

# GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

## REPORT TO THE CABINET

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	28 January 2020
<b>Item Title:</b>	Leader and Deputy Leader's Performance Report on Programme Boards
<b>Purpose</b>	Receive and note the report's content
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillors Dyfrig Siencyn and Dafydd Meurig
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Dilwyn Williams, Chief Executive and Morwena Edwards , Corporate Director

---

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. As a result of its objective to take a transformational approach to supporting people and regeneration, and in view of the departmental cross departmental nature of these two areas, the Cabinet has established two programme boards to bring together all the relevant departments in order to consider what needs to be done within the areas concerned.
- 1.2. The Regeneration Board meets under the Leader's leadership, with the Supporting People Board meeting under that of the Deputy Leader's leadership.
- 1.3. The purpose of this report is to update the Cabinet on the current state of play. Whilst accepting that some cabinet members are already on these Boards, reporting to the Cabinet gives the remaining members an opportunity to be informed on developments and to make observations on progress or to influence the boards' direction

### 2. THE REGENERATION BOARD

- 2.1. The Regeneration Board came into existence following a desire to take a more coordinated approach on those things we do to regenerate our communities.
- 2.2. What we have in mind in this respect when we talk about "regeneration" are those activities that bring communities closer to the image of how we would like our "perfect" community to be.
- 2.3. Historically, we have been doing this through departmental silos without thinking whether there is a way of interlinking these closer together so that we have one vision of what we are aiming for in a specific community, with everyone aiming to deliver that vision.

- 2.4 By establishing such a vision, should an opportunity arise to invest through grants or Council resources, we could ensure that the investment works to deliver our vision rather than be driven by the confines of particular grant rules.
- 2.5 Ultimately we will seek to draw a clear picture for each community as to how, ideally, we would like that community to look, and what would need to be done (the regeneration plan) in order to achieve that aim. Community ownership will obviously be key for any plan – it shouldn't be the Council's regeneration plan it should be the community's own plan.
- 2.6 To date we have defined the individual areas that will create the basis for our plans. The fundamental requirement is that these areas will have to be a true "community" in the eyes of the people living in them (otherwise they will not mean anything) and the Board has come to the conclusion that this will mean having 13 areas rather than 8 as defined in the Public Services Board's Wellbeing Plan.
- 2.7 Work is currently progressing to define the areas' statistical features with a view in due course to defining what vision we would like to see for that area with a view also to engaging with the community in question (and deciding how we are going to do that).
- 2.8 The process of engaging with communities will therefore be key to identifying local priorities. In due course, the intention would be to develop a vision for each of the 13 areas, and also to consider how we achieve effective cross departmental arrangements across the Council. It is anticipated that local members and others (e.g. local businesses; organisations working in the community) will have an important contribution to play in the development and delivery of these plans and further work needs to be done to develop appropriate arrangements for that to happen.

### **3. SUPPORTING PEOPLE BOARD**

- 3.1 The reason for establishing the Supporting People Board was to try to look at the Council's arrangements in offering support to the people of Gwynedd who require some form of assistance, by looking at it through the eyes of the people of Gwynedd themselves.
- 3.2 Consideration was given firstly to the kind of support that is currently being offered, and by also looking as to whether this support truly meets the needs of the people of Gwynedd, and whether it is offered at the right time and in the most appropriate way.
- 3.3 The mapping work for all these services is being carried out and is reaching a point where there is a relatively clear picture of what is being offered by Council departments. Furthermore, these unit managers have started to map their work processes for supporting people, and in particular, how people get access to the service; the referral process (if there is one); whether there's a criteria for receiving services etc. The goal is to bring all this information together so as to create a comprehensive picture.

- 3.4 What has become apparent is that we offer a large number of services which support people in Gwynedd, but that these services are offered so as to help with individual and specific issues e.g. problems with paying rent, alcohol problems. This individual kind of support is also being provided by specific units and often there is no connection between different units that support individuals and families on different issues.
- 3.5 In addition, so as to try and bring the mapping work live to Board members, certain "stories" are based on true cases. From the first stories, what has become apparent is the way people's problems are dealt with separately, and that not one person supports the individual and thereby keeping an overview of that person. It appears that different units/services are not aware very often that another unit or service is helping the same individual. Also, it was apparent that no one was truly responsible for the individual's wellbeing as a person, but rather that they were trying to focus on resolving their part of the problem. It was the individual, or their family, that seemed to be working their way through our process/work systems.
- 3.6 The next step for the Board will be to use the information collated to support us in planning what would be the ideal journey for a person in Gwynedd that requires help/support from us as a Council. We will try to ensure that we do this by using the Ffordd Gwynedd principles, by putting the person at the centre. By coming up with this optimum picture, we will consider for example whether there is a better way of organising ourselves as units/services, or if there is a need to use IT systems differently.
- 3.7 Once we've reached a conclusion, the aim is to experiment a little with some changes to collect evidence to see whether the new system provides a better experience and result for the individual.
- 3.8 The Supporting People Board has also taken an overview of the proposed changes relating to the Supporting People Grant. The aim is to use the lessons learnt from our work to steer the way the Council moves forward with the use of the money in the future.

---

**Views of the Statutory Officers:**

**Monitoring Officer:**

Nothing to add in terms of propriety

**Head of Finance:**

There is no spending commitment attached to this report. No comments from the perspective of financial propriety.