

**CWM TAF MORGANNWG PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD  
JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**6<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CWM TAF MORGANNWG PUBLIC SERVICES  
BOARD (CTM PSB)**

**UPDATE ON THE NEWLY MERGED CTM PSB, PROGRESS AND FUTURE  
PRIORITIES**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee (CTM JOSCB) with the progress of the new PSB and to give them the opportunity to provide views on the development of future action plans to deliver the Well-Being Plan.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members:-
- i. Consider the update on progress and provide feedback to the PSB on their developments, and how these will link to future priorities in the development of their action plans, paying particular attention to outcomes. This should also help to support a forward work programme for the Committee.
  - ii. Provide their views on 'how' the plans will be developed and implemented, with particular focus on the practice of the Five Ways of Working, as discussed in the training session with the Office of Future Generations Commissioner on the 5<sup>th</sup> September.

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As outlined in the letter to PSBs from the Minister and Commissioner in July 2023, they asserted that 'first and foremost, focussing on the Five Ways of Working is a good place to start.'
- 3.2 The Welsh Government Guidance to PSBs on the role of scrutiny states that the scrutiny function of Public Services Boards is encouraged to be 'a critical friend with positive intent'. Furthermore, it outlines that scrutiny practitioners act as advocates for the success of joint working.

**4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 In April 2016, all public bodies became subject to new duties under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (WFG). The purpose of the WFG Act

is to ensure that the governance arrangements in public bodies for improving the wellbeing of Wales take into account the needs of future generations. The aim is for public bodies to pursue a common aim to improve the cultural, economic, social and environmental well-being of Wales in accordance with detailed sustainable development principle and seven national well-being goals prescribed by the Act:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
- A globally responsible Wales

4.2 The sustainable development principle is supported by five ways of working and how we need to do things differently. These are long term thinking, integration, collaboration, prevention and involvement. What this means is:

- Balancing short and long term needs and planning better for the future;
- Partners and others working together to deliver priorities;
- Involving those with an interest in the Well-being goals ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area;
- Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse; and
- Considering how Well-being goals impact upon each other and on those of other bodies.

4.3 Each PSB have a statutory duty to produce a Well Being Assessment and Well-being Plan:

4.3.1 Each PSB must improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area by working to achieve the well-being goals. It will do this by:

- Assessing the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area; and
- Setting objectives that are designed to maximise the PSBs contribution to the wellbeing goals.

They must do this in accordance with the sustainable development principle.

4.3.2 The PSB is required to prepare and publish a Local Well-being Plan every 5 years, which sets out the local well-being objectives and the steps it proposes to take to meet them. These must be designed to maximise the Board's contribution to delivering the well-being goals within its area; and take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives in line with the Five Ways of Working.

4.3.3 The CTM PSB has published its second iteration of the Well-being Plan in 2023. The newly merged Board must now detail what and how it will deliver its actions against the objectives set out in the Plan.

## **5. CWM TAF MORGANNWG PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD DRAFT WELL BEING PLAN**

5.1 The PSB have used the Well-being Assessment as the evidence base for the draft Well-being Plan, the data and information gathered has been used alongside what

local communities and people have advised about life in Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Bridgend. (Well being Assessment Link)

- 5.2 The well being assessment identified the inequalities across the communities and the draft plan seeks to advise how the PSB will work together to remove these inequalities to improve the well-being for people living in the region now and for building towards a fair future. The overarching theme of the draft Well-being Plan is 'a more equal Cwm Taf Morgannwg', which drives every aspect of the Public Services Board's work.
- 5.3 The plan outlines two main objectives:
- Objective One - Healthy local neighbourhoods
  - Objective Two – Sustainable and resilient local neighbourhoods

## **6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on the Well-being Plan. Here is the report:

### **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

### **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with the duties placed on the PSB under the Well Being of Future Generations Act.

## **9. FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMMITTEE**

- 9.1 Acting as a critical friend, Members of the Committee could consider that the PSB has recently merged and understand the opportunities and challenges this brings.
- 9.2 Use the Well-being Plan as the framework for their work for the next 5 years and use it to support the development of its action plans.
- The Committee agrees to focus on 'how' the PSB are working together to target actions that add value as a collaborative partnership.
  - How well are the PSB involving people and communities in decisions about their work?

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 Members of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the progress of the newly merged Board, and links to future priorities. Most significantly, members are asked to consider 'how' future actions are delivered, in line with the Five Ways of Working.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CWM TAF MORGANNWG PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD JOINT OVERVIEW &  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**