

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Communities Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>4ydd Tachwedd 2021</b>
<b>Title</b>	Governance Structure and Delivery Arrangements of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board, and progress report on the Well-being Assessments.
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To review the Governance arrangements of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board and provide an update on the work of the sub-groups. To report on the progress of the well-being assessments.

## **1. Introduction and context**

- 1.1** The aim of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015) is to improve the economic, 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.
- 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. A Public Service Board (PSB) has been established for all Local Authorities in Wales to ensure collaboration among public bodies to create a better future for the people of Wales. The decision made by Anglesey Council's Executive was to establish a Public Services Board. (PSB) for Anglesey which would collaborate with the Gwynedd Public Services Board.
- 1.3** During 2017 the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board divided our communities into 14 smaller areas in order to carry out detailed research, and learn more about the well-being of those areas. The information was published in the form of the Well-being Assessments. The information gathered from the assessments was used to shape the PSB's priorities which have been confirmed in the Well-being Plan (2018). The following priorities were agreed:
- The Welsh language
  - Homes for local people;
  - The effect of poverty on the well-being of our communities;
  - The effect of climate change on the well-being of our communities;
  - Health and care of adults and the wellbeing and achievement of children and young people
- 1.4** Every five years, in accordance with one of the statutory requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015), Public Service Boards must prepare and publish an assessment of the state of the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their areas. The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board has started the process of reviewing the Well-being Assessment.
- 1.5** Once again the Assessments will draw together a range of information about the communities of Anglesey and Gwynedd. This means that we will examine research, gather data and engage with our residents to ascertain what is good about our communities, and which aspects are not so positive. This will also be an opportunity to consider the challenges and opportunities facing our communities, and to consider the impact of Covid-19 and Brexit on them. A progress report on the work is below.

## 2. The Governance Arrangements of a Public Service Board

- 2.1** As highlighted in the Terms of Reference of the Public Services Board, the Board has four statutory members, along with guest participants who contribute towards the duties of the Board.
- 2.2** The Board has established sub-groups to support it to implement its functions. An update on the work of the sub-groups is provided below. It was reported last time to the scrutiny committee that the Board has four sub-groups, namely the Welsh Language, Climate Change, Health and Social Care and Homes for local people.
- 2.3** At the Board's meeting held in June, it was agreed to wind-up the homes sub-group as its work did not add further value to the current schemes of the individual bodies. It was confirmed that the housing associations and Local Authorities were continuing with the work of developing innovative houses. It has been noted that there is a desire and enthusiasm to continue with the relationship of collaboration created by the sub-group, to enable discussion and the sharing of ideas / knowledge and good practice in the field of housing development for the future.
- 2.4** An update on the work of the sub-groups is provided below.

### 2.4.1 Objective 1 – Communities that thrive and flourish in the long term

Priority	Update on the work of the sub-group	What does the sub-group deliver that adds value to the current schemes of public bodies?	Proposed timescale
<b>The Welsh Language</b>	During the Board's meeting in September, approval in principle was granted to a project to promote the use of the Welsh language when the public use our first contact services.	Collaboration on this project could lead to an increase in the use of the Welsh language (and the desire to use it from choice) when engaging with us as public organisations.	Part 1 of the work to be completed summer 2022.
<b>Climate Change</b>	During the Board's meeting held in September, it was agreed to support the work of Natural Resources Wales to engage with the residents of Porthmadog on climate change issues. The sub-group will prioritise Porthmadog as one of the first areas to work with, with the intention	The anticipated outcomes of collaboration are to: Develop communities that are able to adapt, manage and mitigate climate change. Change the focus to wider Climate Change rather than solely Flooding. Various groups of people / agencies / organisations /	Porthmadog will be the priority for the sub-group for the next six months, and then continue to work with the other areas during 2022/23

	of moving forward to work with other communities in Gwynedd and Anglesey that are at risk of flooding in future.	partners collaborating. Establish two-way communication arrangements between members of the community and public bodies	
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#### 2.4.2 Objective 2 – Residents that are healthy and independent with a good standard of living

Two priority fields, namely 'Health and Care of adults' and 'Welfare and success of children and young people' address objective 2. It was agreed to establish one sub-group to address both priorities, namely the Integrated Health and Care of the West Group.

Priority	Update on the work of the sub-group	What does the sub-group deliver that adds value to the current schemes of public bodies?	Proposed timescale
<b>Health and Care</b>	The purpose of the sub-group is to bring together key partners in the field of health and care to collaborate on responding to obstacles that prevent integrated working. We have already reported that the sub-group has specific work streams, namely adults, children and mental health. The work of updating the remits of the work streams is in progress. The transformation work within the work streams is funded by the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) and the Transformation Fund (TF). The funds come to an end in 2022. Senior leaders have received information from the Government that a further five-year funding programme will	Collaboration arrangements continue to be developed	Due to the pressures that have been facing organisations in the field due to the pandemic it is likely that these workstreams will not re-establish themselves / organise their plans until the new year.

	<p>replace it, although this has yet to be confirmed. There is acknowledgement that the community transformation programme that has started is long-term and ambitious, that will require significant resources and capacity for many years to ensure that the work is delivered. Planning work will happen jointly between the key partners in preparation for the work of making applications for the new funding programme.</p>		
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**2.5** The pandemic has had an impact on the progress of all the sub-groups. It is anticipated that the sub-groups will recommence the work by focussing solely on one or a few projects initially.

**2.6** During the last board meeting in September, a discussion was held on resources, where it was agreed to jointly fund the language sub-group's reception area project, as the partners considered that the project would add value to the organisations' existing schemes. Over the next 6-12 months, it is anticipated that the Board's work programme will be the Well-being Assessments, publishing them and recommencing the work of the sub-groups.

### **3. Well-being Assessments**

**3.1** As noted above, there is work in progress to update the well-being assessments. The work of analysing the engagement work and the findings of our partners is ongoing. Additionally, the work of updating the data for the well-being assessments is being completed by Gwynedd Council research team.

**3.2** The regional PSB grant was used to commission Glyndŵr University to collaborate on the well-being assessments in north Wales. In addition, a regional workshop has been arranged in order to hear from under-represented groups, in relation to matters that affect their well-being.

**3.3** The timetable for the Well-being Assessments is as follows: The assessments will be published by May 2022 and the Well-being Assessment by May 2023. Draft versions of the assessments will be published by October/November 2021. A 12-week consultation period on the well-being assessments will begin in December 2021.

### **4. Monitoring**

- 4.1** The four sub-groups noted above are accountable to the Public Services Board in relation to delivering any commissioned work. The sub-groups will update the Board on progress every quarter, and their submitted progress reports will be challenged and discussed at Board meetings.
- 4.2** The Board's support team also has a role to play between Board meetings to support and maintain the work of the sub-groups. In addition, an annual report to summarise progress will be published by the Board as it works towards achieving its strategic aims.

## **5. Scrutiny arrangements**

- 5.1** The Board's work will be checked regularly by the Scrutiny Committees of Gwynedd Council and the Isle of Anglesey County Council.
- 5.2** The Well-being of Future Generations Act and associated national guidelines<sup>1</sup> note three roles for scrutiny committees of Local Authorities when providing democratic accountability for the Public Services Board:
- Reviewing the governance arrangements of the PSB
  - Statutory consultee on the Well-being Assessment and the Well-being Plan
  - Monitoring progress of the efforts of the PSB in the implementation of the Well-being Plan
- 5.3** The Public Services Board is currently subject to scrutiny by the designated Scrutiny Committees of Gwynedd and Anglesey local authorities. At the inception of the PSB it was agreed that a joint scrutiny panel between the 2 counties would be developed to undertake this work across Gwynedd and Anglesey, and consideration was given to establishing a joint scrutiny committee. It was concluded that they did not recommend establishing a panel at present but rather to focus on aligning timetables and reconciling scrutiny arrangements across both Counties. It would be possible for both Councils to jointly review these arrangements again in due course.
- 5.4** It is recommended that the scrutiny committees scrutinise the Board's work twice a year in the future rather than 3 times as it did in the past. It is anticipated that the 6 months in the timetable will allow for the Board to make significant progress and to submit more detailed reports for scrutiny.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1** The Public Services Board's support team has considered and identified the need for impact assessments (e.g., Language and Equality) and assessments will be developed and used when the Board engages with our communities on specific points and to update the Well-being Assessments. The first version of the impact assessment for the well-being assessments was submitted to the Board during its meeting in September.