to provide an update.

Members were provided with a presentation on the work of the Community Action Group to date.

Following the presentation, the PSB Senior Support Officer, Kirsty Smith, suggested that it would be a good idea to have a representative from the Scrutiny Committee to sit on the Action Group. The Chair asked for volunteers and Members agreed that it would be a good idea for the Chair to sit on the Group and to report back to the JOSCS. The Chair agreed to accept this proposal.

Discussion continued and the Chair asked whether the toolkit will be looking at the family unit and the pressures that COVID has put on families as a whole unit. The PSB Senior Support Officer, Lisa Toghil, advised that the RPB and the Population Needs Assessment have priority groups that will be looked at through the Social Services and Wellbeing Act. Members were advised that the PSB has a duty for population-wide wellbeing and will be considering the most those deemed disadvantaged and / or vulnerable, including the huge impact that COVID has had.

Discussions ensued and a Member queried how people could engage with the toolkits through the medium of Welsh language facilities. Dr Tom Powell advised that he will need to refer to the Chair of the sub group and report back to Members accordingly.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the update from Dr Tom Powell and the work of the Community Action Group.

9 The Cwm Taf Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee Interim Annual Report 2020-21

The Service Director of Democratic Services & Communications (RCTCBC) introduced the Cwm Taf JOSCS Interim Annual Report 2020-21, which details the work undertaken by the Committee during the 2020-21 Municipal Year.

Members received an overview of the Committee's work from the outgoing Chair, Councillor Bonetto. Members were thanked for their hard work during the year and Councillor Bonetto wished to place on record her personal thanks to Officers and support officers of the Committee.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the contents of the Annual report and work of the Cwm Taf Public Service Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

10 Update from a PSB representative on ongoing work to deliver against the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan 2018-2023

The PSB Senior Support Officer, Kirsty Smith, provided Members with an update on the ongoing work of the Board to deliver against the Cwm Taf Wellbeing Plan 2018-2023.

Members were advised that the PSB Chair, Mark Brace, sends his apologies but has worked with the PSB Support Team to prepare this update.

Members were advised about the focus of the PSB as follows:

- PSB last met in July and the agenda was very much looking forward, both in terms of returning focus to the current Well-being Plan and Objectives and the work to undertake the next statutory assessment of well-being to be published in May 2022.
- When the PSB Chair last met with JOSOC, we as a Board were rightly challenged about not having workplans in place to be scrutinised and challenged. We are pleased to report that, in line with the PSB delivery year, delivery plans have been written for July 2021 – June 2022
- These were presented to PSB in July and have been included in the information reports for this meeting. We would welcome any questions or comments on these plans, these can be given through Lisa and Kirsty.
- The Board also considered the findings of a review of mental health provision carried out earlier this year and had a brief discussion about mental health as a future priority for the Board, linked to the work of the Assessment and Plan.
- These discussions took place in the context of a regional Health Foundation Event on 12 July looking at inequalities, and the interesting and informative discussions had at the session about the Assessment work, working with citizens and our communities to agree priority areas of focus and jointly agree how to tackle them.
- The PSB published its Annual Report in July 2021 as scheduled and in line with our statutory duty. The report provides an overview

of the work of the Board over the last year against the five ways of working and discusses the impact that Covid has had on the ability of the PSB and capacity of its Members. It also outlines our future plans regarding the Assessment and the remainder of the current Well-being Plan, 2018-2023.

Discussion continued and Members were advised about the Well-being Assessment and Regional Working:

Members were told that the PSB needs to undertake an assessment of well-being to be published in May 2022. This will be a joint assessment with Bridgend PSB, resulting in one Cwm Taf Morgannwg Wellbeing Assessment. The following points were noted:

- As previously mentioned, we also intend to collaborate with the Regional Partnership Board as much as possible. They need to undertake and publish a Population Needs Assessment by April 2022 so resources, intelligence, information and opportunities for involvement will be shared as much as possible.
- Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSBs were successful in applying for a 5-year support package with Co-Production Network Wales, one of only 3 chosen in Wales. Given the tight timescale and statutory requirements around the production of the Well-being Assessment, we are working under the acceptance that this iteration will not be fully co-produced, but the intention is for the next Assessment to be a fully co-produced process.
- A task and finish approach is being taken to the production of the Assessments which consists of a central steering group, an engagement group led by the communications officer of the RPB and one of the co-production officers we're working with, and a data group. This data group feeds directly into the work of Practice Solutions, the company procured using our PSB Support Grant to undertake the data report work and produce the final Assessment product.

Members were then advised about the ongoing work of the Board. The following points were noted:

- Work continues against the current Objectives, of particular note:
 - Regional working with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) on progressive procurement and Community Wealth Building. A spend analysis has been completed as well as a commencement workshop and an implementation planning workshop resulting in actions needed to progress the work. These are around:
 - developing a more comprehensive understanding of local suppliers,
 - working to better understand the value and potential of our social enterprises,

- reviewing 'leakage contracts' of spends outside of Wales and potential to use local suppliers, and
 - Streamlining and developing contract procedure rules and practice in relation to lower value contracts (below £25k / £50k).
 - Initial findings of the Vulnerability Profile work and an update on the CTM Early Years Transformation work are expected at upcoming PSB meetings.
 - The Hub model and networks created under the 'Thriving Communities' objective continues to be developed in line with community need.
 - The Loneliness and Isolation development officer for Cwm Taf, Karen Vowles, has been working to re-establish the Befriending Network for the region, and there will be a 'Hackathon' considering loneliness, isolation and older people on 13 October.
- The intention is still to have one PSB covering Cwm Taf Morgannwg, mirroring the footprint of the Regional Partnership Board. The Assessment will be a useful vehicle for doing this, and we know that we must be one PSB by the time of publishing a joint Well-being Plan. The remainder of this PSB cycle will confirm the timeline for the creation of the new regional PSB, the future structure of the Board and how it can consider and meet local need whilst working regionally at a strategic level. Key to this will be considering how we continue to work with the delivery boards that sit under the PSB such as the Community Safety Partnership and the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board.

Following the update, Members were asked if they had any questions and were also reminded that the Board will meet next on the 12th October.

A Member queried whether the Board is continuing to look at loneliness and isolation with the younger generation as well as the elderly population. The PSB Senior Support Officer confirmed that loneliness and isolation continues to look at a broad age range and that Karen Vowles continues to work with the younger generations on loneliness and isolation problems as well as many wide ranging social groups.

The co-opted Member, Mr Mel Jehu, referred Members to page 8 of the report and noted the importance of having a progress report and a RAG system report (Red, Amber, Green) so that the Committee can be reassured in relation to the progress and work of the Board. The PSB Senior Support Officer reassured Members that this is the intention of the Board and that JOSOC Members will receive update reports with a RAG system used.

Discussions ensued and the Chair referred Members to the meeting of the Chairs and Support Teams with Julie James, the Housing Minister, to

discuss the role of the PSB's and the ongoing struggles the Boards face in terms of funding. The Chair sought further information about that meeting and queried whether the notes from that meeting were available to share with JOSC Members. The PSB Senior Support Officer advised that the notes are not available yet and advised that Julie James has now changed her role within the Welsh Government. Members were advised however that the new Minister will be interested in meeting with PSB Chairs again and assured JOSC Members that they will be kept updated accordingly.

The Chair subsequently queried whether funding and resources were a big concern for the PSB. The PSB Senior Support Officer advised that as a PSB the only source of funding available from Welsh Government is a PSB Support Grant and it comes with criteria on how it has to be spent. In terms of undertaking projects, Members were advised that the PSB has to ask constituent partners to release funds from their side and that this can be constraint on the PSB's flexibility and ability to progress matters quickly. The Chair noted this important issue and asked to be kept updated accordingly.

A further query was raised by Mr Mel Jehu, the Co-Opted Member, who queried whether the Board was merging with Bridgend to become a Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSB. The PSB Senior Support Officer, Lisa Toghill, advised that this is the eventual aim of the Board and to follow the same footprint as the RPB. The intention is to become a merged PSB by July 2022, subject to approval from all involved. The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications (RCTCBC) advised that discussions would then ensue with colleagues in Merthyr and Bridgend and to re visit the arrangements in terms of the host Local Authority and the composition of Membership, political balance and community representation.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the update in respect of the ongoing work to deliver against the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan.

11 Information Reports

The Chair noted the Information Reports and advised Members to email any questions to scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk.

12 Urgent Business

There was no urgent business to report.

13 Chairs Review & Close

The Chair thanked the Committee for electing him as Chair for the 2021-22 Municipal Year and wished to put on record his congratulations to Councillor Isaac for being elected Vice Chair of the Committee.

The Chair passed on his admiration and thanks to the outgoing Chair and Vice Chair respectively, Councillor Bonetto and Councillor Skinner.

The Chair thanked Members for attending and referenced the upcoming training event with Dr Dave McKenna. The Chair expressed his enthusiasm for this event and hoped to see Members at the event in November.

This meeting closed at 2.44 pm

**Councillor G Caple
Chair**

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Written	9 th November 2021
Report Author	Mark Brace, Chair, Cwm Taf PSB
Service Area	Cwm Taf PSB
Committee Date	19 th November 2021

To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen

Update on Quarter 1 PSB Work Programme

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This is a standing item on the Cwm Taf JOSOC, in order that members receive timely and relevant updates on the progress of ongoing work of the Cwm Taf PSB. Mark Brace, Chair of Cwm Taf PSB will present the main points.
- 1.2 The Report will include:
- Key progress against the Objectives set out in Delivery Plans 2021-22;
 - Emerging priorities in light of COVID-19 and the work of the Wellbeing Assessment; and,
 - Future governance arrangements

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 The Committee discusses and comments on the content of the report; and,
2.2 The Committee identifies any further information relating to the content of the Report that it would like to consider and makes the request to the PSB.

3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 For the committee to have an overview and offer scrutiny to the work programme of the PSB, in order that any questions and recommendations are made to the Board for the benefit of the work and implementation of the Act.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The work of the Cwm Taf PSB must be designed and delivered to meet the statutory requirements as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, 2015. The Act requires public bodies to carry out sustainable development. Section 2 of the Act defines this as: “Sustainable development” means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals. The Seven Well-being Goals are: A prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, more cohesive, more vibrant culture and Welsh language, and a more globally responsible Wales.

4.2 In the Welsh Government Statutory Core Guidance on the implementation of the Act, ‘Shared Purpose, Shared Future: 1, the following guidance is given for Overview and Scrutiny Committee function and purpose:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committees will not have a role in relation to the accountability of individual public bodies (apart from the Local Authority itself). The role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees designated to scrutinise decisions made or actions taken by the public services board, will be focused on the shared well-being objectives included in public services boards’ Local Well-being Plans, rather than the individual well-being objectives of a public body.

4.3 **Progress Against the Well-being Objectives** – the work and progress against the four objectives set out in the Well-being Plan continue to be impacted upon by the recovery efforts of COVID-19, and the effects of Brexit. Outline delivery plans for 2021-22 were presented to PSB at the July meeting, and were included as information reports for the October PSB meeting. The draft plans have been developed by the Objective Leads for each of the four objectives:

- Healthier People (Angela Jones, CTMUHB);
- Thriving Communities (Paul Mee, RCTCBC);
- A Strong Economy (Alyn Owen, MTCBC),
- Tackling Loneliness and Isolation (Sharon Richards, Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil)

Board members were asked for input/suggestions for reviewing the Objectives and the draft plans for the year. This will be reviewed in subsequent meetings.

Key highlights from the first quarter include:

- **Healthier People** – the Vulnerability Profile project, which was piloted in RCT by CMUHB and RCTCBC is near completion and PSB are awaiting the final analysis report on the pilot and plans for rollout across the region. This is expected to be presented to the Board by April 2022.
- **Thriving Communities** – the work of the hubs were transformed during the pandemic to meet the needs of the communities. RCT’s 7 Community Resilience Hubs were mobilised to provide essential services during lockdown, including food and medication delivery services, befriending and to meet organisational challenge. The Gurnos Hub also acted as a central resource in response to community needs. The ongoing work to support vulnerable residents is still in place, but planning for the development of

the hubs has resumed, and work is currently being carried out to establish and develop the neighbourhood networks around the locality of each hub building. The integration of services based in the hubs is also developing, with a range of partners now delivering either virtually or physically from the centres. One main identified risk factor for both local authorities is the financial sustainability of the facilities. This is something which was highlighted to the Board in the July meeting. Mark Brace, Chair has since attended the implementation group meeting of the Gurnos hub, by invitation, and the main focus of the discussion was around sustainability, in terms of financial and integrated service provision. Mark has agreed to raise this for discussion/action at the January PSB.

- **A Strong Economy** – a regional approach to strengthening the foundational economy, with the support of the Centre for Local Economic Strategies has progressed, despite the challenges of service delivery throughout the pandemic. This innovative approach has brought together key public organisations, to act as ‘anchors’ in their areas, and this work has begun with a focus on progressive procurement. A regional plan for Cwm Taf Morgannwg is in development, and development work has concentrated on understating procurement barriers and supporting collaboration on funding bids. Further support for this will be resumed after this round of the Assessment work is completed.
- **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation** – this objective has been greatly impacted upon as a result of the impact of COVID-19. The community and voluntary sector response and mobilisation was, and continues to be, an enormous effort, and widely publicised. A new Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Development Officer has been appointed for Cwm Taf, and she has been working to re-establish a Befriending Services Network. The need for essential befriending services has been highlighted over the last 20 months, with sustaining support and funding the key priorities. The new round of funding which will replace the current ICF programme is expected to be shared with partners imminently. PSB Support Officers have been attending Neighbourhood Networks across RCT and Merthyr Tydfil speaking with groups and partners, as part of our engagement work, to understand feelings of loneliness and isolation in our communities. Links have also been made with the ‘Mind our Futures’ project across Cwm Taf, which has a specific focus on children and young people, and the ways in which loneliness and isolation impacts their lives.

4.4 **Emerging Priorities** – in this first quarter of the PSB reporting year, and following on from the previous year’s cycle, the PSB have spent time considering changing and emerging priorities, particularly in light of the impact of COVID-19 and Brexit. Partners have agreed that the Board need to take an approach which is more focussed, with fewer priorities, in an attempt to produce greater impact on some of the long standing, systemic issues faced by all our partners in the public sector. Some of the broader priorities have been identified from the impact data which has emerged from the pandemic from various partners, such as mental health, climate change / green recovery and economic recovery. However, the Board are committed to fully utilising the analysis of the data and engagement activities from the Well-being Assessment process before confirming specific areas of focus, in line with the 5 Ways of Working.

4.5 **Future Governance Arrangements** – the PSB have been developing strategic direction and focus to ensure alignment with the work of the Regional Partnership Board, which has resulted in two strategic conferences for members of the two strategic boards in the region. The first took place in 2019 prior to the pandemic,

and a virtual conference was held in April 2021. In the October meeting, the PSB considered the roles of the strategic delivery boards, such as the Community Safety Partnership, the Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse, the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board. The PSB agreed that there needs to be an alignment of the work of these boards with the PSB and RPB, which will ensure robust information sharing and accountability. It will also enable the identification of any gaps in provision or data to be more easily identified. Therefore it was agreed that a discussion with the RPB should take place to agree a way forward. It was reported that Bridgend PSB agreed to align with the Cwm Taf PSB. Board Members fully supported the direction for one Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSB operating with strategic intent. A timeline is to be developed for this work by the January meeting.

5.0 INVOLVEMENT

5.1 Through the work the Well-being Assessment and the setting up of the Community Assessment Action Group, the PSB have committed to the involvement of its wider partners and people in our communities. This will be further developed after the Assessment is completed with support from the Co-production Wales Network project, which will support Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSB to embed the practices of co-production over the next 5 years.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 No equality and diversity implications to report.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Board, however, there are financial responsibilities placed on individual public bodies to deliver against the objectives set out in the well-being plan. There may also be financial considerations in respect of the changes to governance and structure over the next 18 months.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no legal implications to consider in this report. The legislation is considered and reviewed throughout the development of all PSB work.

9.0 LINKS TO PSB's WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES

9.1 The report focus is on the progress of the well-objectives.

10.0 CONCLUSION

- 10.1 The PSB's work against the delivery of its well-being objectives set out in the Well-being Plan has been significantly affected by the impact of COVID-19 on partners' services. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is requested to acknowledge this disruption when undertaking its duties to scrutinise the delivery plans. The request to provide a RAG reporting system may not be effective under the current circumstances and given that we are working towards long term (5-10 years) objectives, in a partnership context, not as individual public bodies does not lend itself to short term performance measurements.
- 10.2 The PSB have identified broader priorities, which have emerged from the data of partners' recovery programmes in response to the pandemic. This work will be further developed by the Well-being Assessment and its findings. The PSB are committed to using the data and intelligence to shape the iteration of the Well-being Plan, with a tighter focus on fewer priorities.
- 10.3 The structure and governance arrangements of the current Cwm Taf PSB will undergo significant changes during this existing reporting year and beyond. Both Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSBs have agreed and committed to a merger, which will create a new Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSB, in time for the preparation of the new Well-being Plan in 2023. Therefore, is requested that the committee acknowledge the programme of work that this will create.

Mark Brace
Chair, Cwm Taf PSB

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Delivery Plans attached.		Our Cwm Taf Plan
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No

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SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Written	December 2021
Report Author	Brendan D'Cruz, Chair of Data Sub-group, Community Assessment Action Group and PSB Support
Service Area	Public Services Board (partnerships)
Committee Date	17 December 2021

To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen

Update Report on the work of the Community Assessment Action Group

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report is to provide Members of Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) with an update of work undertaken in relation to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Assessment through the Community Assessment Action Group and the sub-groups focused on data and engagement.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that:

- i. The Committee acknowledges the work undertaken to date and discusses the approach in line with the sustainable development principles.
- ii. The Committee considers and comments whether the outlined Assessment process has met the requirements and expectations placed on Public Services Boards.
- iii. The Committee considers how it wants to remain involved and contribute in the Assessment and the consultation process.

3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is proposed that Members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to consider the work undertaken to produce the statutory Well-being Assessment for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region covering both Bridgend and Cwm Taf Public Services Boards.

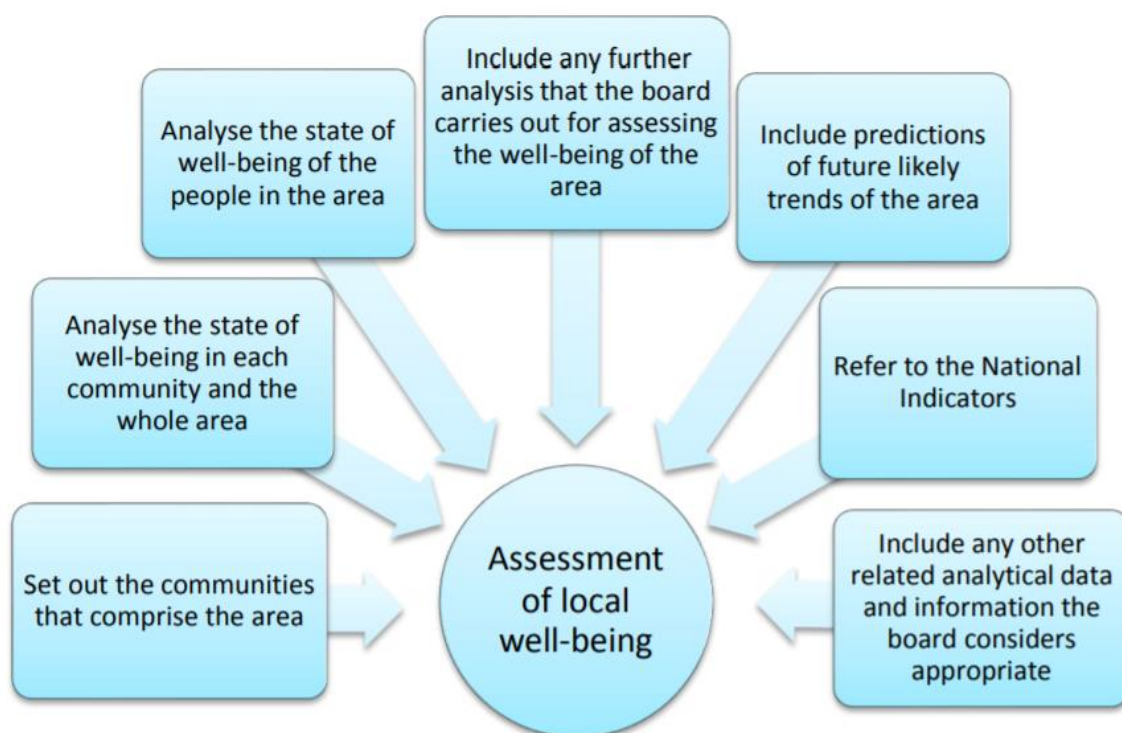
3.2 It is proposed that Members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to contribute and influence the Assessment process in line with sustainable development principles.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Public Services Boards, as established under the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 are required to undertake and publish an assessment of the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area no later than a year before it publishes its local well-being plan. The Act provides that the local well-being plan must be published no later than one year after an ordinary election, as defined in section 26 of the Local Government Act 1972, in practice this means the assessment of local wellbeing would be published within the 12 months preceding each ordinary local government election.

The Assessment must provide an accurate analysis of the state of well-being in each community and in the area as a whole.

4.2 In preparing and publishing as assessment, guidance states that a Board must:



4.3 The approach being taken in is to jointly undertake the work with both Bridgend PSB and the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Board (RPB) so that we collaborate in how we engage with the communities that we all serve. To that end we have established one joint Community Assessment Action Group to oversee the work needed for both the PSB's Well-being Assessment and the RPB's Population Needs Assessments.

Both Assessments have similar timeframes and have a statutory requirement around engaging and co-producing. The PSBs in the region were also successful in securing support from Co-Production Network Wales so this goes some way to strengthening our commitment to working differently and adopting the sustainable development principles.

4.4 Members will remember an update from Dr Tom Powell, Chair of the Community Assessment Action Group, at the last JOSOC meeting in September. Work has continued as

planned since then, and we welcomed Councillor Caple to the group.

The Engagement Group has continued to meet on a weekly basis and have been making sure that they involve the specific client groups as set out under the Social Services and Well-being Act (Wales) 2014 as well as the wider communities. Toolkits have been developed and shared to support colleagues and groups with carrying out engagement work.

PSB grant money has also been used to support community level engagement activity through the region's county voluntary councils, namely Interlink RCT, Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT) and Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO).

The Data Group has met five times. The first four sessions focused on a different pillar of well-being and the most recent one (26 November) considering the draft data report compiled by Practice Solutions Limited (PSL). PSL have produced a data report that will form part of the Assessment using information supplied by partners and initial findings have also been discussed as part of the engagement process and 'sense checking'.

This has been shared with Bridgend PSB members at their 13 December meeting as well as Cwm Taf PSB via email. It is available as a background paper for JOSOC.

- 4.5 Engagement work, including a survey, will continue until 17 December 2021. Learnings from the engagement report will be analysed and added to the data report in order to produce a draft Assessment which will be used as part of the statutory consultation process, commencing in February 2022.

5.0 INVOLVEMENT

- 5.1 Involvement and capturing 'lived experience' or 'citizen voice' is at the heart of the assessment work and we are looking at a range of ways to engage people, including workshops, 'hackathons', roadshows, surveys and focus groups. Crucially, we are going to where people are to improve our engagement.
- 5.2 We are looking to engage a broad and diverse range of people from communities across RCT, Merthyr Tydfil and Bridgend.
- 5.3 Engagement work, including a survey, will continue until 17 December 2021.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required as the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 8.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 12.1 (Part 4) of the Council's Constitution.

9.0 LINKS TO THE PSB'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES


- 9.1 The update is focused on the next iteration of the Wellbeing Assessment which moves on from the Well-being Objectives laid out in the 2018-2023 Plan. The Objectives previously identified are being considered as a measure of progress made since the previous Assessment.
- 9.2 The approach outlined for the Assessment will also support the requirements set out in the 'Statutory guidance on the 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015' which states:
- A public body must take account of the importance of involving other persons with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensure those persons reflect the diversity of the population;
 - Effective involvement of people and communities in decisions that affect them is at the heart of improving well-being currently and in the future; and,
 - It is vital to factor people's needs; ensuring engagement is meaningful and effective.

10.0 CONCLUSION

- 10.1 Members are asked to acknowledge the work undertaken in support of the Well-being Assessment for Bridgend and Cwm Taf Public Services Board and consider whether the approach meets the requirements and expectations as set out under the Act and in Shared Purpose Shared Future 3.
- 10.2 Members are asked to considers how it wants to remain involved and contribute in the Assessment and the consultation process.

Report Author: Brendan D'Cruz, Chair of Data Sub-group, Community Assessment Action Group and PSB Support.

Contact Officer: Kirsty Smith, Kirsty.smith3@rctcbc.gov.uk, 07880 044474

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Cwm Taf PSB Well-being Plan		Cwm Taf Well-being Plan 2018-2023
Shared Purpose Shared Future 3: Collective Role		SPSF 3
Draft Data Report for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Assessment	December 2021	 Draft data report WBA_121221.pdf
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No

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To: Chairs of Public Services Boards

19 March 2021

Dear Chairs

We are writing to you about the next assessments of local well-being which will be due for publication in May 2022. In response to your feedback, and in an effort to be as helpful as possible in supporting you to prepare these assessments, we are providing you with a clear set of joint expectations. Our focus is on the main areas we consider will go towards providing you with a comprehensive view of the state of well-being in your area, ultimately equipping you with a good, clear understanding of the sort of priorities you as a PSB can target your collective efforts to best effect on in your well-being plan.

Covid-19 has brought huge challenges to the public sector and PSB partners have demonstrated real dedication and resolve in overcoming some truly testing situations over this period. PSBs are demonstrating that they too have a crucial role to play in the recovery from the pandemic, in considering the social, economic, environmental and cultural impacts on communities and co-ordinating the longer-term response. Many of you will have produced community impact assessments and these will be useful starting points for the well-being assessments.

We recognise that the assessments are a big undertaking and our officials want to support you in the best way possible. The attached annex sets out clearly what our expectations are, the ways we can support you, and helpful resources.

Yours sincerely



Sophie Howe
Comisiynydd Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol Cymru
Future Generations Commissioner for Wales



Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local
Government

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

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Welsh Government and Future Generations Commissioner's Expectations: Public Services Boards and the second round of Assessments of Local Well-being (2021-22)

Overarching messages

- This is about **purpose not process**. Your assessments are significant because they have an important role in determining what your boards' priorities should be, and what will be in the local well-being plan.
- We would like to see boards operating within the spirit of the Act and we are looking for your approach to be **ambitious but achievable**. We want your PSBs to *aspire* to produce an excellent assessment, but also recognise the time and data available to you may limit what you can deliver. As a minimum, it is expected that:
 - The assessment covers the four dimensions of well-being (i.e. economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being) rather than focusing too heavily on one aspect, and draws out the links between pieces of data rather than viewing them in isolation.
 - The assessment takes account of the long term needs of the area as well as the short term.
 - The assessment looks at both the PSB area as a whole and at smaller communities and localities within the PSB area.
 - The approach taken to preparing the assessment reflects the 5 ways of working¹.
- The assessment is the **foundation on which everything else is** built. Boards should have a robust, objective understanding of their area to inform decisions on where they should focus their combined efforts. It is the point at which you *consider everything* to enable you to prioritise and not *cover everything* in your local well-being plan.
- We would like to see **leadership and buy-in** from organisations across the PSB, and a clear collaboration and connection between the executive/senior members of the PSB and support teams/officers.
- Ideally, the PSB members would **collaborate** to inform the development of the assessment.
- The assessments are important as a **wider resource** for partners, communities and others to draw on for the next five years. We encourage you to factor this thinking into their design, use and function.
- You should see the assessments as part of an **ongoing journey** on the use of evidence and analysis – continuing to build on their assessment of your area beyond the formal publication of a product to meet the legal requirement.
- There is **complete local (or regional) flexibility over how PSBs (plus RPBs and other partnerships) organise themselves to produce these**

¹ Long term, Prevention, Integration, Collaboration, Involvement

assessments, plans and how they deliver them. For example, using the last assessment as a starting point for update and refinement may be reasonable, if it incorporates and builds on all of the learning from the first round.

- We recognise the challenges locally in making sense of the requirements on the same organisations to produce similar assessments and plans under different national legislation e.g. the Population Needs Assessments. We would encourage partnerships to seek to **join up and avoid duplicating** work.
- In the context of the current expected timescales of local government elections, your Board must publish its assessment no later than **5 May 2022**.

Key differences from the first round of assessments

- There should be **learning from the first iteration**. We encourage you to reflect on your first round of the assessment process and your own experiences, and working as a Board, decide collectively what you're going to be doing and what you'll put most focus into. Consider any feedback on the first cycle of well-being assessments from members of the public, other organisations within your area, the formal feedback from Welsh Government and the [Future Generations Commissioner](#), to **consider what you may wish to improve upon or do differently this time round**.
- There is an opportunity to **reflect on the new sources of data and information which are available to the Board** since the last assessments were produced, e.g.:
 - Your experience of delivering the Act;
 - Local involvement exercises;
 - National data and information, e.g. core data sets from Data Cymru; NRW's Area Statements; Data Cymru's data catalogue; national briefings, and Audit Wales and other inspectorate reports.

Welsh Government will update you on sources available to support you.

- We continue to encourage **local variation** in how the assessments are approached. Your Boards have (deliberate) flexibility in how they are structured, provided they meet the core requirements set out in the Act and statutory guidance. You may wish to structure and present differently this time based on your own views of the last cycle.

Challenges and limitations

- We recognise there may be challenges and limitations to the assessments and would **encourage honest self-reflection** on these in the assessment. It is better to be honest about barriers that have been encountered in the assessment process than to hide them. Telling us about such issues may enable us to support you overcoming these issues.
- Where there are constraints, we would like you to reflect on how you might overcome them – either on your own, or with support from other PSBs and us.

What makes a strong well-being assessment

Data and analysis

Reflecting on the last cycle of assessments and feedback, we generally found that stronger well-being assessments:

- **Demonstrated a critical analysis and interpretation of the data**, and didn't just set out the data collected.
- Were '**honest**' in their assessments, and open/reflective about what the assessment doesn't tell you as well as what it does. For example, where there isn't data available or where the implications are unclear.
- Evidenced how they were **using and understanding the data** sets prepared by Data Cymru.
- Took a **collaborative approach** to the interpretation of data and evidence, drawing on the resources and expertise across PSB members.
- Demonstrated a **good understanding and interpretation** of what national and regional level data/evidence means for the local area.

For the second cycle, you now have information and evidence from the [Area Statements](#) and [State of Natural Resources Report](#) to inform assessments. Your Natural Resources Wales representative can help you interpret these for your area.

Guidance on use of evidence and analysis

- The [guidance on use of evidence and analysis](#) is available to help PSBs prepare assessments.
- It is expected that the assessments will draw largely on quantitative data, supplemented by qualitative data.
- Assessments can be strengthened by moving beyond broad descriptive analysis, and by identifying priorities to be analysed in more depth at a later date to inform local wellbeing plans.

Ways of working - Long-term thinking

Analysis from the [Future Generations Commissioner](#), [Audit Wales](#) and others (e.g. [Cardiff University](#)) has highlighted that generally, futures and long-term thinking is an under-developed area. Stronger assessments of local well-being will:

- Undertake **sophisticated planning for the future**, informed by a rounded understanding of current needs, future trends and multi-generational policy challenges. Future techniques can help here.

- **Make use of the second Future Trends Report**, interpreting what these mean for your local area. There will be support sessions in conjunction with Welsh Government on this in 2021.

This is an area where we hope to provide tailored network support through 2021-22, in conjunction with the second Future Trends report, and building on the futures / long-term webinar we held with coordinators in December 2020.

Ways of working - Involvement

Due to the pandemic, community involvement looks and feels different to before. However, this has opened the door to new opportunities and a way for both organisations and people to learn new skills. Strong well-being assessments will:

- **Build on the base-lining involvement exercises undertaken during the first round** which sought to establish what the issues were (as opposed to starting again). For example, involving people around your existing objectives with a focus on what has improved, and what still needs doing.
- **Apply a range of involvement methods, tools and approaches** – as was discussed during the ‘involvement’ webinars in October 2020 and February/March 2021.
- Evidence the **work undertaken with other organisations and networks** that has helped influence and inform your involvement.
- **Build on some of the great examples of collaboration with the voluntary sector and local communities** we’ve seen through the pandemic, and how you are using that information to inform your thinking, planning and delivery. For example, the [Blaenau Gwent Locality Response service](#) redeployed staff from departments across the local authority to coordinate an emergency response in partnership with third sector organisations, ensuring people could access the support they needed in their community.

Feel free to **be creative** in how you’re approaching involvement in your area. For example, Brecon Beacons National Park authority have been using Minecraft as an involvement tool for their [town centre plan](#).

As outlined below, we will use the network meetings, bulletins, online webinars and other means to **share good/best practice** on this theme. Looking at ways of being creative when approaching involvement is also an area we can explore if this would be helpful.

Support from Welsh Government and the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner

Timescales

What we will do:

We have considered in detail your feedback from the Coordinator meetings, PSB Assessment Survey and online sessions held in November ('Involvement') and December ('Futures/long-term') 2020.

Through these, you shared what you believe are the key challenges and opportunities for working better together as we head into the second round of well-being assessments. To help you develop your second well-being assessment, we are:

- **Continuing to run the national network meetings, topic focused webinars and online meetings** through 2021 with other organisations and networks, building on the 'involvement' and 'long-term' events held in November and December 2020 ([WG/FGC](#))
- Running a **Future Generations Xchange** event in March 2021 to share best practice and demonstrate the impact of PSBs ([WG](#)).
- Using the network meetings, bulletins, online webinars and other means to **share good/best practice** on themes such as 'data analysis', 'community involvement' and 'futures and long-term'. This is particularly powerful when hearing from PSBs who feel they're delivering aspects such as these well ([WG/FGC](#)).
- Offering regular '**drop-in clinics**' to offer advice (including commissioning analysis of wellbeing data), test ideas, and clarify requirements on the well-being assessments and well-being plans ([WG](#)).
- Preparing a **core data set**, through Data Cymru, containing approximately 75 indicators that would be used by most, if not all, PSBs as part of the well-being assessments ([WG](#)).
- Preparing a **data catalogue**, through Data Cymru, which will identify data and information not readily accessible e.g. from public bodies named in the Act and other national organisations such as Sport Wales, Arts Council of Wales, National Museum of Wales, Police Services and Commissioners. Data Cymru could then support and simplify the data requests to avoid overwhelming those sources ([WG](#)).
- Working **with the Welsh Government team leading on the Future Trends Report to ensure alignment and integration** between your work and theirs, as it develops. We are looking to improve the timeliness of the report for use in the assessments ([WG/FGC](#)).
- Welsh Government and Future Generations Commissioner recognise the challenges in developing these assessments under the current circumstances. **Welsh Government support, including regional funding**, has been designed for the coming year with the involvement and consultation of coordinators.

We are also exploring:

- Working with research expertise to prepare national briefings on high priority topics of common interest e.g. impacts of Brexit and people with protected characteristics (WG).
- The potential for **small, online communities of PSB practice (peer networks) on particular themes** (e.g. futures, involvement, data, etc.), if you think this would be beneficial (WG/FGC).
- Tailoring our approach to **provide practical advice and information and shorter feedback**, building on the comments you've provided on our advice and support during the last round of well-being assessments (WG/FGC).
- Sharing the best way for enabling you to have **clear, direct contacts within our respective offices**. This has been a consistent ask in your feedback (WG/FGC).
- **Sharing the work the Future Generations Commissioner does to seek to reduce the complex landscape public bodies and PSBs operate in and** to try to make implementation of the Act easier, through publishing Ministerial letters and providing transcripts of Senedd Committee evidence hearings etc (FGC).
- Setting out how we (and Data Cymru) could potentially **support you on data analysis and interpretation**, stepping up from just providing data (WG/FGC).

Roles

- **Welsh Government** has an **operational** role in supporting PSBs in undertaking the assessments – providing clarification on the requirements; facilitating the sharing of learning between PSBs, providing specific support to ensure that PSBs are able to deliver effectively. Please direct any queries to lgpartnerships@gov.wales
- **The Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales** (in addition to commenting on individual assessments) has a **strategic** role in identifying and seeking to address common issues/draw out the broader learning from the exercise for achieving the ambitions of the Act e.g. common challenges or gaps. Currently, please direct any queries to contactus@futuregenerations.wales using ref: 'PSB Well-being Assessments' and it will be assigned.

Resources

Key reports

- [Well-being in Wales: Planning today for a better tomorrow](#)
- Audit Wales: [So, what's different?](#)
- The Future Generations Report: Ch 2 - [Welsh Government](#) and [public bodies](#) and Ch3 [Well-being Goals](#).
- [Implementing the Sustainable Development Principle](#): Public Health Wales and Kingston University produced a report on the five ways of working.
- The Future generations Commissioner's '[Journey to involvement](#)'.
- [The 2020 assessment of sustainable management of natural resources in Wales](#)

Implementing longer-term planning and decision making

- [Government Office for Science](#) and the '[Futures toolkit for policy makers and analysts](#)'. A set of tools to help embed long-term strategic thinking within the policy process, and explains how to ensure they have real impact.
- [FGC Three Horizons Toolkit](#): to help you think and plan long-term.
- [Futures for Wales Report](#) (2018). In partnership with Public Health Wales, this report identifies tools and approaches for long-term planning.
- [A shift in governance, policy and delivery for future generations? Well-being planning in Wales \(Cardiff University\)](#)

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Thriving Communities Objective

RCT Community Resilience Hubs – Progress Highlights 2020-2021

- At the early stages of development RCT Cabinet made a commitment to the development of up to 10 Community Hubs.
- The developments in RCT have not only concerned themselves with the Children's Zone Pilot
- Covid-19 hastened those developments.
- From the outset of the pandemic the Community Support Steering Group in RCT has been the lynch pin for responding to resident needs and organisational challenge. Full reports for all activities undertaken by RCTCBC can be made available.
- These strategic partnerships identified local community response members 'placed' in each of the 7 Community Resilience Hubs. Attached is the current virtual multi agency team list soon to be updated to include Adult Services and Health colleagues
- The Community Development Team – RCT Together establishment was increased - ICF and RCTCBC - to respond to resident requests and now focusses attention on the development of Community Neighbourhood Networks. Attached is the current RCT Together staffing structure and Multi agency Community Resilience Hub Virtual Teams (Appendix A)
- Case studies are available for all periods.
- During 2019-2020 the Community Development Team secured circa £150,000 additional external revenue funding to respond to resident needs, utilised to build resilience and included £35,000 for capital investment in community projects.
- The Children's Zone pilot evaluation is in final draft and due for publication shortly after sharing with Ministers, this closes the pilot activity.
- As part of the CTM Protect response RCT have been part of the WG Self Isolation support pilot and an evaluation of this is available on request.
- Covid-19 has fundamentally changed the way we work, the response of communities, third and voluntary sector organisations has allowed adult services to sustain support to the NHS and respond to those of high need.
- Covid-19 has changed attitudes within our communities with people more willing it seems to help other people.

Plans for 2021-22 include:

- Bringing into the virtual teams in Community Resilience Hubs - Health and adult Service presence – agreed in principle, individual contact details tbc
- An accessible resident survey asking residents to identify 3 things they'd like to see more of and 3 things they'd like to see less of is available to all RCT residents and is being widely publicised. <http://inform/en/news/2021/june/rctresidentssurvey.aspx>. The results will be shared with neighbourhood networks, alongside National data reports.
- The Community Development Web page has been made more user friendly – inviting contact and making asking for support more accessible. [RCT Together | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk)
- An RCTCBC application for the UK Community Renewal Fund has been submitted to UK Government if approved will provide financial support to the endeavours of the neighbourhood Networks and their identified and agreed priorities. Total Project value of £613,265.25 of which £75,848.48 will be available for Capital Investment.

Key risks

- The development of a UK National Social Prescribing Framework approach by health may well undermine the fledgling development and collaborative endeavour of local communities/the community response.
- The need to secure longer term financial investment for the Community Resilience Hub/developments is critical if the positive progress it to be maintained and residents and Community Groups t continue to receive support. To date for example critical team members have just 12-month employment contracts funded by ICF and

End

Merthyr Tydfil Community Zone

Summary of Progress

In Merthyr Tydfil, the County Borough Council continues to be the lead stakeholder, with Merthyr Valleys Homes as the anchor organisation to develop the pilot community Hub, key partners include voluntary and third sector organisations such as Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil and 3 G's Development Trust which has created a community hub facility that offers a space for community members to meet up friends and family, access and use IT facilities, access services and support such as Health Visitors, Parenting Team, Early Language Development, Communities for Work and Communities for Work Plus, Youth Support, South Wales Police, the Youth Club and Barnardo's.

A Hub and Spoke approach has been developed which annually maps the services and provision in the vicinity. The Hub 'spokes' include a local Flying Start childcare facility, 3 Gs Arts & Media Studio, local schools, the Foodbank and a number of active third sector groups such as Gurnos Men's Group and the PHAB Club. Links to specialist drop-in provision in and across Merthyr Tydfil, which includes housing tenancy support, smoking cessation, drug and alcohol support and employment and careers support.

Engagement approaches and activities have been, and continue to be rolled out to establish priorities and regularly refreshed in relation to specific areas of work, including working with services to maintain and promote their offer over the pandemic, and develop online approaches, and working with the partners and youth group to respond to the needs of the community during Covid, delivering on a community environmental projects, and in collaboration with Merthyr Valley Homes the roll out of a community consultation survey with to establish community needs during Covid,

Covid-19 Pandemic Response

Within context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Gurnos Hub has played a substantial role in terms of response with improved collaborative working opportunities the sharing of resources and co-ordination with key partners.

The challenges of the pandemic have been immense, and the Hub facility closed to comply with COVID guidelines under the 'community venue' guidance. However, throughout the pandemic services have been reviewed and wherever possible developed to be delivered online. This online approach has been very successful with the Hub offer of information, advice and assistance model being maintained virtually, via the Calon Las Facebook and twitter pages.

With increasing engagement numbers 'hits' every week, with over 500 follows. Residents having up to date information on support, services and signposting such as employment services, food bank and housing support. Online courses have been promoted and community competitions such as Xmas art, wreath making and delivery of selection boxes

have been rolled out. This has been very successfully with resident feedback indicating it has been a lifeline.

During September to November 2020 Community consultation was rolled out virtually to ascertain needs especially around health and wellbeing; Responses analysed illustrate the need reach more residents and use of social media, with work ongoing to link in with organisations who refurbish laptops;

Via the commissioning model with Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil, the IAA/Community Development Officer has had opportunities to access funding and roll out support and wellbeing packs to community resident and worked collaboratively with the Youth Services to develop wellbeing packs for vulnerable resident and young people.

All stakeholders housed in the Hub have maintained their service offer, with either face to face or support that has been developed virtually, with participants and residents offered one to one online appointment and support. Under strict COVID guidelines, the Health service offer of baby weighing and immunisation has been maintained where guidance has allowed, and via an appointment basis.

The co-located services as part of the Families First and Flying Start offer have been working centrally with the local authority as part of the vulnerable learner's panel- providing a virtual model of sharing key worker updates and tracking the most vulnerable children and young people in the area and across Merthyr. This has included home visits under the statutory services and where COVID allowed some face to face visits (outside)

Ongoing conversations with work being carried out to analyse and ascertain community needs and priorities. A Hub Operations group is in place to review WG guidance and develop new processes and system for the new facility such as include policies and procedures for COVID compliance when it is open to the public.

During spikes in COVID cases, The Hub has hosted a Covid testing facility and distribution of LFT kits

Financial Investment and Future Plans

Through investment, and using the WG Legacy Grant to target support within the pilot via employing a part-time strategic lead officer and commissioned approach with third sector organisation to provide a Community Development and Information and Advice (IAA) officer. This grant investment has continued for 2021-22, however, with the WG review of the Legacy grant it is unclear if this commitment will continue beyond 2022.

Through further investment the local authority secured ICF investment to refurbish the Hub building and provide better IAA facilities. This refurbishment has been further developed, with the local authority securing a large scale 21st Century Schools grant investment in 2019 creating a larger and quality facility with increased space for IAA and community café. The facility is near completion, and with WG guidance, ongoing discussions are taking place to re-opening and resume the face to face service, albeit reduced.

Longer term commitment to develop and submit a three-year application to the Big Lottery was submitted December 2020 by Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT) who led on the proposal, Resilient Gurnos. The proposal set out its intend how it would build on the progress and investment made, especially at this important juncture of Calon Las to raise its profile, involve the community and provide the leadership needed to support individuals and groups to engage with confidence in the aftermath of the pandemic. However, unfortunately the bid was not approved, so sourcing alternative funds is a key priority for the steering group going forward.

Strategic and Long Term

Future plans depend on strategic funding (from WG) to continue or extend support for the Children's First model and doing so in a more structured manner that does not compete with funding for other more targeted agendas. The longer-term strategic commitment to the approach and roll out across Merthyr is unclear given the pressure on resources and desire to evidence impact of the approach.

At the moment, investment remains whilst WG Legacy grant is available and further development is dependent on collaborative grant applications or partners contributing towards the agenda – which has been a challenge to date. There is a reliance on the securing of external funding by almost all partners in order to continue or begin contributing to this approach, which is seen as over and above existing service offers e.g the recent Big Lottery application.

With no large-scale financial investment, the success of the Hub remains reliant on 'good will' of stakeholders, and with the funding model being short term, resources can be limited and commitment sporadic.

There is a need to strengthen the impetus on Health/Public Services to align with Community Hub/Zone developments, so there is a clear focus on localised services that reduce barriers especially in respect of health provision in local areas so that families don't have to worry about the cost of travel to hospital appointments such as speech and language or worry about childcare arrangements.

There will be continued reviews of how to have better integration of approaches across services and sectors within a cluster model.

APPENDIX A

Community Development Team Staff Structure

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Service Manager

Rhondda

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Cynon

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Taf

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Community Development Officer

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Community Co-ordinators

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(Temporary) Neal David – Llantrisant Hub

Lucy Lloyd – Garth Olwg Hub
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Email: Lucy.Lloyd@rctcbc.gov.uk

Community Resilience Centres

7 Community Resilience Centres

- Open 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

<https://forms.rctcbc.gov.uk/en/Web/coronavirusvulnerableperson/AskThirdParty>

Please use this single form or call 01443 425020, to request assistance, and please note this is a public facing form and can be completed by anyone at any time.

- All Multi-disciplinary team and key workers to abide current national guidelines
- Supported by Multi-Agency Core Steering Group
- Any safeguarding issues contact **MASH 01443 742940**

Community Development Team Lead Officers

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- Lynne Williams - Senior Community Development Officer– 07799131971 Lynne.Williams@rctcbc.gov.uk

Additional Information

- **DWP/JCP**
<https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/coronavirus/>
- **Alzheimers Society – Dementia Connect (V)**
<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/referralform>
Your referral code is ALZ-00932
Dementia.connect@alzheimers.org.uk
0333 150 3456
- **New Horizons (V) – Mental Health and Well-being helpline**
01685 – 881113
info@newhorizons-mentalhealth.co.uk
Mon – Fri 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- **British Red Cross**

If you're feeling lonely or worried, finding it difficult to access food or medication, or are concerned about someone else, we can provide support. Call our free and confidential coronavirus support line on 0808 196 3651 to chat to a friendly British Red Cross volunteer. They can:

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 - give you emotional support
 - connect you with support in your area.
- The phone line is open daily from 10am to 6pm.
 Phone: 0808 196 3651 Free and confidential
 For more information please visit:
redcross.org.uk/coronavirus-support-line

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
<p><u>Garth Olwg Life Long Learning Centre</u> Off St. Illtyd's Road, Church Village, Pontypridd, CF38 1RQ</p> <p>01443 425020</p>	<p>RCTCBC</p>	<p>Lucy Lloyd – Community Co-ordinator Contact – 07786523803 Lucy.lloyd@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Clair Ruddock – Community Development Officer 07786523652 Clair.ruddock@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Welsh Language - Ianto Phillips</p>
	<p>Interlink (V)</p>	<p>Lead - Imogen Hopkins (07515 166035) ihopkins@interlinkrct.org.uk Buddy - Julie Edwards (07598009035)</p>
	<p>DWP/JCP (V)</p>	<p>Lead – Sian Davies (07717456659)</p>
	<p>Citizens Advice (V)</p>	<p>Lead – Mike Simons (07375417818)</p>

		Michael.Simons@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk
	Foodbank (V)	Lead – Andrew Butcher (07900557379)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Kathryn Davies (07384910509) Buddy – Gary Lewis (07384910518)
	Age Connects (V)	Yvette Davies (07877817532) Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk Monday – Friday cover only at present
	Cynon Taf Housing (V)	Lead - TBC
	Cwm Taf Care & Repair	01443 755696 enquiries@cwmtafcr.org.uk 38-39 Duffryn Street Ferndale RCT CF43 4ER
	Rhondda Housing Association (V)	Lead – Simone Devinett (07834482016) simone.devinett@rhawales.com Buddy – Leigh Caveney (01443 424268) leigh.caveney@rhawales.com
	Newydd Housing (V)	Lead - Rachel Honey-Jones (0776 0756027) rachel.honey-jones@newydd.co.uk Buddy – Lisa Voyle (07501466690) Lisa.Voyle@newydd.co.uk
	Resilient Families (V)	Lead - Rachel Hawkins Rachel.g.hawkins@rctcbc.gov.uk

- V = Virtual working – is available by 'phone or email, and has the facility to work from home

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
<p><u>Porth Plaza</u></p> <p>Porth Plaza, Pontypridd road, Porth, RCT, CF39 9PG</p> <p>Tel: 01443 425020</p>	<p>RCTCBC</p>	<p>Amanda Thomas - Community Co-ordinator Contact: 07385086783 Amanda.Thomas2@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Steve Smith – Community Development Officer 07786 523656 Stephen.K.Smith@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Welsh Language – Debbie Langford</p>
	Interlink (V)	Lead – Melanie Holly (07515166036)
	DWP/JCP (V)	Lead - Sian Davies (07717456659)
	Citizens Advice (V)	Lead – Mike Simons (07375417818) Michael.Simons@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk
	Foodbank (V)	Lead – David Holland (07928451374)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Lee Lambert (07799131949) Buddy – Gary Lewis (07384910518)
	Age Connects (V)	Fleur Williams (07534684114) Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk Monday – Friday cover only at present
	Cynon Taf Housing	Lead – TBC

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	Rhondda Housing Association (V)	Lead – Simone Devinett (07834482016) simone.devinett@rhawales.com Buddy – Leigh Caveney (01443 424268) leigh.caveney@rhawales.com
	Newydd Housing (V)	Lead - Rachel Honey-Jones (07760756027) rachel.honey-jones@newydd.co.uk Buddy – Lisa Voyle (07501466690) Lisa.Voyle@newydd.co.uk
	Resilient Families (V)	Lead - Rachel Hawkins Rachel.g.hawkins@rctcbc.gov.uk

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
<u>Canolfan Pennar</u> Canolfan Pennar, Oxford St, Mountain Ash, CF45 3HD Tel: 01443 425020	RCTCBC	Vicky Hughes – Community Co-ordinator Contact No - 07747 485757 Victoria.L.Hughes@rctcbc.gov.uk Alice Holloway – Community Development Officer Contact No - 07385370198 Alice.Holloway@rctcbc.gov.uk Welsh Language – Amy Mason/Scott Thomas
	Interlink (V)	Lead – Julie Lomas (07730436807) Buddy – Deanne Rebane (07580 869983)
	DWP/JCP (V)	Lead - Sian Davies (07717456659)

	Citizens Advice (V)	Lead – Gareth Evans (07487826221) Gareth.evans@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk
	Foodbank (V)	Lead – Cleide Correia (07427537437)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Samantha Perry (07384910511) Buddy – Gary Lewis (07384910518)
	Age Connects (V)	Emma Green (07534683961) Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk Monday – Friday cover only at present
	Cynon Taf Housing	Lead - TBC
	Cwm Taf Care & Repair	01443 755696 enquiries@cwmtafcr.org.uk 38-39 Duffryn Street Ferndale RCT CF43 4ER
	Rhondda Housing Association (V)	Lead – Simone Devinett (07834482016) simone.devinett@rhawales.com Buddy – Leigh Caveney (01443 424268) leigh.caveney@rhawales.com
	Resilient Families (V)	Lead - Rachel Hawkins Rachel.g.hawkins@rctcbc.gov.uk

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
<p><u>Yr Hwb</u></p> <p>The Hwb, North Rd, Ferndale, RCT, CF43 4PS</p> <p>Tel: 01443 425020</p>	<p>RCTCBC</p>	<p>Lucy Lloyd – Community Co-ordinator Contact – 07786523803 Lucy.lloyd@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Louise Clement – Community Co-ordinator Contact – 01443 570021 l.clement@fernpartnership.co.uk</p> <p>Steve Smith – Community Development Officer 07786 523656 Stephen.K.Smith@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Welsh Language – Thomas Jones</p>
	Interlink (V)	Lead – Katy Williams (07515166024) Buddy – Lucy Foster (07580865938)
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	Citizens Advice (V)	Lead – Gareth Evans (07487826221) Gareth.evans@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk
	Foodbank (V)	Lead – David Holland (07928451374)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Helen Edwards (07747485560) Buddy - Gary Lewis (07384910518)
	Age Connects (V)	Hazel Roche (07534683935)

		Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk Monday – Friday cover only at present
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	Resilient Families (V)	Lead - Rachel Hawkins Rachel.g.hawkins@rctcbc.gov.uk

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
Aberdare Library Green St, Aberdare, RCT, CF44 7AG Tel: 01443 425020	RCTCBC	Ryan Bevan – Community Co-ordinator Contact No - 07385401835 Ryan.Bevan@rctcbc.gov.uk Alice Holloway – Community Development Officer Contact No - 07385370198 Alice.Holloway@rctcbc.gov.uk

		Welsh Language – Rebecca Jones/Amy Mason
	Interlink (V)	Lead – Samantha Williams (07515166017) Buddy – Deanne Rebane (07580869983)
	DWP/JCP (V)	Lead - Sian Davies (07717456659)
	Citizens Advice (V)	Lead – Gareth Evans (07487826221) Gareth.evans@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk
	Foodbank (V)	Lead – Cleide Correia (07427537437)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Beverley Scane (07384910516) Buddy – Gary Lewis (07384910518)
	Age Connects (V)	Michelle Evans (07833568222) Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk Monday – Friday cover only at present
	Cynon Taf Housing	Lead - TBC
	Cwm Taf Care & Repair	01443 755696 enquiries@cwmtafcr.org.uk 38-39 Duffryn Street Ferndale RCT CF43 4ER
	Rhondda Housing Association (V)	Lead – Simone Devinett (07834482016) simone.devinett@rhawales.com

		Buddy – Leigh Caveney (01443 424268) leigh.caveney@rhawales.com
	Newydd Housing (V)	Lead - Rachel Honey-Jones (0776 0756027) rachel.honey-jones@newydd.co.uk Buddy – Lisa Voyle (07501466690) Lisa.Voyle@newydd.co.uk
	Resilient Families (V)	Lead - Rachel Hawkins Rachel.g.hawkins@rctcbc.gov.uk

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
<p><u>Llys Cadwyn</u></p> <p>1 Llys Cadwyn, Taff St, Pontypridd, RCT, CF37 4TH</p> <p>Tel: – 01443 425020</p>	RCTCBC	<p>Neal David – Community Co-ordinator Officer Contact - 07557480777 Neal.David@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Clair Ruddock – Community Development Officer Contact - 07786523652 Clair.ruddock@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Welsh Language – Ffion Parrington/Ian Cottrell</p>
	Interlink (V)	Lead - Karen Powell (07580869970)
	DWP/JCP (V)	Lead - Sian Davies (07717456659)
	Citizens Advice (V)	Lead – Mike Simons (07375417818) Michael.Simons@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk

	Foodbank (V)	Lead – Mandy Haydon-Hall (07411965958)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Pamela Lewis (07896474931) personal mobile no. please do not share Buddy – Gary Lewis (07384910518)
	Age Connects (V)	Sharon Colcombe Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk Monday – Friday cover only at present
	Cynon Taf Housing	Lead - TBC
	Cwm Taf Care & Repair	01443 755696 enquiries@cwmtafcr.org.uk 38-39 Duffryn Street Ferndale RCT CF43 4ER
	Rhondda Housing Association (V)	Lead – Simone Devinett (07834482016) simone.devinett@rhawales.com Buddy – Leigh Caveney (01443 424268) leigh.caveney@rhawales.com

Centre	Co-ordinator and Partners	Response Team
<u>Llantrisant Library</u>	RCTCBC	Neal David – Community Co-ordinator Officer

<p>Llantrisant Leisure Centre, Southgate Park, Llantrisant, RCT, CF72 8DJ</p> <p>Tel: 01443 425020</p>		<p>Contact - 07557480777 Neal.David@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Lucy Lloyd – Community Co-ordinator Contact – 07786523803 Lucy.lloyd@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Clair Ruddock – Community Development Officer 07786523652 Clair.ruddock@rctcbc.gov.uk</p> <p>Welsh Language – Miriam Jones/Ian Cottrell</p>
	Interlink (V)	Lead - Robyn Hambrook: 07730 431859 rhambrook@interlinkrct.org.uk
	DWP/JCP (V)	Lead - Sian Davies (07717456659)
	Citizens Advice (V)	Lead – Mike Simons (07375417818) Michael.Simons@carct.org.uk
	Trivallis (V)	Lead – Alix Howells alix.howells@trivallis.co.uk
	Foodbank (V)	Lead – Andrew Butcher (07900557379)
	Public Health and Protection (V)	Lead – Gary Black (07944446505) EHO – Kelly Snare
	Trading Standards (V)	Lead – Neil Arbery (07799132174) Buddy – Gary Lewis (07384910518)

	Age Connects (V)	Shelley Brookes (07534683910) Information and advice team via information@acmorgannwg.org.uk
	Cynon Taf Housing	Lead - TBC
	Cwm Taf Care & Repair	01443 755696 enquiries@cwmtafcr.org.uk 38-39 Duffryn Street Ferndale RCT CF43 4ER
	Rhondda Housing Association (V)	Lead – Simone Devinett (07834482016) simone.devinett@rhawales.com Buddy – Leigh Caveney (01443 424268) leigh.caveney@rhawales.com

Cwm Taf Well-being Objectives -**Delivery plan – Healthy People**

Update on Progress

Despite a really challenging time throughout the pandemic, there has been significant progress on this work stream, due to dedicated resources to support this work both from Welsh Government and the Prevention and Early Years grant to Health Boards.

Vulnerability Profiling

The purpose of this programme of work is to enable information sharing between partner organisations to identify pregnant women and children who would benefit from early interventions to prevent poor outcomes from them and their children. This is required for safeguarding purposes and this project extends this principle to all pregnant women and children. The scope was originally from preconception to age 2, that is the First 1000 days of life, but has been extended to age seven to ensure that profiles are developed that promote school readiness and transition into and through the foundation phase of education. Progress to date is summarised below:

- Data fields of interest identified by multi agency partners, including all LAs.
- Information sharing protocols signed by CTMUHB, RCTCBC and South Wales Police
- Early win includes electronic transfer of birth data from the Health Board to the Council which was manually input from published pdf documents previously, risking errors.
- Swansea University engaged as a key partner using SAIL (Secure anonymised information linkage). This work has included an evidence search for risk factors associated with our agreed priorities to confirm that the data field selected were correct:
 - low birth weight,
 - being taken into care,
 - subject to adverse childhood experience(s) and
 - school readiness
- In addition Swansea University has used SAIL to verify and check the outcomes of children from 2000 across RCT and Wales by linking these fields along with outcomes for children. This will enable weighting of the risk factors by importance to prioritise action locally.
- Qualitative research has been undertaken by EMPOVA funded by the PSB to gain the views of families and professionals in sharing data across organisations to inform future practice and confirm risk factors as seen by a range of partners in their work. This research was particularly challenging during the pandemic. Responses were received from 96 professionals a broad range of agencies including NHS, Local Authorities, third sector, FRS, police and Welsh Government. In addition semi structured interviews were undertaken with 13 senior managers. Families were engaged through online surveys and promoted by key professionals. There were 209 responses with 169 fully completed. The findings suggest that the public agree that information sharing between agencies providing support and services is acceptable. However, in common with professionals

who took part in this study there was recognition by the members of the public who completed the survey of the importance of personal rights and privacy and further comments highlighting that it is much better if parents agree for information to be shared.

- In addition to the above work, the project attracted KESS2 European funding following a successful application between CTMUHB and Swansea University. This enabled a Masters programme student to be employed to specifically identify where vulnerable families were located geographically to compared against the financial distribution to the more deprived areas provided by Families First. This work is near completion and evidence suggests that there as many vulnerable families living outside families first areas as inside. This indicates a potential for more intelligent targeting of anti-poverty funding.

CHOICE Pilot

When this project was initiated Local Authorities in Cwm Taf Morgannwg had among the highest numbers of babies taken into care at birth or before the age of 2 years, with associated poorer outcomes for both the parents and children along with associated costs to the LAs. The most important risk factors for going into care at this stage are mothers with poor mental health, victims of domestic abuse, misusing substances or having previously had a baby taken into care. This pilot aims to promote contraceptive choice to these women to prevent unplanned pregnancies. Progress to date is summarised below:

- Research was carried out with focus groups involving women and their partners who use services for substance misuse, domestic violence, the reflect programme for those who have had babies taken into care. The feedback was that women found it difficult to access contraception, with getting GP appointments and not knowing where family planning services were on different days. The stressful nature of their lives meant that they did not pursue this further.
- Prevention and Early Years funding was allocated to fund a pilot service model with a small team of four sexual health nurses to provide an outreach service for women in these risk groups, with referral from the services they use, as well as maternity, health visiting and pregnancy termination services. The service promotes and provides long acting reversible contraception as well as providing screening for sexually transmitted diseases and cervical cancer.
- The service was established in 2020 and went live in September 2020. Early uptake is encouraging having 344 referrals between September and June. Rhondda= 36, Cynon= 34, Taf= 5, Merthyr= 106, Bridgend= 117. The highest number of referrals have been received for clients living within the Merthyr/Cynon area; 41%; followed by Bridgend; 33% and Rhondda/Taf; 26%.
- Referrers information: Barnardo's/ Reflect= 18, CASH= 32 , YOT=6, Domestic Abuse= 31, Drug & Alcohol= 95' Education= 11, Family Health and Wellbeing Programme= 1, Mental Health Services= 2 Integrated Autism Services= 1 Welsh Ambulance Services- 1 Health visitors= 8 Maternity= 98 Housing & Homelessness= 10 Youth Partnership= 8 Body wise/ PAS= 19
- Of the referrals clients have received: 170 - Long Acting Reversible Contraception, 121 - Sexual Health Screenings, 20 - Cervical Smears 8 – requiring Direct referrals to specialist colposcopy services

- Feedback from women who did not take up LARC: 8 moved out of area, 6, no contact, 4 pregnant, 2 sterilization, 2 deceased, 2 in prison, 14 declined LARC but 10 had STO screening and 3 cervical smears
- Has engagement with the CHOICE Project benefited your service users?

‘Yes absolutely, fast and thorough services and women report that they know where to go now and who to call. Choice is a non-judgemental one-stop shop that is breaking down barriers for the women who need it the most’

‘Service users who may not have engaged previously, have had access to sexual health and contraception. We have had more clients who have requested a referral to the project as they have heard positive feedback’

- The CHOICE team have engaged with extremely vulnerable clients including individuals that were homeless, drug users, sex workers, those experiencing severe anxiety, depression, multiple personality disorders, clients that had been the victims of grooming and vulnerable young people under the age of 16.

Childhood Obesity:

A number of key areas of service development are now coming to fruition to address this important issue:

- The Henry Programme has been commissioned, utilising Prevention and Early Years grant funding. This is a franchised service where locally employed staff will be trained to deliver the programme to families of children up to the age of five. This ‘HENRY approach’ brings together support for parenting efficacy, family emotional wellbeing and behaviour change with information about nutrition, physical activity, and oral health. The programme will commence in September, initially online, but with individual and groups as Covid-19 restrictions allow.
- Public Health Wales is also funding the development of targeted services for children and families up to seven years, with support from Healthy Weight Healthy Wales grant funding. Three pilot areas across Wales have been selected, including Merthyr Tydfil. This will enable a tailored programme to be developed with the involvement of local families to meet local need.
- In addition Jamjar have been commissioned to delivered family social media campaign, survey 400 families to co-produce content.

Well-being Objective 2.1a	The first 1000 days (F1000D)
Lead Officer	Angela Jones
Immediate step: 2.1a	
Why do we need to do it?	Information shows a need.....

<p><i>To be informed by Well-being plan, Well-being and any other Assessments and Future Trends</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce high number of Children Looked After (CLA), particularly in 0-2 years • To reduce high number of vulnerable people of child bearing age/pregnant/parents • To break the cycle of vulnerability through exposure of children to ACEs • To improve school readiness of children • To reduce high levels of obesity in children aged 4-5 years and dental caries • To target resources more effectively to facilitate early identification of need, early intervention and prevention to improve outcomes.
<p>What difference will delivering this Objective make to the people and communities in Cwm Taf?</p>	<p><i>The Outcomes that will demonstrate a difference are.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective sharing of information across organisations on risk factors for Early Years vulnerability • Improving health and well-being for pregnant women and their infants • Reducing the number of CLA • Reducing exposure to ACEs • Mitigating and reducing the impact of exposure to ACEs • Improving school readiness of children
<p>What are the quick wins that the Partnership can complete in the first year?</p>	<p><i>The quick wins are.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree an Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) to replace current Data Disclosure Agreements (DDA's) to share evidence based risk factors to target early identification, early intervention and prevention to improve outcomes. • To target more effectively vulnerable women to prevent unplanned pregnancies through promotion and easy access to long acting reversible contraception (LARC)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing sex and relationships education (SRE) and personal social education (PSE) in secondary school. To focus on the importance health and well-being prior to conception for males and females. <p>Other actions are....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and implement effective targeted support to vulnerable women and their partners during pregnancy • Identify and implement effective targeted support for vulnerable families during early parenthood; to mothers, partners and their infants
<p>Who will be involved in contributing towards this Objective?</p> <p><i>This will include Cwm Taf PSB partners, people and communities, and new contributors who can help</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSB to agree actions, priorities and sign off InformationSharing Protocols • Welsh Government to support the co-construction of the early years system and funding flexibility of relevant grants • Health, Local Authorities, Education, Sexual Health Advisory Board, Public Health Team to directly deliver or commission services • Communities and target groups being involved in the design of services to tailor delivery to best meet their needs • All stakeholders who support vulnerable people e.g. probation, police, Health Board, schools, local authorities, third sector
<p>How does this Objective also contribute to the delivery of another Cwm Taf well-being objective?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to vulnerable people and families will help address issues of loneliness and isolation (Cross-cutting Objective). • Potential to pilot interventions in Community Zone areas (Objective 1.1). • Targeting of support to vulnerable people could include access to training skills, volunteering and employment (Objective 3.1)
<p>How does this Objective align with the delivery of other local or national plans or strategies?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-conception to First 1000 days; Systems Group • Prosperity for All • Health Child Wales Programme • All Wales Maternity Strategy • Social Services and Well-being Act, Area Plan • Welsh Government Early Years Co-construction – Partnership with Cwm Taf

<p>How have you considered the Sustainable Development principles i.e. five ways of working in delivering this objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking and planning for the Long term • Preventing problems before they happen • Integrating with other strategies • Collaborating with others • Involving people and communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term: breaking the cycle of family vulnerability through identifying and reducing exposure to ACEs • Prevention: identifying early years vulnerability risk factors to effectively target preventative action • Integration: actively involving all partners of the PSB; • Collaboration: Pre-conception to First 1000 days; Systems Group linked to the Children and Young People’s strategic group, delivering the area plan: integrated in to the Welsh Government Early Years Co-construction – Partnership with Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSB • Involvement: target groups will be involved with the development of effective interventions e.g development of the CHOICE programme.
<p>How will work towards this Objective contribute towards the seven national well-being goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous Wales • A resilient Wales • A healthier Wales • A more equal Wales • A Wales of more cohesive communities • A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language • A globally responsible Wales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous Wales – the support will include targeting to the most vulnerable women, children, families, including linking in to additional skills, volunteering and employment to reduce poverty, the effects of poverty and support prosperity • A resilient Wales – targeting early identification, intervention, prevention and support to and with vulnerable groups to promote their resilience to start/expand their family supporting their children to achieve their potential in the first 1000 days. • A healthier Wales – promoting the development of healthy children from pre-conception to age 2 years • A more equal Wales – directly addressing inequalities by targeting vulnerable people with the poorest outcomes • A Wales of more cohesive communities – providing knowledge and skills to communities to prevent ACEs and help nurture children in a community setting. • A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language – using local cultural influences in designing interventions including play and music and the provision of services through the medium of Welsh

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A globally responsible Wales – providing services as close to the home as possible to reduce the need for transport and through the sustainable use of the local environment.
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DRAFT

Actions that will deliver this Objective 2021-22

Actions (from first year plan)		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
1	System-wide approach		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sharing the system mapping with the Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSB, Regional Partnership Board, professionals, community hubs, service users to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. promote better understanding of the complexity of pathways and determine the governance of planning and service delivery b. initiate innovative ways to simplify the system c. promote easier access to service d. Ensure effective governance 2. 	Jun – Nov 2018 – still ongoing 2021	Angela Jones/Zoe Lancelot ICE Sub Group

Actions (from first year plan)		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
2	<p>Vulnerability Profiling Agree an Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) and implement to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early identification of risk factors for vulnerability • to target action for early intervention/prevention • identify appropriate outcome measures 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Vulnerability Profiling workstream and share findings with PSB and Welsh Government. 2. Publish work for wider dissemination 	<p>March 2021-22</p> <p>March 2021-22</p>	<p>Angela Jones with PSB leads for services with support from the CTM/WG Early Years Strategic Group</p>
3	<p>Preventing unplanned pregnancies To target more effectively vulnerable women to prevent unplanned pregnancies through promotion and easy access to long acting reversible contraception (LARC)</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and implement appropriate contraceptive outreach, working with “trusted key workers” in targeted services, having regard to current good practice by engaging partners working with priority groups. 2. Continue to develop the CHIOCE programme and maximise referral pathways 3. Develop a range of performance measures and evaluate effectiveness and acceptability of the service. 4. Identify opportunities for sustained funding. 5. 	<p>March 2021-22</p> <p>March 2021-22</p>	<p>Sexual Health Advisory Board with LA Children’s Services</p> <p>All PSB Partners</p>

Actions (from first year plan)		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
				March 2021-23	
4	Increasing School Readiness		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early identification of early years vulnerability risk factors for lower school readiness to effectively target preventative action 2. Promote attachment of infant:parents 3. Optimise support/referral to interventions to support healthy growth, play and development through the Healthy Child Wales Programme 4. Early identification of speech and language: timing of health visitor assessment 5. Engagement and knowledge of parents with 'school readiness' 6. Review transition in to schools 		<p>Midwives/Health Visitors</p> <p>Health Visitors</p> <p>Health Visitors</p> <p>Speech and Language Therapists</p> <p>Health Visitors, schools, early years settings</p>
5	Improving Education Reviewing sex and relationships education (SRE) and personal social education (PSE) in secondary school. To focus on the importance healthy relationships, health and well-being prior to conception for males and females.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake review to include content, delivery, timing of delivery and uptake by vulnerable groups and having regard to the recommendations in <i>The Future of the Sex and Relationships Education Curriculum in Wales</i> 2. Recommendations to be implemented 		Sexual Health Advisory Board, School Nurses and Schools

Information that will help to monitor the delivery of this Objective

Quantitative Evidence – including Performance Indicators

PI ref	Local/ National	PI description	Direction of travel	Frequency	Responsible partner
	Local and National	Percentage of vulnerable clients with active LARC (data development need)	Increase		Various
	Local	Risk factors in pregnancy	Decrease		Midwives (MITS)
	Local and National	Low Birth Weight rates	Decrease		Midwives (MITS)
	Local and National	Initiation of Breastfeeding	Increase		Midwives
	Local and National	Breastfeeding at 6 months	Increase		Health Visitors
	Local and National	Children Looked After at Birth, Year 1 and Year 2	Decrease		Children's' Services
	Local and National	Children meeting their development goals e.g. weight, language development, physical development	Increase		Health Visitors

Data and targets will be required for all identified Performance Indicators

Qualitative Evidence

Activity	What will/does it demonstrate?	When/how often will this be available?

Risks that will affect the delivery of this Objective

Risk	Ref to existing action above, if relevant	Other mitigating actions if required
If a Information Sharing Protocol is not agreed then information to target services to the most vulnerable people cannot be implemented effectively		
If.....then.....		

Support required to progress this Objective, including any associated financial contributions

From PSB support Team	In respect of engagement/involvement	In respect of data or analyses

Well-being Objective 3	Strong Economy – To grow a strong local economy with sustainable transport that attracts people to live, work and play in Cwm Taf
Lead Officer	Alyn Owen / Chris Long
Regional Strategic Context:	<p>The Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) Strategic Business Plan identifies four key 'Regional Strategic Themes' which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills & Employment • Connecting the Region • Innovation • Regeneration & Infrastructure <p>The COVID-19 pandemic and economic impact, particularly around furlough, has placed increased importance on this work and the need for PSB bodies to recognise the important Regionally, Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSBs are working with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) around progressive procurement and community wealth building to look at how PSB organisations can better work with and support the local supply chain as well as understanding the roles that organisations play as anchors for economic development.</p>
Sub Regional Context:	<p>Economic Recovery Building on the launch of the Employability Pledge Focus on the Tourism Economy and opportunities Local Development Plans (per LA) Low carbon / carbon free purchasing (Bridgend)</p>
Immediate steps:	<p>We are not starting from scratch. The pandemic disrupted plans but also created opportunities, shifted priorities and showed what can be possible. With an eye still on the long-term vision for this Objective, foci for the work in 2021-22 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the key issues within the Cwm Taf workforce and create an action plan to address these problems (COVID-19 and non COVID-19 related), building on the work started with the Employability Pledge

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Develop a short to medium term development plan for the Tourism Sector that allows us to test and develop growth models. 3. Continue working with CLES to harness the power of progressive procurement, linked to the Community Wealth Building work supported by Welsh Government and build resilience in the local supply chain.
<p>Why do we need to do it?</p> <p><i>To be informed by Well-being plan, Well-being and any other Assessments and Future Trends</i></p>	<p>The Covid-19 pandemic has hugely impacted on our communities in a wide variety of ways, including the economy. A large number people were furloughed, lost their job or their sense of financial security. Businesses have faced unprecedented challenges, uncertainties, and struggles.</p> <p>We need to work to make sure that the progress and flexibilities in working arrangements that have been utilised during the pandemic are maintained for those enjoying them, whilst recognising that for some staff there is a need to return to an office environment. As we enter a recovery phase, the mix of future requirements needs to be considered, as well as the practicalities of accommodating a changed workforce.</p> <p>The Community Impact Assessment undertaken following the first wave of the pandemic reinforced that as a collection of public services we employ a significant amount of local people, support a large number of local businesses through procurement and play a huge role in the economy of Cwm Taf. As such, we play a significant role in safeguarding and supporting local jobs. The future is still uncertain for a lot of people, not least those still on furlough and businesses working within Covid restrictions.</p> <p>The work with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) is using Atamis data to look at how public sector ‘anchors’ procure, and how much spend leaves the region. This is informing the approach we take with CLES around progressive procurement and community wealth building.</p> <p>The Valleys Regional Park Delivery Plan sets an aim of ‘The Valleys landscape underpins a resilient local economy, supporting businesses, community enterprise and development of skills and learning’. Coupled with the aims of building partnership working across all sectors</p>

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	<p>and influencing public policies, this provides a strong foundation for closer working with VRP colleagues.</p> <p>A long-term strategy for a region like Cwm Taf needs to combine and sequence multiple interventions that are not in tension with one another but require careful integration.</p>
<p>What difference will delivering this Objective make to the people and communities in Cwm Taf?</p>	<p>A strong economy underpins personal and community well-being. A resilient workforce is a huge asset, beyond individual financial security and the sense of purpose brought about through employment, and there is no doubt that the changes in the last 18 months have had a huge impact on our employees. Delivering on this Objective will ensure that the progress and lessons of the pandemic are not lost.</p> <p>Working with VRP regionally to promote gateway sites within Cwm Taf and beyond will deliver many positive benefits, as well as promoting the unique opportunities on offer in RCT and Merthyr Tydfil for tourists. For those that live in Cwm Taf, there will be improved awareness of (and potential use) of green spaces for people of all ages and benefits that this brings for personal and mental well-being. There is also volunteering, and employment opportunities brought about through visitor attractions and uptake.</p> <p>Beyond Cwm Taf, attracting more visitors to the region represents the chance to increase spend in the area, and investment in the hospitality and tourism sector and develop training and employment opportunities.</p> <p>The CLES work will improve resilience in the local supply chain, confidence in and awareness of local businesses and ensure that as much spend and contract is kept within the region as possible. This will have a positive impact on local employment, businesses and the environment as the carbon footprint is reduced.</p>
<p>What are the quick wins that the Partnership can complete in the first year?</p>	<p><i>The quick wins are.....</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional approach and cross promotion of Valleys Gateways sites in the region: Cyfarthfa Park, Ynysangharad Park and Dare Valley Park. 2. Looking at how the Employability Pledge can be implemented to support economic recovery in the region

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	<p>3. Progressing on the work started with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies and getting buy-in / long term commitment regarding changing procurement practices. Using Atamis information from CLES looking at local spend and leakage.</p> <p>4. Considering and preparing for the impact of furloughing in the Region</p>
<p>Who will be involved in contributing towards this Objective?</p> <p><i>This will include Cwm Taf PSB partners, people and communities, and new contributors who can help</i></p>	<p>Membership of the group working to deliver this objective will evolve as the approach develops, with the membership changing /being flexible to reflect this. Invitations will be extended, as and when appropriate, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council • Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council • Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA) • Natural Resources Wales (NRW) • Valleys Regional Park (VRP) • Ten South East Wales Local Authorities (as part of the SE Wales DMG) • Schools and colleges delivering tourism courses • Visit Wales • Post 16 Training Providers • Various community groups / organisations and businesses • Welsh Government • Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (Programme Board & Cabinet) • Corporate Joint Committees • Private Business Representatives
<p>How does this Objective also contribute to the delivery of another Cwm Taf well-being objective?</p>	<p>The work complements other well-being objectives.</p> <p>We will use the Community Hub network to target support and involve our communities will be trialled in these areas, particularly with Communities for Work+ and training opportunities being provided in and around the Hubs.</p> <p>The focus on workforce and progressing the Employability Pledge will improve physical and mental well-being, encouraging access to green spaces, active travel and social prescribing, contributing to the work of the Healthy People objective.</p>

Cwm Taf Well-being Objectives – **Strong Economy Delivery plan**

	<p>Volunteering has long been identified as a way upskilling and accessing employment routes as well as benefits to well-being, and this Objective will help to improve and promote volunteering in the public sector.</p>
<p>How does this Objective align with the delivery of other local or national plans or strategies?</p>	<p>This work strategically aligns itself a range of strategies and programmes, all of which have a positive effect on developing a strong economy and well-being. These are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosperity for All • Well-being of Future Generations Act • Partnership for Growth Strategy (Visit Wales) • Growth & Competitiveness Repot (CCR City Deal) • South east Wales Regeneration Strategy • Our Valleys, Our Future (Valley's Task Force) • South East Wales Destination Investment Plan • Merthyr Tydfil Destination Management Plan 2016-18 • RCTCBC Destination Management Plan 2019-21
<p>How have you considered the Sustainable Development principles i.e. five ways of working in delivering this objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking and planning for the Long term • Preventing problems before they happen • Integrating with other strategies • Collaborating with others • Involving people and communities 	<p>Thinking long term, by tackling the source of the ‘wicked problems’ associated with the economy we can actively contribute to creating a stronger workforce, both now and in the future. Through identifying skills shortages and linking with training opportunities, we can look to ‘grow our own’ and prevent employment or skills gaps, and potential shortfalls in service provision particularly in the context of recovery from the pandemic.</p> <p>Investing in and developing our workforce will also boost the aspirations. We can also ensure that our current and future workforce is able to meet the evolving needs of our diverse citizens and visitors. We will also provide those living, working and visiting Cwm Taf to have more options for active and sustainable travel – the Well-being Assessment identified the opportunities to build on Cwm Taf’s potential as a premium cycling destination and the region has over 800km of public rights of way.</p> <p>By working together and integrating our approach we will collectively make a difference to the workforce of each PSB member, as well as the identified growth sector of tourism, and contribute towards the seven national well-being goals, as set out below. There is a natural link to the Capital City Region Deal and work of the Valleys Regional Park that we will be looking to capitalise on.</p> <p>In order to understand our workforce and our economy, we recognise that we need to work differently and actively seek to collaborate. We will be creating a steering group for</p>

Cwm Taf Well-being Objectives – **Strong Economy Delivery plan**

	<p>this work based on the list of parties identified in collaborating on achieving this objective as listed above.</p> <p>The approach in involving local businesses and communities will support this work. The joint training compendium will help to identify gaps, both in terms of the workforce and the training opportunities, and we will work with our communities and businesses to address these. We will work to understand the economic needs of our existing and potential workforce and labour market, with particular regards to language, culture and heritage.</p>
<p>How will work towards this Objective contribute towards the seven national well-being goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous Wales • A resilient Wales • A healthier Wales • A more equal Wales • A Wales of more cohesive communities • A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language • A globally responsible Wales 	<p>This approach, as set out in the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan will contribute towards a prosperous Wales as we are working to develop a skilled and well educated population in an economy looking to restore and improve its pre-pandemic position.</p> <p>Through working with PSB partners, particularly Natural Resources Wales, we will be protecting and promoting the beautiful natural landscape of Cwm Taf, improving access and facilities around the extensive Rights of Way network. All of this will contribute towards a more resilient Wales.</p> <p>We know that being in employment, and feeling valued through workforce development, contributes towards better physical and mental well-being. Having a higher disposable income (GDHI) makes it easier for people making healthier choices. Along with promoting active travel and encouraging people to use the green spaces around Cwm Taf will contribute towards a healthier Wales.</p> <p>Developing the workforce across Cwm Taf and working closely with HE/FE and training providers across the region will help to enable people to fulfil their potential. Through stimulating and boosting the aspirations and skills of people to meet public and private sector career opportunities will contribute towards a more equal Wales.</p> <p>Working to create well-connected communities will create cohesive communities, creating and improving access to employment opportunities across the region.</p> <p>Developing the growth area of tourism and use it as an approach for the private sector workforce development will promote and protect culture and heritage, contributing towards a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.</p> <p>Consistently promoting active travel and working to create more skilled jobs, linked to the capacity of our developed and future workforce within Cwm Taf, will result in fewer residents travelling outside of the area for employment and contribute to a globally responsible Wales.</p>

Cwm Taf Well-being Objectives – Strong Economy Delivery plan

Actions that will deliver this Objective

Actions		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
3.1	Stimulate and boost the aspirations and skills of our people to meet public and private sector career opportunities.		Align the employment and training needs of the sector to the Cwm Taf Employment Programmes in the respective local authority areas.		
			Covid context of furlough, unemployment and volunteering.		
			Developing priorities under the Employability Pledge.		
3.2	Growth and promotion of tourism using the assets of our beautiful natural environment, heritage and culture for the health, prosperity and benefit of the whole community and alongside the development of the Valleys Landscape Park.		Continue to develop leisure/tourism as an employment and training opportunity		
			Work with VRP to develop and promote the 'Cwm Taf' offer building on the Gateway Sites of Ynysangharad Park, Dare Valley Park and Cyfarthfa Park.		
			Build on and support success of tourism ventures such as Zip World, Bike Park Wales and Rock UK in considering recovery from the pandemic		
			Long term vision: A vibrant tourist industry attracting people from near and far, enjoying our natural environment, history, and culture		
3.3	To make the most of the investment and return opportunities of the £1.229 billion City Deal locally within Cwm Taf		This is beyond the control of the PSB. Potential opportunities for the region resulting from City Deal will be maximised however the Board is unable to influence the work and therefore set a programme of work		It is felt this is not something for the PSB to drive / deliver given it is controlled by external factors

Cwm Taf Well-being Objectives – Strong Economy Delivery plan

Actions		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
3.4	Further explore the opportunities for sustainable housing and renewable energy developments with associated community funds		Retrofitting and green developments are for the considerations of local development plans. RCT LDP is being revised 2020-2030 with broad representation making up the Forum, including colleagues from PHW.		
3.5	Develop a Progressive Procurement / Community Wealth Building approach with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies		This work has been developed regionally (with Bridgend) through work with Welsh Government looking at foundational economy and the role of public sector bodies as anchor organisations. A work plan is being developed for the region that will be integrated into this delivery document.		CLES and the existing working group

Information that will help to monitor the delivery of this Objective

Quantitative Evidence – including Performance Indicators

PI ref	Local/ National	PI description	Direction of travel	Frequency	Responsible partner

Data and targets will be required for all identified Performance Indicators

Qualitative Evidence

Cwm Taf Well-being Objectives – **Strong Economy Delivery plan**

Activity	What will/does it demonstrate?	When/how often will this be available?

Risks that will affect the delivery of this Objective

Risk	Ref to existing action above, if relevant	Other mitigating actions if required
If participation and commitment of partners is missing then this Objective will not be realised.	ALL	PSB to own
Covid-19 has severely impacted on every aspect of life and the economy, including workforce and business resilience. Readiness, capacity and ability.	ALL	

Support required to progress this Objective, including any associated financial contributions

From PSB support Team	In respect of engagement/involvement	In respect of data or analyses
Support in making strategic links across Cwm Taf	To be discussed	Support in analysing data and developing various reports / plans.

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<p>Well-being Objective 1</p>	<p>To promote safe, confident, strong and thriving communities improving the well-being of residents and visitors and building on our community assets</p>
<p>Lead Officer</p>	<p>Paul Mee</p>
<p>Immediate step: (strategic objectives)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop Community Zones/Neighbourhoods as an area or place-based approach focussing on a preventative approach to support and improve outcomes for our areas with the greatest challenge. 2. Improve access to information and services through a single point of contact approach at the Community Hub within each Community Zones, joining up/integrating ‘one public service’. 3. Communities to be positively engaged and empowered so they have a real say in the services they receive and how they are organised and delivered in their community together through a co-production approach 4. Develop a joint evaluation framework across Cwm Taf to compare and contrast the models and their effectiveness to inform future developments.
<p>Why do we need to do it?</p> <p><i>To be informed by Well-being plan, Well-being and any other Assessments and Future Trends</i></p>	<p><i>The following plans and assessments highlight the need for Community Zones:</i></p> <p>Cwm Taf Well-being Plan</p> <p>The Cwm Taf Well-being plan was informed by the Well-being Assessment carried out with communities in Cwm Taf. Consequently, the plan places the development of Community Zones and Community Hubs as an action under Objective 1. This action will support the priority of ensuring consistent, timely and access to information, advice and assistance.</p> <p>Cwm Taf Social Services & Well-being Area Plan</p>

	<p>The two regional priorities outlined in the Cwm Taf Social Services & Wellbeing Area Plan are; <i>Integrated Services</i> and <i>Cross Cutting Priorities</i>, both of which were informed by the Population Needs Assessment. The development of Community Zones/Neighbourhoods requires public services to work in a more joined up way and will tackle a number of the identified cross cutting priorities.</p> <p>The Community Safety Strategic Assessment</p> <p>The Community Safety Strategic Assessment outlined the need to improve service access and provision to reduce the impact of crime on our communities. The objectives of Community Zones will contribute to improving this priority area.</p>
<p>What difference will delivering this Objective make to the people and communities in Cwm Taf?</p>	<p><i>The Outcomes that will demonstrate a difference are.....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities feel safe, happy and empowered • A Community that is engaged in determining how best to meet the needs of their community • Communities will be better connected to services - accessing the right services at the right time • A community that embraces opportunities in learning, education, employment, and training
<p>What are the quick wins that the Partnership can complete in the first year?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish Strategic and Local Governance arrangements across the Community Zones/Neighbourhood initiative. 2. In partnership with key agencies establish the model for Information Advice and Assistance Service within each Community Zone/Neighbourhood 3. Establish a Neighbourhood Network model to ensure a co-production approach is embedded across each Community Zone/Neighbourhood.

	4. Agree evaluation framework and lead external partner.
<p>Who will be involved in contributing towards this Objective?</p> <p><i>This will include Cwm Taf PSB partners, people and communities, and new contributors who can help</i></p>	<p>RCT, Fern Partnership, NRW, SWP, 3rd sector (Interlink), Health, the community</p> <p>MTCBC, Merthyr Valleys Homes, 3G's, 3rd Sector (VAMT), Health , the community</p>
<p>How does this Objective also contribute to the delivery of another Cwm Taf well-being objective?</p>	<p>This objective is cross cutting and links to all other objectives and as these action plans are developed it may be possible to pilot initiatives through the Community Zone model where appropriate.</p>
<p>How does this Objective align with the delivery of other local or national plans or strategies?</p>	<p>Children First, Tackling Poverty Strategy, City Deal, Social Services and Well-being Regional Partnership Board and Area Plan, Valleys Task Force, Corporate Plans.</p>
<p>How have you considered the Sustainable Development principles i.e. five ways of working in delivering this objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking and planning for the Long term • Preventing problems before they happen • Integrating with other strategies • Collaborating with others • Involving people and communities 	<p>Thinking long term, breaking the generations of residents affected by ACEs and their effects. Balancing short term community needs for the Hub with long term aspirations. Working with individuals, families and communities to prevent and mitigate ACEs</p> <p>Integrating the individual objective of Cwm Taf PSB's well-being plan with other identified objectives and cross cutting theme to maximise contribution to the seven well-being goals.</p> <p>Collaborating with established community groups, to develop and deliver services at the Community Hub as well as with identified PSB partners.</p> <p>Involving communities and neighbourhood networks at all stage of development and delivery.</p>
<p>How will work towards this Objective contribute towards the seven national well-being goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous Wales • A resilient Wales • A healthier Wales • A more equal Wales • A Wales of more cohesive communities • A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language • A globally responsible Wales 	<p>This proposal is consistent with the sustainable approach promoted by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act through the five ways of working:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term – each community resilience hub will seek to achieve long term sustainable change in their community. • Prevention – this approach is a key element of the PSB's increased emphasis on early intervention and prevention. • Integration – this proposal contributes to a range of strategic priorities in an integrated and coherent approach.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaboration – intrinsic to this approach is collaboration with other public services and the third sector.• Involvement – communities will be involved through a different approach to engagement and co-production. <p>This proposal makes a direct contribution to the seven national well-being goals, in particular a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales and a Wales of cohesive communities.</p> <p>In addition to contributing to the well-being goals, this proposal will meet our commitment to the Welsh Government Children First initiative and contribute to the priorities in the Our Valleys, Our Future Delivery Plan.</p>
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Actions that will deliver this Objective – **RCT Community Resilience Hubs**

Actions		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
2	<p>Improve access to information and services through a single point of contact approach at the Community Hub within each Community Zones, joining up/integrating 'one public service'.</p> <p>Outcome: better connected communities, involved in the decision-making of services provided in their communities</p>	2.1	To sustain and further develop the role of RCT's Community Resilience Hubs by embedding some of the partnership mechanisms set up to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.		
			Develop the strength and role of the Community Support Core Steering Group, including wider partners if necessary as recovery continues.		
			Sustain and develop the integration of services by including health and adult services to the work and support offered within the Community Resilience Hubs		
			Improve the RCT Together Web page to make it more accessible and interactive. <u>RCT Together Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (rctcbc.gov.uk)</u>		
			RCTCBC to apply for the UK Community Renewal Fund to UK Government to provide financial support for the work of the neighbourhood Networks and their identified and agreed priorities. Total Project value of £613,265.25 of which £75,848.48 will be available for Capital Investment.		
3	Communities to be positively engaged and empowered so they have a real say in the services they receive and how they are organised and delivered in their		<p>To undertake a resident survey across RCT, asking residents to identify 3 things they'd like to see more of and 3 things they'd like to see less of</p> <p><u>http://inform/en/news/2021/june/rctresidentssurvey.aspx</u></p> <p>The results will be shared with neighbourhood networks</p>		

Actions		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
	community together through a co-production approach		To ensure adequate support to meet resident needs is available through partnership with third and voluntary sector.		
			To ensure residents are heard and have the opportunity to influence decisions, activities & services in their communities		
			Develop RCT as a Sustainable Food Place in partnership with communities		
			Further develop the "RCT Together" Community Asset Transfer approach to ensure the successful transfer of Council Land and buildings to community organisation can actively address service priority needs identified by local Neighbourhoods and communities		

Information that will help to monitor the delivery of this Objective

Quantitative Evidence – including Performance Indicators

PI ref	Local/ National	PI description	Direction of travel	Frequency	Responsible partner
	Local	Number of residents attending community engagement events	Increase	As event schedule	Local Community Implementation Group
	Local	Awareness and understanding of the role and work of the Community Resilience Hub (measures being developed around developing a baseline of what people understand of the approach)	Increase	As event schedule	Local Community Implementation Group
	Local	Visitor numbers to Ferndale Hub-specific pages on Our Cwm Taf	Increase	Available weekly	Cwm Taf PSB support team
	Local	Footfall at the Hub following launch	Increase		Fern Partnership / hub staff and volunteers
	Local	Measuring subjective well-being (short Warwick-Edinburgh scale) used to assess courses and sessions delivered in the Hub, once operational.	Increase	As course schedule	Fern Partnership / delivery staff
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage who feel they able to influence decisions affecting their local area <i>(#23 of National indicators for Wales)</i>	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to / access the facilities they need <i>(#24 of National indicators for Wales)</i>	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people feeling safe at home, walking in the local area, and when travelling <i>(#25 of National indicators for Wales)</i>	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live <i>(#26 of National indicators for Wales)</i>	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)

	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people agreeing that they belong to an area; that people from different background get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect (#27 of National indicators for Wales)	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
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Data and targets will be required for all identified Performance Indicators

Qualitative Evidence

Activity	What will/does it demonstrate?	When/how often will this be available?
Case Studies completed by the community	Demonstrate the development of neighbourhood networks	Annually

Risks that will affect the delivery of this Objective

Risk	Ref to existing action above, if relevant	Other mitigating actions if required

Support required to progress this Objective, including any associated financial contributions

From PSB support Team	In respect of engagement/involvement	In respect of data or analyses

_____ RCT Community Resilience Hubs End _____

Actions that will deliver this Objective – **Gurnos Community Hub – Calon Las**

Actions (first year)		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
2	<p>Improve access to information and services through a single point of contact approach at the Community Hub within each Community Zones, joining up/integrating 'one public service'.</p> <p>Outcome: Communities that can access timely and appropriate information, advice and assistance that enables them to improve or maintain their health and well-being.</p>	2.1	<i>To seek alternative sources of funding or partner contributions to maintain access to information services</i>		
			<i>ICF currently reviewing social prescribing allocations. To work with RPB to consider how this links and supports community hub delivery</i>		
			<i>Funding from WG being reviewed. To be factored into future planning and priorities.</i>		
3	<p>Communities to be positively <i>engaged</i> and empowered so they have a real say in the services they receive and how they are organised and delivered in their community together through a <i>co-production</i> approach</p> <p>Outcome: communities feel safer where they live and utilise community assets.</p>	3.1	<i>Neighbourhood network to be redeveloped in light of the disruption from Covid and staff being redirected to respond to pandemic.</i>		
			<i>Session on community zone priorities for revised action plan currently being developed/planned</i>		

Actions (first year)		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
			<i>Consultation priorities identified during Covid to be used as base to inform planning workshops</i>		
4	Develop a joint evaluation framework across Cwm Taf to compare and contrast the models and their effectiveness to inform future developments.	4.1	<i>Currently refreshing/reviewing outcomes for a local approach due to the disruption/impact that Covid has had across the community zone</i>		

Information that will help to monitor the delivery of this Objective – Look to ‘How will we know we have achieved this’ on existing plan

Quantitative Evidence – including Performance Indicators

PI ref	Local/ National	PI description	Direction of travel	Frequency	Responsible partner
	Local	Number of residents engaged with community events	Increase	Event schedules	3Gs Foundation Group / Gurnos Community Zone Implementation Group
	Local	Number of residents accessing information, advice and assistance	Increase	Weekly	3Gs Foundation Group / Gurnos Community Zone Implementation Group
	Local	Footfall through the community hub	Increase	Weekly	3Gs Foundation Group / Gurnos Community Zone Implementation Group
	Local	Measuring well-being to assess courses and sessions delivered in the ‘Hub’	Increase	As course schedule	Gurnos Community Zone Implementation Group
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage who feel they able to influence decisions affecting their local area (#23 of National indicators for Wales)	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to / access the facilities they need (#24 of National indicators for Wales)	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people feeling safe at home, walking in the local area, and when travelling (#25 of National indicators for Wales)	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live (#26 of National indicators for Wales)	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)
	National Survey for Wales	Percentage of people agreeing that they belong to an area; that people from different background get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect (#27 of National indicators for Wales)	Increase	As updated	Cwm Taf Strategic Group (objective 1)

Data and targets will be required for all identified Performance Indicators

Qualitative Evidence

Activity	What will/does it demonstrate?	When/how often will this be available?

Risks that will affect the delivery of this Objective

Risk	Ref to existing action above, if relevant	Other mitigating actions if required

Support required to progress this Objective, including any associated financial contributions

From PSB support Team	In respect of engagement/involvement	In respect of data or analyses
To be a member of the local implementation group	To provide regular PSB regional updates To support the implementation of the local action plan Provide feedback on progress, and sharing good practice A 'critical friend' to the implementation group	Support the local mapping and setting of baseline data, local needs assessments and identifying gaps Analysis of regional data, and support analysis of local data
Support the coordination of community events	Supporting the strategic group to work with local groups and partnerships Supporting the promotion and value of the hub	Supporting the collection of data from established children first /community zones i.e. lessons learnt and effective measures used



Well-being Cross-cutting Objective	Tackling Loneliness and Isolation
Lead Officer	Sharon Richards, Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil and Simon James, Interlink RCT
Immediate steps:	<p>We will continue to work in new ways to channel the undoubted strengths of our communities to tackle more effectively the loneliness and isolation which often exists within many of them.</p> <p>We will help to remove any barriers to and build on the surge in volunteering seen during pandemic, whilst also recognising when to stand back as the communities are growing their own success. This will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. working with our communities to understand what is important to them and how together, we can help to build support to make improvements; b. target volunteering to include people from a range of backgrounds who are lonely or isolated, either through joining in or receiving support; c. connecting people interested in volunteering, along with specific interests, resources and skills. This will provide opportunities to children and young people as well as adults; d. advertise volunteering opportunities on behalf of community groups, third sector, public sector organisations and businesses; e. help with the official parts of volunteering e.g. Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) checks, advice on supervision and health and safety risk assessments; and f. recognition and celebration of volunteering and its achievements in our communities.
<p>Why do we need to do it?</p> <p><i>To be informed by Well-being plan, Well-being and any other Assessments and Future Trends</i></p>	<p>More than ever, people are valuing their community and want to feel a part of it. Many want to offer skills and connections. The Well-being Assessment demonstrated that feeling part of, or like you belong to, makes a huge difference to well-being. We, as a Public Services Board, need to make sure there are as few things stopping people from getting involved as possible.</p> <p>The ONS Mapping loneliness during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (7 March 2021) report states that 8.48% of people in RCT feel lonely often or always, this is higher than the Wales average of 8.25% and British average of 7.24%. 23.17% of people in RCT report</p>

Cwm Taf Well-being Cross-cutting Objective – **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Delivery plan**

	<p>feeling lonely some of the time (Wales 21.23%, GB 19.57%) and 15.78% feeling lonely occasionally (22.15% Wales, 24.45%). No data is available for Merthyr to avoid disclosure but what the figures show is that more people within the Cwm Taf region feel more acute levels of loneliness more often.</p> <p>The same information release shows more people feeling lonely in RCT in the last seven days than the Welsh and British average.</p> <p>The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has undoubtedly impacted on everyone’s mental health and led to, or exacerbated, feelings of loneliness and/or isolation as discussed in a June 2021 BBC News item. Tackling loneliness and isolation was on the agenda prior to the pandemic but it now needs to be prioritised including considering how to best support specific groups of people, such as children and young people, those that live alone and older people. We also need to consider the impact that home working has had on our workforce.</p>
<p>What difference will delivering this Objective make to the people and communities in Cwm Taf?</p>	<p>The long-term vision is to develop a greater understanding, with our communities, of why people get involved and volunteer, what barriers exist and what opportunities could be developed.</p> <p>Through delivering this Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people will feel more connected and less isolated; • people will be more active; • there will be increased community capacity to tackle loneliness and isolation • people will make increased use of their surroundings, including green spaces; and • people will have better mental health and well-being
<p>What are the quick wins that the Partnership can complete in 2021-22?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Befriending Network – revisit and reinvigorate • Exploring how children and young people are experiencing and managing loneliness and isolation, particularly through working with schools and building on the work of well-being ambassadors • Better public sector signposting / support for those experiencing feelings of loneliness and isolation, including opportunities for ‘Loneliness Champions’ in the public sector.

Cwm Taf Well-being Cross-cutting Objective – **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Delivery plan**

<p>Who will be involved in contributing towards this Objective? <i>This will include Cwm Taf PSB partners, people and communities, and new contributors who can help</i></p>	<p>Nominated colleagues from identified PSB partners (see action below), 3rd sector representation as identified from the Social Value Forum, communities, schools and colleges, and neighbourhood networks.</p>
<p>How does this Objective also contribute to the delivery of another Cwm Taf well-being objective?</p>	<p>This is a cross-cutting step supporting the delivery of all our Objectives.</p>
<p>How does this Objective align with the delivery of other local or national plans or strategies?</p>	<p>It's a cross cutting theme throughout the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan as well as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WG's 'Connected Communities' Strategy to tackle Loneliness and Social Isolation • June 2021 Programme for Government with a focus on Social Prescribing and Mental Health • Regional Social Prescribing work, being led by Public Health Wales and involving the RIIC Hub • Links to the Covid Regional Strategic Oversight Group and structure, particularly PTG and RCCE • Preventative actions within the SSWB Act and Mental Health Partnership Plan; and • Valleys Regional Park through their social prescribing and green spaces agenda, and the developing National Nature Service.
<p>How have you considered the Sustainable Development principles i.e. five ways of working in delivering this objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking and planning for the Long term • Preventing problems before they happen • Integrating with other strategies • Collaborating with others • Involving people and communities 	<p>Long Term – This work of this Objective will develop a culture of being active in the community for people of all ages and abilities to build community capacity and reduce loneliness and isolation. It will work to lobby for policy and funding changes with a view to securing long-term commitment to this agenda.</p> <p>Prevention – setting up a robust framework for encouraging and supporting volunteering could result in more volunteering in their community, improving physical and mental well-being preventing loneliness and isolation among all age groups. Befriending services, social prescribing and volunteering are all identified ways of preventing people's health and well-being deteriorating to the point of needing medical intervention. This is particularly important in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic and people re-entering society after shielding.</p>

The Right Way also states: “Develop appropriate priorities, targets and programmes of action to increase participation, in particular amongst otherwise excluded/ marginalised or disadvantaged groups.

We will also work to improve the safeguarding and standardisation of volunteering opportunities and experiences, building on the work done with the Covid-19 Volunteering Grant made available through WG.

Integration – this plan will positively contribute to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board’s Area Plan, particularly around the key actions for the Mental Health Partnership and the work with older people and their Dementia Strategy. The work on this cross-cutting theme will also develop links across strategic partnerships to support people to develop confidence and skills through connecting to and being active in the community. Nationally, the Connected Communities WG strategy on tackling loneliness and social isolation sets out the context for the work, and we will also address the WCFG Commissioner’s advice on developing volunteering opportunities and reducing isolation.

Collaborating – ensuring partners in the Public Services Board develop the capacity and resilience of community and voluntary organisations, particularly in the context of recovery from the pandemic. All partners will be encouraged to act as ‘one public service’, offering staff the opportunity to be involved in the community; and to provide opportunities within public services.

Crucially, the PSB needs to improve on its collaboration with the community, working with groups and organisation to tackle loneliness and isolation together.

Involvement – we will speak directly with people and communities about how we continue to reduce barriers in a way that enabled such mobilisation during the pandemic and what we can do to help and support. This will be done through accessible formats, using a variety of methods to ensure we engage with diverse communities. Where we work with young people, we will promote and encourage the extension of active citizenship, so that young people are aware of their rights and develop their political literacy, to enable them to be effectively involved now and in the future.

We will maximise the offer secured by the PSB from Co-Production Wales to improve how the collective PSB involves communities in its work.

<p>How will work towards this Objective contribute towards the seven national well-being goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous Wales • A resilient Wales • A healthier Wales • A more equal Wales • A Wales of more cohesive communities • A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language • A globally responsible Wales 	<p><i>Identified in the well-being plan is contributing towards a more prosperous Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of more cohesive communities, and a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.</i></p> <p>Prosperous - the volunteering opportunities provided within this Objective could change people’s readiness and ability to find paid employment. It could also give young people opportunities to explore future career opportunities.</p> <p>Healthier – through volunteering opportunities, there will be a reduction in people’s feelings of loneliness and isolation which will have a positive impact on people’s mental health and well-being, as well as encouraging people to take up social prescribing opportunities that would make use of the fantastic green and blue space in the region.</p> <p>More equal – by developing this plan with people with protected characteristics and providing opportunities for older people, children and young people, people with disabilities, LGBTQ groups and BME groups, providing greater opportunities to volunteer get involved, the plan recognises the Public Sector Equality Duty and will carry out Equality Impact Assessments on any new or improved services.</p> <p>More Cohesive – by working through the Community Zones to deliver some of this plan, it will provide volunteering and befriending opportunities, which will contribute to well-connected and integrated communities that are pleasant to live in. We will also encourage inter-generational projects to encourage skills transfers, learning and understanding.</p> <p>Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language – we will promote and encourage Welsh language opportunities and volunteering in the Community Hubs and networks, through Adult volunteering and learning opportunities, forging links with local and National Welsh Language organisations. Culture and heritage will form an integral part of volunteering and befriending opportunities, such as, music and dance, sport, art, heritage sites and tourism destinations.</p>
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Cwm Taf Well-being Cross-cutting Objective – **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Delivery plan**

Actions that will deliver this Objective

Actions		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
a.	Working with our communities to understand what is important to them and how together, we can help build support to make improvements.		NESTA work / Community-led development work (Simon)		
			Using recommendations from Bevan		
			Supporting food sufficiency networks		
			Continue to look at sustainability and capturing the work.		
			Standardising metrics to demonstrate impact (with a view to help with funding, consistency).		
			COoPro work around the Assessment process and steps towards understanding our communities / ongoing conversation		
b.	Target volunteering to include people who are lonely or isolated, either through joining in or receiving support.		Role of befriending, befriending network		
			Supporting the role of L&I Development Officer and ensuring strategic buy in		
			Role of Welsh language / BAME work		
			Understanding the role of technology https://www.wcpp.org.uk/publication/the-role-of-communities-and-the-use-of-technology-in-mitigating-loneliness-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/		
			Schools and wellbeing ambassadors		
c.	Connecting people interested in volunteering, along with their specific interests, resources and skills.		Supporting		
			Green Spaces, Coed Lleol, Actif Woods, Friends of... WtoW		
			Valleys Regional Park and National Nature Service		
			MTBWYF		
		Pen Y Dre / Cyfarthfa Wellbeing Ambassadors			
d.	Advertise volunteering opportunities on behalf of community groups, third sector,		Utilise new platforms (Connect RCT, RPB website) and existing ones		
			Social Prescribing		
			Work to understand how people view / want to find opportunities?		

Cwm Taf Well-being Cross-cutting Objective – **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Delivery plan**

Actions		Milestones		Delivery date	Lead
Ref	Description	Ref	Description		
d.	public sector organisations and businesses		Social Media		
			Rebecca Goodhand / Comms with RPB around ensuring there's one message		
e.	Help with the official parts of volunteering e.g. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, advice on supervision and health and safety risk assessments.		Safeguarding and Covid, volunteers uniforms		
f.	Recognition and celebration of volunteering and its achievements in our communities.		Using AGMS. Public sector sponsorships		
			Social Media Volunteering week.		

Cwm Taf Well-being Cross-cutting Objective – **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Delivery plan**

Information that will help to monitor the delivery of this Objective

Quantitative Evidence – including Performance Indicators

PI ref	Local/ National	PI description	Direction of travel	Frequency	Responsible partner
		To help be developed under Action A			

Data and targets will be required for all identified Performance Indicators

Qualitative Evidence

Activity	What will/does it demonstrate?	When/how often will this be available?
Subjective Well-being Measures (Warwick/Edinburgh scale) to be used across activities delivered through community hubs	Asking people to grade how strongly they agree with subjective well-being statements at the beginning and end of an activity can assess the impact that the activity is having on the individual and collective well-being.	As activities are run
Case Studies		
Capturing Journeys, linked to the RPB / Assessment	The difference being made	As captured

Risks that will affect the delivery of this Objective

Risk	Ref to existing action above, if relevant	Other mitigating actions if required
Too great a demand for services to cope with / feel like their making an impact		Maintain pressure on funders to consider the sustainability of services, and recognising the preventative role of the third sector
Covid restrictions preventing activities from going ahead / those with the greatest need		Helping community groups work with council and other key holders to make spaces 'Covid secure' and as open and accessible as possible.

Cwm Taf Well-being Cross-cutting Objective – **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Delivery plan**

If there are insufficient resources then there is likely to be limited impact on loneliness and isolation		To look at what current resources could be more effectively used to direct providers to address loneliness and isolation
If there is an assumption this is about older people then key issues with certain groups including people with disabilities (physical and mental) children, young people and adults will not be addressed.		To ensure we define target groups and/or target communities to measure progress.

Support required to progress this Objective, including any associated financial contributions

From PSB support Team	In respect of engagement/involvement	In respect of data or analyses
Support for audit and analysis as described in Action a.3 above.	Other Objective Leads and key partners to drive specific projects and ensure their own delivery plans seek to tackle loneliness and isolation, where possible	Evidence base for identifying how we collect and report making a difference.
Administration / secretariat of delivery group. Establishing a working group.	Help to identify what groups are most affected by loneliness and isolation and establish an evidence base.	Welsh Bacalaureate, results and value.
Clearer definition of target groups is required to assess involvement capacity and needs.	Integration and collaboration with SSWB board	Evidence gathering from other work areas and national schemes.

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Cwm Taf Public Services Board Work Programme 21-22 PSB Year

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)



PSB Qtr	Meeting Date	Areas of work to be covered and lead	PSB Requirement	Planning meeting?	Papers Issued
Standing Items		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of Previous Meeting Actions Arising Information Reports / Documents (Workplan) Any Other Business <i>Update from SPB Chair</i> Chairs Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree as Accurate Concentrate on any actions that are not Green in action log Information only unless a request is asked in advance of meeting to discuss a particular item – time allocated as required. Will always include workplan for review and update if required. To be requested in advance of meeting via Chair – time allocated as required <i>Overview of SPB meeting including any items being escalated to PSB as individual agenda items</i> Opportunity to review meeting, identify good news stories and items to be addressed by PSB, re-consider any items to be added to work plan 		
Recurring Items		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget – annually? Performance Against Delivery Plans inc tangible differences JOSC Updates / Requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree contributions / monitor spend as reported Review and constructive challenge on exception basis of performance / progress against delivery plans including any performance indicators, risks, tangible differences made via partnership working at PSB Level Scrutiny requirements from JOSC that need to be considered by PSB 		
1	27 July 2021 (summer holiday) * note, trial 10am start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of ToR / Vice Chair vacancy VRP Update Well-being Assessment: progress and requirements Review of Well-being Objectives and future plans to June 2022 (to inform business plans) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes expected following July 20 review. VRP request to update to PSBs in the Valleys. VRP should look to strengthen ongoing links with PSBs. Note tendering update and address requirements. Discuss progress and future plans. 	21 June	20 July 2021

Cwm Taf Public Services Board Work Programme 21-22 PSB Year

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

		<p>– Leads to be spoken with in advance: PM / AJ / AO / SR & SJ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Foundation Workshop 12 July • PSB role as Strategic Board: Mental Health workshop • Update on Involvement / NESTA • Update on work with WCVA (futures) <p><i>For Information: Published Annual Report 2020-21 WG Programme for Government / Statement of Wellbeing</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to business plans for planning in the year ahead / links to Assessment. • Consideration of ‘delivery arm’ of PSB. • Feedback and update. • Discuss how it informs the future work, Assessment and Plans with the intention for workshops. • Discuss role of Board and links to CSP/APB. Contributions to achieving shared agenda. • Invite CSP / APB / RPB / Safeguarding • Mapping where we are, what we know / don’t know, what can the PSB do (Assessment and Plan). • Inform Members of success in securing CoPro support for 5 years. Simon James work – workshop for October PSB. • Update for Members on potential opportunities being explored in relation to the Assessment. Buy in for any potential workshops. 		
2	12 October 2021*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-being Assessment: progress and requirements – first findings and updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on analytic work (scheduled for completion 30 Sept 2021) • Update on 100 days of engagement 		5 October 2021

Cwm Taf Public Services Board Work Programme 21-22 PSB Year

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	Brought forward for half term / RCT Cabinet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Draft) delivery plans for WB Objectives – June 2022 • Receiving the findings of the vulnerability profile work and recommendations • Update from delivery boards • Workshop: NESTA offer, Community Action and volunteering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More specifics on the work for the year, deadlines and steps. • Work to show the threads between the Objectives. • Inform the ‘emerging priority’ discussion, following on from mental health session in July 		
3	18 January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-being Assessment: progress and requirements – final draft and plans for sign off • Preparation for the 2021-22 Annual Report • Chair and Vice Chair position to be reviewed (annual review) • Meeting Schedule July 22 – June 23 (merged?) • PSB Budget and Support Team Arrangements • Update: Delivery Plans 	Note, this will be the final Annual Report relating to the 2018-2023 Wellbeing Plan.		11 January 2022

Cwm Taf Public Services Board Work Programme 21-22 PSB Year

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)



4	26 April 2022 * purdah	Draft Annual Report 2021-22 Preparation for publication of the Assessment by May 2022 NOTE: JOINT PSB / LAST MEETING OF CWMT TAF PSB?	Members receive draft Annual Report for comment (to be published July 2022)		19 April 2022

Consideration for Future Meetings:

- **Need to be adaptable to considering any requirements to progress with Bridgend**
- **Delivery arm of PSB – is there an intention to re-instate SPB or thematic delivery groups?**
- **Futures workshop (autumn 2021?) for Assessment work**

CWM TAF PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board held on
Tuesday, 12 October 2021 at 9.00 am.

PRESENT	
Mark Brace (MB) Chair	Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner & Chair of Bridgend PSB
Cllr Lisa Mytton	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Cllr Rhys Lewis (RL, for Cllr A. Morgan)	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Chris Bradshaw (CB)	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Paul Mee (PM)	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Ellis Cooper (EC)	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Deb Ryan – Newton (DRN)	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Steve Jones (SJ)	South Wales Police
Mr Emrys Elias (EE)	University Health Board, Cwm Taf Morgannwg
Kelechi Nnoaham (KN)	Public Health Wales
Pauline Richards (PR)	Interlink RCT
Simon James (SJa)	Interlink RCT
Richard Baker (RB)	Welsh Government
Huw Jakeway (HJ)	South Wales Fire & Rescue
Mike Evans (ME)	Natural Resources Wales
Eirian Evans (EE)	National Probation Service
Richard Baker (RB)	Welsh Government
Sian Davies (SD)	Dept. Work and Pensions
IN ATTENDANCE	
Kirsty Smith	PSB Senior Officer
Lisa Toghill	PSB Senior Officer
Sarah Handy	RCT Democratic Services
Ceri Ford	CTM Area Planning Board (for Item 5)
Sophie Jones	Brecon Beacons National Park
Nikki Kingham	CTM Safeguarding Board (for Item 5)
Helen Roderick	Brecon Beacons National Park
Rhian Allen	Practice Solutions Ltd (for Item 4)
APOLOGIES	
Cllr Andrew Morgan	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Cllr Isaac ()	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council & Vice Chair Chair of the CTPSB Joint Scrutiny Cmt.
Chief Constable J Vaughan	South Wales Police
Paul Mears	Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB
Linda Prosser	Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB

No	Outcome. Example: Decision/Direction/Approval/Next Steps
1.	<p>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Members of the PSB to the meeting and apologies of absence were also provided.</p>
2.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest pertaining to the agenda.</p>
3.	<p>ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - FOR APPROVAL BY PSB</p> <p>The Action Notes of the 27th July 2021 were approved as an accurate reflection of the meeting.</p> <p>Members were provided with updates on the actions from the previous meeting:</p> <p>Item 4 (Assessment work) Members were thanked for contributions to date and asked to continue this support particularly in terms of promotion and engagement. Members were advised progress would be further covered under Item 4.</p> <p>Item 7 (Wellbeing Objectives) Members were updated that the draft delivery plans from July's meeting have been shared with the Board's Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) and will need to be regularly monitored and updated. A request to provide an update on the 'Vulnerability Profile' work has been postponed.</p> <p>ACTION: Update on the Vulnerability Profile carried forward to January 2022 meeting.</p>
4.	<p>WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT: UPDATE AND REQUIREMENT</p> <p>Rhian Allen provided the Board with an update on the work following the first draft of the Data Report.</p> <p>The Chair praised the work to date and noted that it allows the Board to focus on areas of need. The Chair requested for Members to send any information to representatives from the Community Assessment Action Group by the end of the month. The Board would particularly welcome attention being co-occurring issues.</p> <p>Members were asked to contribute their thoughts. Discussion ensued in respect of obesity and the challenges faced when trying to tackle this issue. Members agreed that many factors can be outside the control of the individual and identifying the issues is key, particularly when resources are limited, and healthy behaviours can be challenging. The Board acknowledged their organisations have a degree of control over structural and environmental plans that do influence healthy behaviours. The Board also considered the conflicts in that we want people active, we want investment through tourism but attractions like Bike Park Wales can place a strain on hospitals and by people who aren't local residents.</p> <p>Discussions continued and Members discussed the unprecedented weather</p>

over the past 18 months and the importance of connecting people with nature. Members agreed that each pillar of wellbeing is not mutually exclusive and that it is as important to get to the root cause and target resources, as well as making sure the Assessment emphasises the nature emergency and our depleted biodiversity.

A Member also noted the importance of adult digital literacy and the importance of increasing adult digital literacy in households to improve employment prospects and positively impact on household income. The Assessment should help to understand and develop local skills and opportunities to meet local need. Infrastructure, including broadband and internet availability, also needs to be considered in terms of ability to access work. Members noted their agreement and also noted the importance of arts and culture in the community and in increasing attendance at local theatres, particularly in the context of recovery from Covid.

Members also noted the importance of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the need to be ACE aware of both behaviours and drivers. Board Members discussed the need to get children excited about their future and aspirations, growth industries, careers and skills needed in carbon neutral industries, and the barriers facing people getting back into work. Board Members noted that a key difficulty is tackling the generational culture and the importance of working with individuals to identify key barriers, including myth busting.

Following discussion, Board Members **RESOLVED** to note the update and will consider how they will confirm priorities, including opportunities to collaborate with the Regional Partnership Board (RPB).

ACTION: Ellis Cooper to confirm and information gathered in Merthyr in relation to Broadband.

ACTION: Board Members to send relevant information to representatives from the Community Assessment Action Group by the 29th October 2021.

5.

DELIVERY BOARDS AND FUTURE PSB ARRANGEMENTS

Board Members were provided with the opportunity to discuss the relationship between the (future) PSB and the delivery boards operating in the areas:

- Community Safety Partnership Board
- Area Planning Board
- Safeguarding Board

The Group Director, Community & Children's Services RCTCBC provided the Board with an update on the Community Safety Partnership Boards and noted the focus of the Board on serious violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence. As things currently stand, there are two separate Boards for

Cwm Taf and Bridgend. It was noted that the Board is very dependant on the good will of partners in terms of resources and that this can be a challenge for the Board, particularly at a time of increasing pressures and expectations.

Ceri Ford provided Members with an update in terms of the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board (APB) which already covers the regional footprint, i.e., RCT, Merthyr and Bridgend. The structure of Board comprises of an Operational Board and Executive Board and that various sub-groups meet on a quarterly basis. The Board is accountable to each Local Authority, and Cabinet approval to approve changes such as the incorporation of Bridgend. Of significant focus was information sharing and progress is starting to be made but it's in the early stages.

It was emphasised that a Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSB would be advantageous from an APB perspective.

The Group Director, Community & Children's Services RCTCBC together with Nikki Kingham provided Members with an update on the Safeguarding Board. The Board has been operating on a regional footprint since April 2019 and Members were reminded that the work of the Board is set out in legislation. Members were also informed that a cross party steering group has been formed to develop a joint statutory plan and that the focus is preventing modern slavery and human trafficking. Other priorities for the Board include strengthening safeguarding links across the partnerships.

Following the updates, the Chair thanked each officer and noted that the way forward needs to be based on a foundation of information and suggested discussion with the RPB in terms of alignment and delivery mechanisms. It was also noted that Bridgend PSB are happy to align with the Cwm Taf PSB. Board Members noted that they fully support the direction for one Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSB operating with strategic intent.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the update.

ACTION: Representatives to get together to discuss a timeline.

6. **PSB, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND VOLUNTEERING**

The Chair advised Members that Item 6 on the Agenda had been postponed.

7. **UPDATE FROM CWM TAF PSB JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Cwm Taf Public Service Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor G. Caple, thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend and provide Members with an update on progress in respect of the JOSC over the last year and the year ahead.

Councillor Caple noted that Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council has the Chair and will provide the necessary support for the year ahead.

Councillor Caple thanked Members of the Committee for electing him as Chair for the 2021-22 Municipal Year and congratulated Councillor Isaac on being elected Vice Chair of the Committee.

Members of the Board were referred to the Interim Annual JOSC Report for the 2020-21 Municipal Year. Councillor Caple passed on his thanks and admiration to our outgoing Chair, Councillor Bonetto, and for all her hard work and dedication to the Committee as well as the support provided by the outgoing Vice Chair, Councillor Skinner. It was noted that the Interim Report it stands as testament to the dedication and commitment of Committee Members, Co-opted Members and Officers over the last 12 months. Councillor Caple noted that a key recommendation in the report is that Members of the JOSC felt that over the medium term the Public Service Board must demonstrate its value and role in improving the delivery of public services and that its purpose makes a positive difference to the residents of Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Looking forward to the year ahead, the Chair of JOSC noted that the Committee will continue to monitor the key performance areas of the PSB with robust oversight and scrutiny. Our effective scrutiny will seek to review key areas of performance, improve outcomes and to ultimately add value to the work of the PSB. On the 17th September 2021 the JOSC met and welcomed Dr Tom Powell, Chair of the Community Assessment Action Group. Dr Powell provided Members with an overview of progress and work achieved to date as well as proposed work going forward. It was suggested by the Committee that a representative from the Scrutiny Committee sit in on the Action Group and to then feed back to Members in terms of progress and outcomes.

Councillor Caple thanked Members for voting for him to be a representative on the Action Group. The Chair informed the Board that he recently attended his first meeting of the Action Group, which he found to be extremely useful and productive. Councillor Caple noted the importance of the mental health of our Armed Forces and recommended to the Group that particular attention is given to this vulnerable group in our society.

Councillor Caple congratulated Dr Tom Powell for running such a successful meeting and emphasised that this two way process will strengthen the relationship between Scrutiny and the Board.

Members of the JOSC noted a number of key recommendations in their last meeting in respect of the work being done by the Community Assessment Action Group including the need for the availability of Welsh Language Engagement tools. Dr Tom Powell listened to the recommendations and Members were pleased to note that these recommendations have been put into action. For the Population Needs Assessment being conducted by the Regional Partnership Board, a number of engagement tools relating to the priority population groups have already been created and these are currently being translated into Welsh.

Next month, Members of the JOSC will undergo Scrutiny training with Dr Dave McKenna. This training will hopefully strengthen Members knowledge and expertise. It was felt that a joint scrutiny training session would benefit

members twofold; to emphasise the important role our Joint Committee has in undertaking effective challenge of the PSB and to remind us that we can bring added value as well as constructive feedback; new ideas and solutions.

The JOSC Forward Work Programme for the 2021-22 Municipal Year has been agreed by Members of the Committee and it provides Members of the JOSC with the opportunity to scrutinise and challenge the work of the Board. Going forward, the JOSC will receive regular updates on the work of the Community Assessment Action Group as well as being involved as consultees in the Well-being Assessment Consultation 2022.

In conclusion, Councillor Caple noted that he felt confident and reassured that the JOSC is well placed to tackle difficult issues and maximise the opportunities for our Cwm Taf community. Councillor Caple thanked the Board for inviting him to speak today and for allowing him the time and opportunity to provide Members with an update on the work and recommendations of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- **Early Years Transformation Group**

Board Members were provided with an update on the Early Years Transformation Group. The Group Director, Community & Children's Services

RCTCBC updated the Board on the progress made across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region towards the delivery of an integrated early years system as

part of the Welsh Government's Early Years Transformation Programme. Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to:

- Note the content of the report;
- Note the findings of the Stage 1 external evaluation of the new delivery model being piloted as set out in section 4.3 of the report; and,
- Agree the proposed governance and reporting structure as set out in section 5 of the report.

- **Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan**

Board Members were then provided with an update on the Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan. Board Members received a presentation and were advised that the draft plan is going out for consultation at the beginning of November 2021 and will be reviewed every five years. It was agreed that copies of the plan would be circulated to Board Members once it was out for consultation in November.

Discussions ensued and Members noted the importance of working with the Welsh Government to ensure that the Brecon Beacons remains as a natural wildlife landscape. Members also discussed the challenges of second home

	<p>ownership and the consequences of this on local heritage sites. Board Members agreed that it's a huge challenge and that more needs to be done to tackle the issue.</p> <p>Following discussion, Members RESOLVED to note the update</p> <p>ACTION: The PSB Senior Support Officers to work with Helen Roderick and Sophie Jones to explore opportunities around the Well-being Assessment.</p> <p>ACTION: The PSB Senior Support Officers to circulate the Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan to Board Members when it goes out for consultation in November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Update from Ellis Cooper</u> <p>Ellis Cooper provided an update on behalf of Alyn Owen and the 'Participating in good, fair work for health, well-being and Equity Panel'. Members will receive a copy of the Terms of Reference from the Panel for comment and have also been invited to be part of an interview process to support the work.</p> <p>ACTION: Members to provide comments and register interest via the PSB Officers</p>
9.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The Chair noted that the next meeting of the Board will be on the 18th January 2022.</p>
10.	<p>INFORMATION REPORTS</p> <p>The Chair referenced the information reports (as listed below), which were available through the 'Our Cwm Taf' website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-being Objective Delivery Plans 2021-22 • First year report: CHOICE project • NEST framework: A Birds Eye View / What you need to know / If you need to know more • Roadmap from the Office of Future Generations Commissioner

The meeting closed at 11.14 am

**Mr M Brace
(Chairman)**

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Minister for Housing and Local Government meeting with Public Service Board Chairs, 22nd March 2021

Attendees

Ministers

- Minister for Housing and Local Government
- Deputy Minister and Chief Whip
- Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport

PSB Chairs

- Emyr Williams - Anglesey / Gwynedd
- Mark Brace – Bridgend /Cwm Taf
- Cllr Philippa Marsden – Leader – Caerphilly
- Cllr Huw Thomas – Leader – Cardiff
- Barry Lyles - Carmarthenshire
- Cllr. Ellen ap Gwynn – Leader – Ceredigion
- Roger Thomas – Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service – NPT
- Karen Jones – Chief Executive Officer – NPT
- Cllr Jane Mudd – Newport
- Tegryn Jones – Pembrokeshire
- Cllr Rosemarie Harris – Leader – Powys
- Cllr Andrea Lewis – Swansea
- Cllr Anthony Hunt – Leader - Torfaen
- Cllr Neil Moore – Vale of Glamorgan
- Sue Price – Wrexham

Other attendees

- Michelle Morris – Managing Director, Blaenau Gwent Council
- Adam Hill – Deputy Chief Executive – Swansea
- Vanessa Dale – Neath Port Talbot – Co-ordinator
- Gwyneth Ayres – Carmarthenshire – Co-ordinator
- Nonn Hughes – Anglesey/Gwynedd – Co-ordinator
- Diana Davies – Ceredigion – Co-ordinator
- Bernadette Elias – Blaenau Gwent – Co-ordinator
- Michael Cantwell – Wrexham – Co-ordinator
- Nicola Kneale – Denbighshire – Co-ordinator
- Rachael O’Shaughnessy – Torfaen – Co-ordinator
- Fran Lewis – Conwy – Co-ordinator
- Emma Palmer – Powys – Co-ordinator
- Nicholas Evans – Pembrokeshire – Co-ordinator
- Kathryn Peters – Caerphilly – Co-ordinator
- Lyndon Puddy – Torfaen – Co-ordinator
- Rhian Jones – Powys – Co-ordinator
- Kirsty Smith – Cwm Taf – Co-ordinator
- Lisa Toghill – Cwm Taf – Co-ordinator
- Nathan Swain – Cardiff – Co-ordinator
- Sharran Lloyd – Monmouthshire – Co-ordinator

Introduction

MHLG opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for their time. She explained that currently Ministers only get to hear about the work of PSBs second hand through the Welsh Government representatives that sit on the boards. She asked for a frank and open discussion with Chairs on their reflections on the last 5 years and how we move forward.

A number of themes emerged during the discussion:

Regional approaches

Chairs in the Gwent region spoke positively about plans to merge their PSBs. They have already been working closely and felt this helps alleviate duplication of effort, but they also recognise the importance of not forgetting local needs.

However, there was also a call for the need for flexibility in regional approaches. Some boards are on different regional footprints for different partnerships. Some preferred not to be formally merged but, instead, to operate in informal regional working relationships.

Response to covid-19

There was a consensus that the good working relationships already in existence because of the PSBs had improved the response to Covid because the trust was already established.

Complexity of partnerships

There was frustration expressed about the volume of partnership meetings, particularly for some partners who sit on multiple PSBs e.g. NRW, Fire & Rescue Services, etc. It is difficult for officers and leaders to attend so many meetings. With CJs soon to join the partnership landscape it was feared this would be exacerbated. The scope, and appetite, to streamline was discussed.

Funding

There was a call for parity in terms of funding with RPBs, given PSBs are compared with them. There was also a call for more sustainable, long-term funding. The MHLG noted that it was difficult to provide long-term funding forecasts of funding given the Welsh Government's funding from Westminster was on an annual basis.

Foundational Economy

DME&T challenged the Chairs on work around the foundational economy. He said he was disappointed with a lack of progress, acknowledging that Covid had not helped. He said he felt like there was not a huge amount of good practice sharing and asked for the Chairs' thoughts.

PSB Chairs responded that they had different experiences of working with foundational economy. One noted that they were working with another PSB on this activity and activity was reported regularly to their PSB. Another acknowledged that there had been a slow start but now pleased with progress and looking at something emerging from the pilot project.

DME&T told the attendees a £3m scale-up fund was available for foundational economy projects that show promise.

Good practice sharing

The challenge of 'spreading and scaling' good practice was raised, with a call for PSBs to think about how they learn from experiences elsewhere. A forum for this to happen was suggested

Third Sector

DM&CW asked for views on involving the third sector as feedback from the sector was that they can feel peripheral to PSB activities and decision-making. The response was that PSBs have been working closely with the third sector during the pandemic. Many PSBs have third sector representatives.

Conclusion

MHLG notes that she wished that this sort of meeting had happened earlier and said she would encourage the incoming Minister to meet Chairs of PSBs more often - at least once a year.

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What I will do in the next 12 months

The Well-being of Future Generations Act is about bringing change to people's lives and changing behaviours. This is complex, takes time and is a real challenge...

As Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, my general duty is to promote the sustainable development principle. I am a coach and a critical friend for public bodies, public services boards and anyone who can help contribute to the achievement of the national well-being goals. I support and challenge public bodies so that they embrace their duty to improve all aspects of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being for the whole population of Wales.

My work programme is structured around the following four purposes, which I set out at the start of my term of office:

1. Highlight and act upon the big issues and challenges facing future generations.
2. Support and challenge public bodies to use the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
3. Being part of and help to build a movement for change around the Act.
4. Walk the talk – be the change that we want to see in others.

My Annual Reports for [2016/17](#), [2017/18](#), [2018/19](#), [2019/20](#) and [2020-21](#) show how I've taken my work forward and the impact that's been achieved.

How I plan my work

Going forward, my focus is to secure the implementation of the recommendations made in the [Future Generations Report](#).

It was a legal duty to publish this Report in May 2020, which explains what improving our collective well-being in accordance with the Act is all about. I made recommendations about how the different elements of the Act (such as the five ways of working, the well-being goals and the corporate areas of change outlined by the Act's guidance) should be applied. The Report drew on the views of over 5,000 people and organisations.

My work programme is set out each year in a plan which we call a "Roadmap". Whilst flexible to reactive issues and opportunities, the Roadmap is at the centre of what we do and how we work as a team. It sets out what we want to achieve, how, when and who's responsible and involved.

This year, in developing my Roadmap, I have:

- Involved alumni of my Future Generations Leadership Academy
- Shared early thoughts about with my statutory Advisory Panel, Audit Risk and Assurance Committee and Wales Council for Voluntary Action.
- Considered issues that have been raised with me by members of the public and through stakeholder engagement.
- Considered the evidence and recommendations from the [Public Accounts Committee's inquiry into the barriers to the effective implementation of the Act](#).
- Shared ideas with partners to bring external views and ideas into discussions.

Roadmap for 2021-22

Alongside the broad and wide-ranging nature of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the past two years have been dominated by the COVID pandemic which will have a profound effect on future generations. There are many potential challenges which we will encounter as result of the pandemic but there are also opportunities for us to reconstruct a Wales which better meets the needs of the future and strives to anticipate and address future shocks and challenges. With that in mind my work programme during 2020/21 refocused towards these issues and will continue in this vein until the end of my terms of Office in 2023.

Summary:

Purpose 1 - Highlighting the big issues	Purpose 2 - Supporting Public bodies	Purpose 3 - Movement for Change	Purpose 4 - Walking the Talk
Influence the new Programme for Government With a focus on a green, equal & just recovery: Skills for the future, equalities, housing decarb, UBI, green recovery and government budget)	Statutory monitoring & assessing Working with Audit Wales, public bodies & public services boards (PSBs). This year we will be responding to PSBs' well-being assessments.	Future Generation champions Involvement Enable change Connect this intelligence to our advice to public bodies	Implement Culture and Well-being Action Plan "Traditional HR"
Scoping Section 20 Reviews	Trends, indicators & milestones Respond to the Government's consultation as a statutory consultee.	Awareness raising Continue to increase our profile Deliver on the creative work, build new relationships. Extensive comms planning tallowing all of the above to happen.	Get our own house in order "Transformational HR"
	Provide advice and support to public bodies Trial a model of contact points for all 44 public bodies covered by the Act. Listen and gather information. More detailed support provided by Change Makers in areas of expertise	Work with third sector & business Find shared ground Be part of and help build a movement of change	Package up and share learning with public bodies (& others)
	Targeted comms for public bodies Bitesize and targeted summaries of the Future Generations Report; case-studies; better visuals and other helpful resources.	Future Generations Leadership Academy (2nd cohort)	Changemaker lead for the seven corporate areas for change
		International and business	
		Legacy & impact	

The challenge that I set to my team, and for everyone involved in delivering change in these areas, is that every area of work should work as hard as possible for us and key to this is understanding the connections and overlap.

More detail:

(1) Highlight and act upon the key issues and challenges facing future generations

The Well-being of Future Generations Act provides a guiding framework for how we should seek to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. The Act allows us to make the right decisions, to help us shift towards a longer-term and preventative outlook on how we run our society and public services. Drawing on recommendations in 'A Fit for the Future Programme for Government', the focus of my work in 2021-22 will be to provide advice and challenge on a prosperous, green and equal recovery, as follows:

- Investing in other industries for recovery, such as housing decarbonisation and transport.

- Setting a long-term investment plan for making homes more energy efficient - saving people money on energy bills, creating jobs and eradicating fuel poverty in the next decade through doubling fuel poverty funding.
- Launching a National Nature Service to provide skills and create jobs, increasing opportunities for social prescribing (where patients receive non-clinical support in the community), while restoring Wales' to natural environment such as forests, countryside and green spaces, helping Wales to become the world's first eco-literate nation.
- Building on the power of culture and creativity in our COVID recovery.
- Increasing opportunities for lifelong learning.
- Targeting skills programmes in future-focused industries towards women, disabled people, Black, Asian and minority ethnic people, and those furthest from the labour market.
- Prioritising investment and job creation in a green and care-led recovery – paying care workers the Real Living Wage.

Although they are just one of the public bodies covered by the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, it is crucial that the Welsh Government show leadership in working sustainably and creating the right policy and regulatory frameworks to enable all decisions in Wales to be contributing to our seven national wellbeing goals. Over the last year we have seen a number of significant changes in policy direction from the Government which indicates that they are taking their duties seriously but there is still work to do. I will therefore continue to work with Welsh Government to address the barriers to acting in the interests of future generations which I have highlighted in [Chapter 2](#) of my Future Generations Report and in the Public Accounts Committee inquiry

(2) Support and challenge public bodies to use the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

I will trial a new approach to supporting public bodies to implement the requirements of the Act through allocating a point of contact for every public body within my team.

This will start in the Summer 2021. Having a point of contact within my team is something that public bodies have consistently told me will help and the Public Accounts Committee report echoed this feedback.

I have recruited five new Change Maker Support roles for this purpose, who will work with public bodies to determine what support is needed and how we then respond.

This will be evaluated at six months and continuation beyond this point will be subject to assessing impact and the Government increasing my budget to fund this on a permanent basis

I will continue to work closely with the Auditor General for Wales in the development of his new auditing regime. I will keep track of public bodies' changing well-being objectives and public body annual reports, and as Public Services Boards' annual reports are due out in July 2020, I will finalise my approach to reviewing these.

My team will continue to respond to requests for advice and assistance as best we can.

(3) Be part of and help build a Movement for Change

Our ground-breaking Act is attracting attention from across the world and we are increasingly being joined by new changemakers across the public and private sector and voluntary and community groups. Through the activities above I will find shared ground with others where we can build a movement for change together. I will continue to increase our profile and deliver on the creative work, build new relationships, involve and engage people and partners which took part in the Our Future Wales conversation and seek to expand this network. A key part of this is working with my [Poet in Residence Taylor Edmonds](#). My relationship with the Wales Council for Voluntary Action and other voluntary sector organisations is key to this work.

Following the success of my 2019/2020 Future Generations Leadership Academy which trained 20 young leaders in the Act, I am aiming to establish a second academy programme by the end of 2021. I am delighted that many of last year's partners have committed to join us again.

Over the next twelve months, I will be working closely with Welsh Ministers and the Welsh Government's International Relations Team to promote sustainable development globally, and to secure partnerships with international stakeholders to bring expertise on sustainability back to the Welsh public sector. I look forward to supporting these objectives in partnership with the Welsh Government's Overseas offices and at global events such as the One Young World Summit, the World Expo in Dubai and the COP26 Climate Summit. I will also engage further on the development of plans to improve the way businesses in Wales are organised around the Act and showcase progress within Wales and globally.

(4) 'Walk the talk' - be the change that I want to see in others.

I am committed to creating a culture that has a positive impact on us as well as in Wales and the rest of the world. Some of the actions undertaken to date include:

- As a response to the pandemic and working from home, I created a Cheerleader structure whereby members of staff liaise weekly with allocated colleagues (their 'stars') to check on their welfare and personal development.
- Introduced the 'You've been mugged initiative' where each week someone is nominated for a treat in recognition of hard work or outstanding effort
- Launched a new [policy](#) that will allow staff suffering domestic abuse access to a grant or loan to 'alleviate financial barriers' to leaving the perpetrator.
- Signed up to be a [real Living Wage](#) employer
- Offer 'anytime anywhere' approach to working hours. This has reduced our need to travel unnecessarily, allows us to spend quality time with our family and is highly dependent on trust in each other to deliver.
- Weekly office yoga classes
- Introduced a volunteering policy where staff are able to take time out to share their skills with the community and bring understanding back into the office to inform our work.

I will keep my organisational culture under review, particularly supporting my team who are been entirely working from home and in many instances having to balance work with home schooling children. I am seeking to share our experience with peers and learn from others. The more ambitious actions set out in my [Art of the Possible 'Journeys'](#) will form the basis of this.

Our impact

I have chosen performance measures that allow me (and those who want to scrutinise my work) to see how my Office is influencing the evolution toward a more sustainable Wales. They follow a theory of change impact model, and work sequentially:

1. Frame debate and get issues on the agenda
2. Encourage discursive commitments from ministers, government and others
3. Secure procedural change in how public bodies go about their work
4. Affect policy content and commitments
5. Influence practical behaviour change in others

Want to get involved?

I'd like to hear from and work with people who have insight or ideas on any of the above issues. You can contact my team and I by email (contactus@futuregenerations.wales), Twitter, Instagram, by letter or telephone. We also publish a monthly [newsletter](#).

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