

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template	
<b>Committee:</b>	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	11 March 2021
<b>Subject:</b>	Progress report on the delivery of the Wellbeing Plan for the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Service Board
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	To submit a progress report on the work of the Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Service Board
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	CLlr Gwilym O Jones
<b>Portfolio Member(s):</b>	CLlr Llinos Medi
<b>Head of Service:</b>	Not relevant
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<b>Local Members:</b>	Not relevant to any specific Ward

### 1 – Recommendation/s

It is requested that the Scrutiny Committee notes:

1. the progress of the work of the Public Service Board

### 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 Service Board.

### 3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

**To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-**

**3.1** Impact the Wellbeing Plan 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. What obvious outcomes have come from the Board's work streams on Anglesey since the last progress report?
2. What role will the Board have during the recovery period following the pandemic?
3. How does the Board ensure the best value for money, and best outcomes for Anglesey's residents?
4. Does the plan provide for opportunities to review and reflect on whether actions are resulting in desired impact, or whether a change in approach is needed?

#### 5 - Background / Context

##### 5.1 Introduction and context

**5.1.1** 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.

**5.1.2** The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board was established in 2016, in accordance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The decision made by the Anglesey Executive at the time was to establish a Public Services Board. (PSB) for Anglesey which would *collaborate* with Gwynedd's Public Services Board.

**5.1.3** The PSB's Well-being Assessment for the Anglesey well-being areas was published in May 2017 and, following a series of engagement and consultation sessions, the Well-being Plan was published in 2018. The Well-being Plan confirms the two objectives and six priority fields for which it was agreed that the Board could collaborate in order to ensure the best results for the residents of Gwynedd and Anglesey. Therefore, priority areas relevant to both Counties were agreed upon and the PSB will respond to these matters jointly across both Counties.

##### 5.2 An update on the progress of the sub-groups

**5.2.1** As highlighted in the Terms of Reference of the Public Services Board the PSB has four statutory members namely the Local Authorities, the Health Board, Natural Resources Wales and the Fire Service - along with guest participants who contribute to the Board's duties.

**5.2.2** The PSB has sub-groups to support with the implementation of its work. Below is an update on the work of the sub-groups. It is fair to say that the pandemic has slowed the progress of the sub-groups in recent months, but now all the sub-groups are revisiting their work plans. The PSB has continued to meet during the pandemic period demonstrating the commitment of our members to the work.

##### 5.3 Objective 1 - Communities which thrive and are prosperous in the long-term

**5.3.1** The homes sub group continues to operate in accordance with their action plan. The sub-group has a part-time project manager, funded by PSB members. It has recently been agreed to extend the post for a further 6 months (to June 2021). The project manager uses project management methodology to ensure that the project operates to an expected timetable and resources.

**5.3.2** The purpose of the sub group is to look for opportunities to develop innovative housing, which complement and not duplicate the work arising from the Anglesey housing strategy.

**5.3.3** The achievements of the subgroup to date have been of great benefit to PSB members, and appreciation was shown for their work at the last PSB meeting in December. The group has established collaboration arrangements and sharing of good practice between Anglesey County Council, Gwynedd Council, Snowdonia National Park and Adra. An evaluation of different innovative housing models and their financial viability, and an evaluation of different sites and their suitability for innovative housing development were also undertaken. This process has demonstrated the willingness of partners to share information on financial assumptions and assets with the subgroup.

**5.3.4** The subgroup evaluated a large number of sites as part of their work, and their suitability for different models. The exercise was used to rule out unsuitable sites. One site in Anglesey has now been shortlisted by the subgroup, with the potential for development.

**5.3.5** On an issue related to the work of the homes sub group (but not part of their action plan) Ned Michael was invited to the PSB meeting in December to provide an update from the Isle of Anglesey County Council on the impact of second homes on the housing market. The availability of homes for local people continues to be a concern for the PSB, and the individual organisations. It was agreed that the PSB would write a letter to the Government to support the views of Gwynedd Council and the Isle of Anglesey County Council on the matter, who have already contacted the Government. In addition the letter from the PSB will specifically refer to housing well-being issues, and the long-term impact of the issue on the well-being of our residents.

#### **5.4 Climate Change**

**5.4.1** Over the past few months the climate change sub-group has focused on revising their work plan, since the delay due to the onset of the pandemic. The sub group was originally asked to work together locally and take joint action to try to mitigate the impact of climate change on our communities. As a starting point for resuming this work a workshop was organised during January 2021 for a wide representation of public organisations. Discussions took place about good practice in the field of climate change. Reference was made to the recent work undertaken with the communities of Newborough and Dwyran to respond to local needs.

**5.4.2** The second part of the workshop will take place in March and will be an opportunity to continue the discussion and agree on possible actions. The subgroup also expects guidance at a regional level. Natural Resources Wales commissioned Alan Netherwood to produce a report on a regional approach to Climate Change. The report recommends North Wales move towards a transformative approach to a climate emergency and identifies three priority areas where regional collaboration should be developed over a three-year period.

This would treat climate change as a strategic issue fundamental to the future wellbeing of the region.

The three priorities are:

- Co-ordinate public sector activity to achieve a Carbon Neutral Public Sector by 2030.
- Co-ordinate regional work to establish measures and practice to store and sequester carbon and reduce greenhouse gasses from land management practice in the region.
- Co-ordinate regional activity to respond to climate risk and build resilience to climate impacts.

**5.4.3** Alongside the work of the sub-group Natural Resources Wales has been holding consultation / engagement sessions linked to their work on the Area Statements. The evidence and findings of the area statements will assist the work of the sub group.

## **5.5 Objective 2- Healthy and independent residents with a good quality of life**

**5.5.1 Health and Care Integrated Sub Group for the West** -The health and care subgroup continues to address specific aspects such as - children, adults, mental health, learning disabilities and transformation. The need to work together, share information and ensure easy access to services was recognised as a common purpose for all work streams. In addition each of the above initiatives is intended to fulfill the adopted purpose of: "helping me to live the life I want to live". Below is an update on the workstreams.

**5.5.2 Mental Health** A mental health subgroup has already been developed and is led by the Health Board. Over the coming weeks the health and care sub group will be considering the current structures of the group, and the interventions and support needed as a result of Covid\_19. Updates on the work of the mental health subgroup will be discussed at the health and care sub group.

### **5.5.3. Community Transformation Program**

Arrangements are in hand for integrating health and care at the most local level across the county. The past year has been a time of uncertainty and the need for working together, sharing information and ensuring easy access to our services is more important than ever. The subgroup demonstrated a willingness to work in flexible and different ways. This is a brief overview of Anglesey's developments in recent months:

#### **Anglesey**

- Since mid-September, multidisciplinary meetings ('huddle' / 'multidisciplinary teams') have been held three times a week. This is now being revised and a longer meeting will take place once a week. The meetings with partners come together on a 3 x CRT basis
- All social care staff and managers (previously structured as one central team) have been allocated to one of the 3 CRTs
- The 3rd sector and external providers have recently been added to the list of core CRT members and attend multidisciplinary meetings
- Progress has been made in Holyhead and Llanfair PG (South Anglesey) CRTs on suitable office space for CRTs, and discussions are resuming regarding the use of the Amlwch surgery site
- A Development and Review Group (membership includes key managers) has been established to oversee progress, and it is intended to adopt the flexible approach to senior leadership / CRT progress meetings from February 2021.

**5.5.4 West Intel Cell** - The Intel Cell is a useful database, managed by BCUHB, to inform decision making. A group has been set up which includes representation from BCUHB and Local Authorities to keep an overview of the current Covid situation, analysis of beds in use and staffing capacity. The group reports weekly to the Integrated Health and Care Group, to assist them in planning services.

**5.5.5 Children** It was agreed to revisit the regional transformation work and establish a work program for the West, based on the 'no wrong door' work program.

## **5.6. The Welsh Language**

**5.6.1** During the past few months there has been no one leading this group. Aled Jones Griffith of Coleg Llandrillo a Menai has now agreed to take on the role, and the PSB will approve this at the meeting in March. In the meantime the sub-group - which includes representation from the Isle of Anglesey County Council, has considered its work plan for the coming months. This will include addressing the impact of Covid\_19 on the Welsh Language, and the findings of research by Bangor University and the Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner. The subgroup is also in discussions with the skills partnership about joint working arrangements, as the Welsh language is a key part of strengthening and the recovery of our communities.

**5.6.2** The PSB is very keen to consider how to increase the use of the Welsh language as members of the public make initial contact with public organisations. The language sub-group intended to conduct a study to consider language use in reception areas, with the hope of increasing the use of the Welsh language. A project proposal paper had been approved by the PSB back in March 2020. Due to the crisis, many reception areas were closed during the remainder of 2020 and as such the work did not go ahead. The subgroup will seek the PSB's guidance on the way forward in light of the crisis and consider whether there it remains their intention of undertaking such a project, or whether there is a need to change the focus.

## **5.7 Well-being Assessments**

**5.7.1** This work will be driven by a project plan, to be approved by the PSB in March. It is intended to engage and consult with Anglesey residents from the 6 well-being areas. This is once again an exciting opportunity to ask our communities about what matters to them, and what affects their well-being. We will take into account the effects of Covid\_19 and Brexit on our communities, and discuss our approach to the new normal. It is intended to work closely with the Isle of Anglesey County Council, and other partners in order to engage effectively and try to avoid duplication.

## **5.8 Delivery**

**5.8.1** The four sub-groups noted above are accountable to the Public Services Board in relation to delivering any work commissioned. The sub-group leaders are expected to report back on progress every quarter to the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board. The period of delivering the objectives will be an opportunity for PSB partners to show their willingness and commitment to working collaboratively and innovatively on achievable plans.

**5.8.2** The PSB acts in accordance with seven principles, namely the five national sustainable development principles noted above, together with two which have been added by the

Board, namely 'The Welsh language' and 'Equality'. This means taking action in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**5.8.3** In order to respond to the timetable within the Well-being of Future Generations Act the PSB will publish an annual report by July 2020. The PSB will submit the annual report to the Anglesey Scrutiny Committee for comments and observations.

## **5.9 Scrutiny Arrangements**

**5.9.1** The Board's work will be checked regularly by the Scrutiny Committees of Gwynedd Council and the Isle of Anglesey County Council. The PSB will prepare an annual report to set out progress as it seeks to deliver the well-being objectives. A copy of every annual report will be sent to Welsh Ministers, the Commissioner, the Auditor General for Wales and the councils' scrutiny committees.

**5.9.2** The well-being act and the associated national guidance<sup>1</sup> set out 3 main roles for local authority's scrutiny committees in providing democratic accountability to the public services Board:

- Review of the governance arrangements of the PSB
- Acting as statutory consultees on the well-being assessment and well-being plan
- Monitoring progress on the PSBs implementation of the well-being plan.

**5.9.3** The Public Services Board is currently subject to scrutiny by the designated Scrutiny Committees of Gwynedd and Anglesey local authorities. At the establishment of the PSB it was agreed that a joint scrutiny panel between the two counties would be developed to undertake this work across Gwynedd and Anglesey. Scrutiny Officers across both counties have appraised the options of carrying on with current arrangements or establishing a joint scrutiny panel. They came to the conclusion that a panel wouldn't be established at this stage, but rather concentrate on aligning timetables and scrutiny arrangements across the two counties. The arrangements can be reviewed again in due course.

## **6. Resorces**

**6.1** Management and administrative support for the Board is provided by the Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council.

**6.2** Resources for delivering the work of the sub-groups will be the responsibility of all statutory members equally. The contributions will be agreed and reviewed by the Board as and when necessary.

## **6.3 Risk Management**

**6.3.1** 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the scrutiny of Public Services Boards

It is anticipated that the board's risk register will be managed in line with the five ways of working.

#### **6 – Equality Impact Assessment [include impact on the Welsh language]**

6.1 The delivery sub-groups will prepare equality and language impact assessments, where appropriate, in line with their implementation plans. The impact assessments will be live documents which will change and evolve alongside the delivery work.

#### **7 - Financial Implications**

#### **8 - Appendices**

1.The Risk Register of the Public Services Board

#### **9 - Background Papers (please contact the Report author for any further information):**

1. Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Plan