

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Scrutiny Report Template

Committee:	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Date:	12 th November 2019
Subject:	The Governance structure and delivery arrangements for the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board
Purpose of Report:	The review of the Public Services Board governance arrangements and an update on the sub-groups
Scrutiny Chair:	Cllr. Gwilym O Jones
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr. Llinos Medi
Head of Service:	Annwen Morgan, Chief Executive
Report Author:	Nonn Hughes. Programme Manager, Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board.
Tel:	
Email:	01286 679906 NonnGwenllianHughes@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
Local Members:	Not relevant to any specific ward.

1 - Recommendation/s

It is asked that the Scrutiny Committee notes and submits comments on the Gwynedd and Anglesey's Public Services Board governance arrangements.

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to the principles within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Council provides a range of services which will fulfil its individual well-being objectives, as well as contributing to supporting the well-being objectives of the Public Services Board.

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

- 3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities
- 3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality
- 3.3** A look at any risks
- 3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role
- 3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:
 - Long term

- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

1. Does the public services board have an agreed terms of reference and how does the board plan and manage its forward work programme?
2. How does the board identify, manage and mitigate risks?
3. In terms of delivering key work programmes, what assurances are in place that the board will deliver key milestones in a timely manner?

5 – Background / Context

5.1 Introduction and context

5.1.1 The Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Services Board was established in 2016, in line with Wellbeing of the Future Generations Act (2015). The aim of the Well-being of the Future Generations Act (2015) is to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act highlights seven well-being goals and five ways of working in order to give public bodies a common purpose. The decision undertaken by Anglesey's meeting of the Executive was to establish a Public Services Board (PSB) for Anglesey that would *collaborate* with the Public Services Board for Gwynedd.

5.1.2 In order to determine the priorities for the Public Services Board - well-being assessments were carried out across well-being areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey. This resulted in a series of engagement and consultation sessions. The work contributed to the publication of the well-being plan in 2018:

<https://www.llesiantgwyneddaron.org/Uploads/Pages/Documents/3-5-3-94-1-Gwynedd-and-Anglesey-Well-being-plan.pdf> The well-being plan confirms the two objectives and six priority areas where it has been agreed that the Board can work together to secure the best outcomes for the residents of Gwynedd and Anglesey. Priority areas were agreed upon that are relevant to both counties and it is the Board's responsibility to respond to these issues jointly across both counties.

5.2 Public Services Board Governance Arrangements

5.2.1 The Terms of Reference of the Public Services Board confirm its membership - four statutory members and invited participants contribute to the Board's duties. In relation to any change to the membership of the board Emyr Williams, the chief Executive of Snowdonia National Park is the Board's chair since September 2019. In addition Annwen Morgan has been appointed the Chief

Executive of the Isle of Anglesey County Council since October 2019 and is therefore a new statutory member of the board.

5.2.2 The board has established sub-groups to support the delivery of its sub-groups. An update on the work of the sub-groups is outlined below.

5.2.3 Objective 1 – Communities which thrive and are prosperous in the long-term

Priority area	An update on the arrangements of the sub-groups	What does the sub-group achieve that adds value to the current plans of the public bodies in the field	Proposed Timescale
The Welsh Language	A subgroup has been established under the leadership of Jerry Hunter, Bangor University of Wales. The sub-group's governance arrangements are arranged to ensure that it has a core group but also that further members of the Board can contribute to the group's work at different stages. Board members have recently been invited to contribute to the work and it is intended to include wider representation as the work of the sub-group develops.	The sub-group has identified areas of work under this priority namely: sharing good practice, improving the citizen's experience of using a public service and a child's linguistic journey and the barriers preventing them from holding on to the language. The subgroup has decided to focus primarily on one specific project 'Arfer' that looks at behavioural change within the workplace and can lead to greater use of Welsh by those individuals who do not feel comfortable/confident to use the Welsh Language at present. This is in addition to the work undertaken to promote the Welsh language in the public bodies participating in the project.	The 'Arfer' project is scheduled to run for 12 months in the first instance. A project Board was established in May 2019.
Climate Change	A sub-group has been established and is operational under the leadership of Sian Williams, Natural Resources Wales. The sub group includes a wide representation from different organisations. In	The subgroup to date has focused on understanding the data and evidence available from the group member's organisations, so that it can be used to shape future projections and models of climate	

	<p>addition local and regional workshops have been held in order to 'include' further organisations and stakeholders in the discussion.</p>	<p>change. This will allow the sub group to focus on the communities and assets most at risk of flooding in Gwynedd and Anglesey. The sub-group will plan collaboratively to ensure that the well-being of our communities are integral to their plans, and to reach an agreement on the role and responsibilities of different organisations and departments in responding to climate change. The sub-group has used Fairbourne as a case of good practice, and in order to learn lessons on aspects such as engagement and better collaboration for the wellbeing of our communities.</p>	
Homes for local people	<p>A subgroup has been established and operates under the leadership of Ffroncon Williams, Adra. A core group has been set up to plan and keep an overview of the project. A wider representation of board members contributes to the sub group's activity through the innovative Housing group meeting.</p>	<p>Both counties are at present planning to develop innovative housing. The sub-group is proposing to bring together the plans of the public bodies, and to put in place arrangements to work together to consider a smaller number of innovative models but also to achieve economies of scale, which ultimately make more effective use of our resources. A part time project management</p>	<p>A draft project plan has been developed and it is anticipated that full approval including funding arrangements, for the project will be achieved by July 2020.</p>

		resource has been secured to drive the work forward.	
Poverty	Poverty remains a priority for the board but there is no sub-group leading on the work at present. It was agreed that there was an opportunity through the board to address the work already underway within the 2 Local Authorities in relation to poverty, before considering options for the board to work in a more integrated and cohesive way.		
Objective 2: Healthy and independent residents with a good quality of life			

Priority area	An update on the arrangements of the sub-groups	What does the sub-group achieve that adds value to the current plans of the public bodies in the field	Proposed Timescale
Health and Care of adults, and the welfare and achievement of children and young people.	An Integrated Health and Social Care Group for the West has been established, and is under the leadership of Ffion Johnstone Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. The sub-group keeps an overview and ensures that the developments and changes we want to see in the West are introduced. The sub group also provides the leadership and governance required for the sub-groups associated with the following areas of work: children, adults, mental health and community transformation	We will see joint delivery, of a new health and care system – that will promote good health and wellbeing in our communities. The system will be able to contribute to enabling residents to use their independent living skills.	To be confirmed

5.3 Monitoring

5.3.1 The four sub-groups mentioned above are accountable to the Public Services Board in relation to any work commissioned. The sub-groups update the Board on progress quarterly, and during the meetings of the Board the update reports are challenged and discussed in detail.

5.3.2 There is also a role for the Board's support team to support and maintain the work of the sub-groups between meetings of the Board. In addition an annual report is published by the Board that summarises the progress as the Board works towards achieving its strategic objectives.

5.4 Scrutiny arrangements

5.4.1 The work of the Board is regularly checked by Gwynedd Council's and the Isle of Anglesey County Council scrutiny committees.

5.4.2 the Wellbeing Act and associated national guidance set out 3 roles for local authority scrutiny committees in providing democratic accountability to the public Services Board:

- Review of governance arrangements for the PSB
- Statutory consultee on the well-being assessment and well-being plan
- Monitoring progress of PSB's efforts in delivering the well-being plan

5.4.3 At present the Public Services Board is subject to scrutiny by the Gwynedd and Anglesey Local authority's designated scrutiny committees. At the establishment of the PSB it was agreed that a joint scrutiny panel between the 2 counties should be considered to undertake this work across Gwynedd and Anglesey. Scrutiny officers from Gwynedd and Anglesey have evaluated both the options of continuing with the existing local authority scrutiny arrangements or establishing a joint panel. It was concluded that they do not recommend the establishment of a panel at this stage but rather to focus on aligning timetables and consistency of scrutiny arrangements across the 2 counties. This arrangement will be reviewed again in due course.

5.4.4 A paper will be presented to the Board on 11th December 2019 in order to inform them of the recommendation to continue with the current scrutiny arrangements. The intention is to introduce arrangements where the joint working between the two counties will need to be confirmed and the work programme and timetable for joint scrutiny established.

5.5 Resources

5.5.1 The management and administrative support for the Board is provided by the Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council. The board's support team is established and fully undertakes their role in supporting the work of the Board and its associated sub-groups.

5.5.2 The Gwynedd and Anglesey PSB has requested that the sub-groups, where relevant, submits a business case as part of their request for resources for consideration by the Board. The PSB has agreed to co-fund a resource for supporting the work of one of the subgroups. It is anticipated that the need for resources will continue as the sub-groups mature and develop.

5.6 Risks

5.6.1 The Board manages risks in relation to projects and the work of the sub-groups, to ensure that they operate in accordance with the well-being plan and the specified timetable. It is anticipated that the board's risk register will be managed in line with the five ways of working. A draft risk register will be submitted to the Board for approval in December 2019.

5.7 A Review of the Public Services Boards (Wales Audit Office: October 2019) https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/press_releases/review-of-public-service-boards-english.pdf

5.7.1 In October 2019 a report on a Review of Public Services Boards was

published. The report was carried out by the WAO on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales, the WAO has examined how PSBs operate. Part 2 of the report looks specifically at the scrutiny arrangements of the PSBs. This review hasn't been undertaken specifically for the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board, but rather a review undertaken on behalf of the 19 boards in Wales. However a number of the report's findings and recommendations are relevant to the Gwynedd and Anglesey's PSB.

5.7.2 A paper outlining a summary of the main recommendations founded in the report, and proposals on how the Gwynedd and Anglesey PSB could respond to them has been prepared. This paper will be presented to the Board at the next meeting on 11th December 2019. A copy of this will then be shared with the scrutiny committees.

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

6.1 The Public Services Board support team has already given consideration to the need for impact assessments (e.g. language and equality). Assessments will be developed and used when the board engages with our communities on specific stages and for updating the well-being assessments. In addition impact assessments will be used when projects are submitted by the sub-groups recommends a policy/service change. Impact assessments will therefore be developed in order to measure and understand the impact of the decisions made by the Board, on behalf of the sub-groups.

7 – Financial Implications

8 – Appendices:

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

1. Gwynedd and Anglesey's Well-being plan
2. The Annual report of the Gwynedd and Anglesey's Public Services Board 2018

3. Minutes of the Anglesey Partnership and regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 13th November 2018 (Governance arrangements for the PSB)